

Catalogue of Results 2004

Royal Melbourne

LAMB CARCASS COMPETITION



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The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria Limited

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Melbourne Showgrounds, Ascot Vale, Victoria 3032 Australia

Tel: (03) 9914 2400 Fax: (03) 9914 2492

email: rasvadmin@rasv.com.au

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(as at 1/2/2005)

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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INTRODUCTION

The 2004 Competition attracted a record number of entries with more than 1,000 producers sending lambs for consideration. Of these, 120 fully met the Competition criteria, and a total of 60 finalists were declared with more than 16,000 lambs assessed.

The record entries are a result of improved criteria, which consisted of the following amendments:

All producers delivering consignments of 200 lambs or more to Castricum Brothers at any time during 2004 were advised that they were automatically eligible to enter the Competition. The same producers were then sent an entry form, and advised that their entry would be confirmed once they returned the form to the RAS, together with the reduced entry fee of \$15.00 to cover administration and handling costs.

This is the third year of the RAS Prime Lamb Carcase Competition, which is proudly sponsored by The Weekly Times, Castricum Brothers Pty Ltd, Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA) and Lambplan.

The Competition aims to demonstrate value-based marketing and promote the genetics and production systems, which deliver lambs with carcasses which meet the specifications demanded by the respective export markets.

Technology developed by the Australian meat industry currently owned and further developed by SASTEK is used to determine a yield-based value for carcasses. These values are applied to demonstrate the suitability and value of entries for the North American export market.

The Competition's objectives include rewarding the production of heavier, leaner, higher yielding lamb carcasses; encouraging the use of the most suitable genetics and production systems; and providing producers with the opportunity to benchmark their flock against industry standards.

Like so many other RAS events and competitions, the RAS Prime Lamb Carcase Competition is delivered through the alliance between RAS staff and industry people. Therefore, special thanks must go to Theo Castricum (Castricum Brothers) for his continued dedication and commitment to the Competition. Theo, your support is greatly appreciated.

We also extend our thanks to Brian Clancy (Weekly Times), Ian Ross (MLA), Alexander Ball (LAMBPLAN), and Nick Linden (DPI) for their continued levels of support to the industry and the 2004 competition.

We look forward to the 2005 season, and congratulate all the winners of the 2004 Prime Lamb Carcase Competition.

EXHIBITORS

2004 RAS Prime Lamb Carcass Competition

Mr David Barry	Woorndoo Vic 3272
Mr Sam Burston	Goorambat Vic 3725
R G & F A Moon	Pyramid Hill Vic 3575
I I & P E Hocking	Lucundale, SA 5272
Mr Lawry Simpson	Oaklands NSW 2646
Excel Texcel Pty Ltd	Deniliquin NSW 2710
Bruce Pastoral Company	Rennie NSW 2646
Mrs Charlotte Morley	S.Aust 5211
Mr Phillip Reid	Temora NSW 2666
Mr & Mrs R. Shulitz	Kerang, Vic 3579
S H & E K Holschier	Woomboota, NSW 2731
Mr John Perrignon	Moulamein, NSW 2733
T P & D Connor	Swan Hill, Vic 3585
Allan & Lorraine Haack	Shallow Inlet, Vic 3960
Englewood Park	Inverliegh, Vic 3321
G L & A L Graham	Coolamon, NSW 2701
D J & J B Ware	Karoit, Vic 3282
Mr Andrew Carmichel	Buffalo, Vic 3958
Rushton Pastoral Co. Pty Ltd	Dubbo, NSW 2830
Mr Doug James	Bungeet, Vic 3726
G W & B D Ford	Sunbury, VIC 3429
Ron & Deirdre Schlitz	Kerang, Vic 3579
David Trewick	Elmore VIC 3558
Turners Mahonga Park	Rand, NSW 2642
I I & P E Hocking	Lucundale, SA 5272
K & P Mitchell	Devendish, VIC 3726
J K Carmichael & Sons	Buffalo, VIC 3958
S J & L J Poole	Wedderburn, VIC 3518
A L & C J Coombes	Fentons Creek Vic 3518
Kenneth Pattison	Wedderburn, VIC 3518
Leigh Sutton	Logan VIC 3475
Howard Jay	Echuca, VIC 3564
R B & M M Turner	Berrybank, VIC 3323
John Mossop	Penola, SA 5277
Ken Chambers	Marong, Vic 3515
John Snodgrass	Young NSW 2594
C W & J A Davis	Thurgoona NSW 2640
Neville Guthridge	Warrnambool Vic 3280
J & W Elliott	Barfold Vic 3444
Stuart & Carol Muir	Woorndoo Vic 3272
Paul & Marilyn March	Kadina, SA 5554
J E & R Y Taylor	Wagga Wagga NSW 2650
J V & P J Storey	Wycheproof Vic 3527
Yarrangerie Pastoral Company	Tocumwal NSW 2714
S & C Turnbull	Mangoplah NSW 2652
P A & W M O'Conner	Temora NSW 2666
Tim & Jodie Demeo	Golden Square Vic 3555
Ken & Mayzie Hants	Sidonia Via Kyneton Vic 3444

AWARDS

First Prize

**John Snodgrass,
Jilba, Young, NSW**

\$3.94 total premium per carcass entered

Hybrid Suffolk x Merino

Second Prize

**Neville Guthridge,
Warrnambool, Vic**

\$3.79 total premium per carcass entered

East Friesian Coopworth x Texel

Third Prize

**C W & J A Davis,
Thurgoona, NSW**

\$3.45 total premium per carcass entered

Poll Dorset x Merino

OBSERVATIONS ON THE COMPETITION

The aim of the Competition (and commercial production for the North American market) is to achieve a high carcass value (c/kg). This is achieved through the production of large, heavy carcasses that are also high in Lean Meat Yield (%).

The outstanding carcass groups therefore achieve two things:

- High Carcass weight (kg)
- High lean meat yield (%)

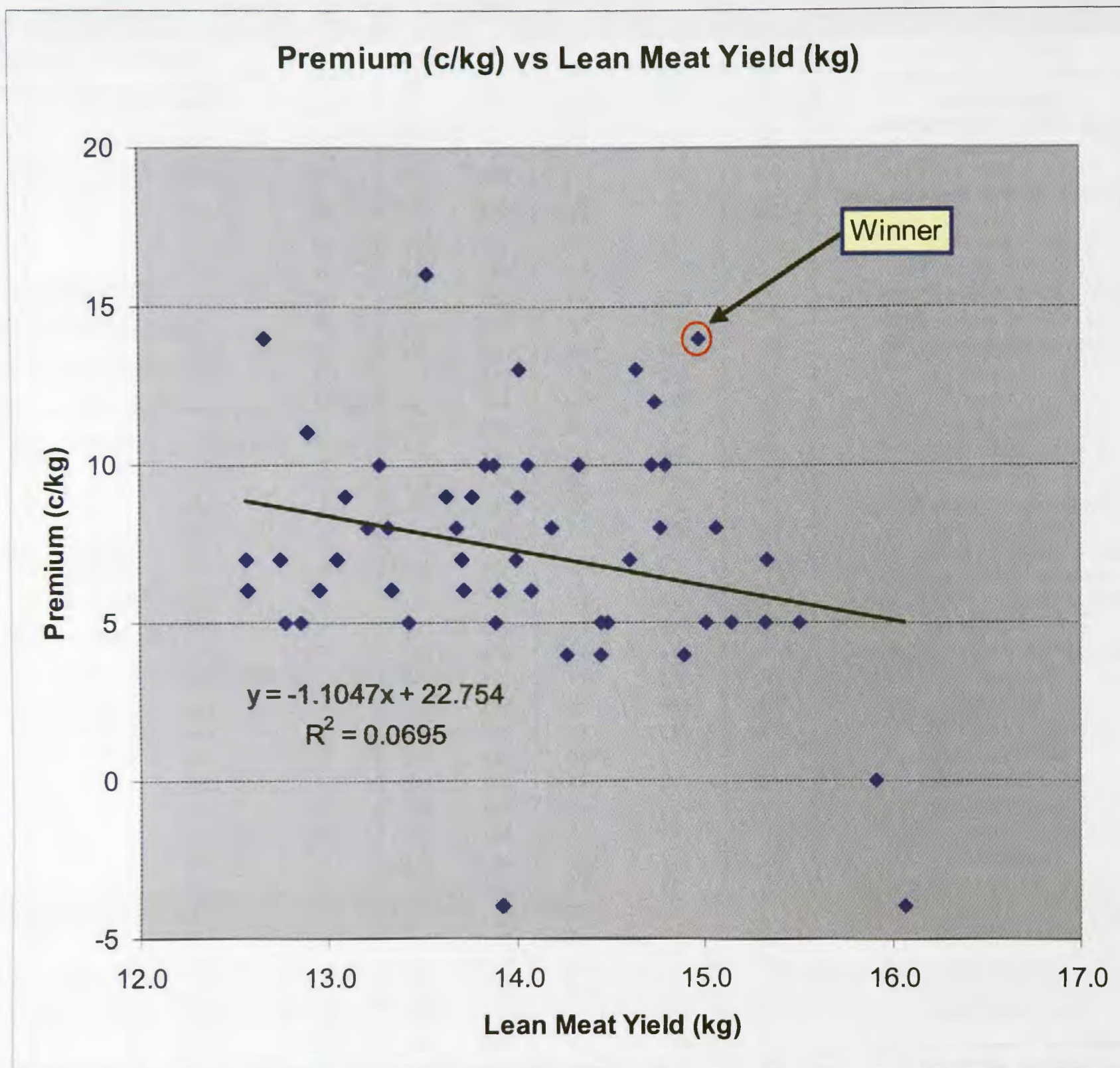
Lean Meat Yield has a strong relationship with carcass value (c/kg), because high Lean Meat Yield means high earning or processing efficiency – each high yielding kilogram handled earns the maximum return to the commercial producer.

2004 RAS PRIME LAMB CARCASS COMPETITION

RESULTS - 2004 RAS PRIME LAMB CARCASS COMPETITION

Breed Type	No. of Lambs	HSCW (CWT) (kg)	Avg Fat Score	Lean Meat Yield		Premium (c / kg)	Total \$ per carcass	AWARD
				%	kg			
Hybrid Suffolk x Merino	317	27.7	4.2	54.1	15.0	14	3.94	1
East Friesian Coopworth x Texel	228	24.1	2.9	56.0	13.5	16	3.79	2
Poll Dorset x Merino	245	27.0	4.1	54.3	14.6	13	3.45	3
White Suffolk (Ex Friesian ewe/Border Leicester/Merino)	222	25.6	3.8	54.7	14.0	13	3.42	
Texel	204	27.4	1.0	53.8	14.7	12	3.20	
2nd x Merino / East Friesian ewes / White Suffolk Rams	290	22.7	2.7	55.9	12.7	14	3.06	
Merino / White Suffolk	222	27.7	4.7	53.2	14.7	10	2.87	
East Friesian / Coopworth / Texel	415	27.6	4.5	53.7	14.8	10	2.76	
Texel / East Friesian x Border / Merino	215	26.6	4.2	53.9	14.3	10	2.70	
East Friesian / Merino x Poll Dorset	372	26.1	3.8	53.9	14.1	10	2.61	
Border Leicester / Merino / Dorset	200	25.8	3.9	53.9	13.9	10	2.48	
Texel Cross	424	23.3	3.4	55.2	12.9	11	2.58	
2nd Cross	350	25.6	3.8	54.1	13.8	10	2.61	
Texel Cross	415	24.1	3.6	55.0	13.3	10	2.51	
1st Merino x Texel	451	26.0	4.2	53.8	14.0	9	2.22	
Texel Cross	229	25.3	3.9	54.3	13.8	9	2.36	
Texel / East Friesian x Border / Merino	481	25.2	4.3	54.1	13.6	9	2.23	
Merino / White Suffolk	211	28.4	4.7	53.1	15.1	8	2.35	
Merino x White Suffolk & Merino/East Friesian/Border Leicester x White Suffolk	404	27.9	4.7	53.0	14.8	8	2.17	
Merino x Border & East Friesian 1st Cross	240	23.9	3.4	54.7	13.1	9	2.24	
Merino - GF x White Suffolk	313	26.5	4.2	53.6	14.2	8	2.11	
1st Cross Ewe Border Merino x Poll Dorset	214	25.4	4.1	53.9	13.7	8	2.05	
White Suffolk Cross	220	28.9	4.7	53.0	15.3	7	2.01	
Not Provided	598	24.6	3.6	54.2	13.3	8	2.01	
Merino x White Suffolk	259	24.3	3.5	54.3	13.2	8	1.96	
White Suffolk x Merino	291	27.3	1.0	53.4	14.6	7	2.04	
White Suffolk x Merino	358	26.2	4.2	53.4	14.0	7	1.78	
White Suffolk x Merino	249	25.5	4.0	53.7	13.7	7	1.74	
Texel / Merino	207	24.1	1.0	54.1	13.0	7	1.55	
Second Cross	280	23.4	3.4	54.4	12.7	7	1.74	
1st & 2nd x Poll Dorset & White Suffolk Lambs	457	23.4	3.4	54.5	12.7	7	1.71	
Texel x Suffolk	210	23.1	3.8	54.4	12.6	7	1.52	
White Suffolk X Merino	372	26.4	4.2	53.4	14.1	6	1.53	
2nd Cross Lambs	401	26.1	4.4	53.2	13.9	6	1.47	
Merino x Border leicester	230	25.7	4.2	53.4	13.7	6	1.58	
Merino x Dorset & Suffolk	678	24.9	4.1	53.6	13.3	6	1.37	
Merino/Border Leicester/Poll Dorset 2nd x	232	29.4	4.7	52.7	15.5	5	1.42	
2nd Cross / White Suffolk	205	29.4	4.8	52.2	15.3	5	1.59	
"XB"	321	24.1	3.7	53.8	13.0	6	1.32	
Poll Dorset x Merino & White Suffolk x Merino	239	28.7	4.7	52.8	15.1	5	1.36	
Poll Dorset x 1st x Border Leicester/Merino	202	28.3	-	53.0	15.0	5	1.50	
Coopworth x East Friesians x Poll Dorset	303	23.1	3.5	54.4	12.6	6	1.29	
2nd Cross Dorset & White Suffolk	451	27.6	4.5	52.5	14.5	5	1.30	
Dorset Cross Lambs	421	27.3	4.5	53.0	14.4	5	1.37	
1st x Dorset mixed	284	26.2	4.3	53.1	13.9	5	1.19	
1st Merino x Texel	215	25.1	1.0	53.5	13.4	5	1.27	
Border Leicester / Dorset	490	23.8	3.7	54.1	12.9	5	1.20	
1st X & 2nd X	320	23.7	3.8	54.0	12.8	5	1.20	
1st Ewe - Poll Dorset Ram (2x lamb)	404	28.3	4.6	52.6	14.9	4	1.03	
2nd Cross Dorset & White Suffolk	440	27.4	4.6	52.7	14.4	4	1.23	
Dorset x Merino	400	27.1	4.6	52.7	14.3	4	1.07	
Merino x Poll Dorset / White Suffolk	219	30.7	4.8	51.9	15.9	0	0.14	
Poll Dorset	284	26.9	4.6	51.8	13.9	-4	-0.96	
1st Cross Ewe x Dorset Ram	300	31.6	5.0	50.9	16.1	-4	-1.17	
Average	319	26.1	3.9	53.6	14.0	7.3	1.87	

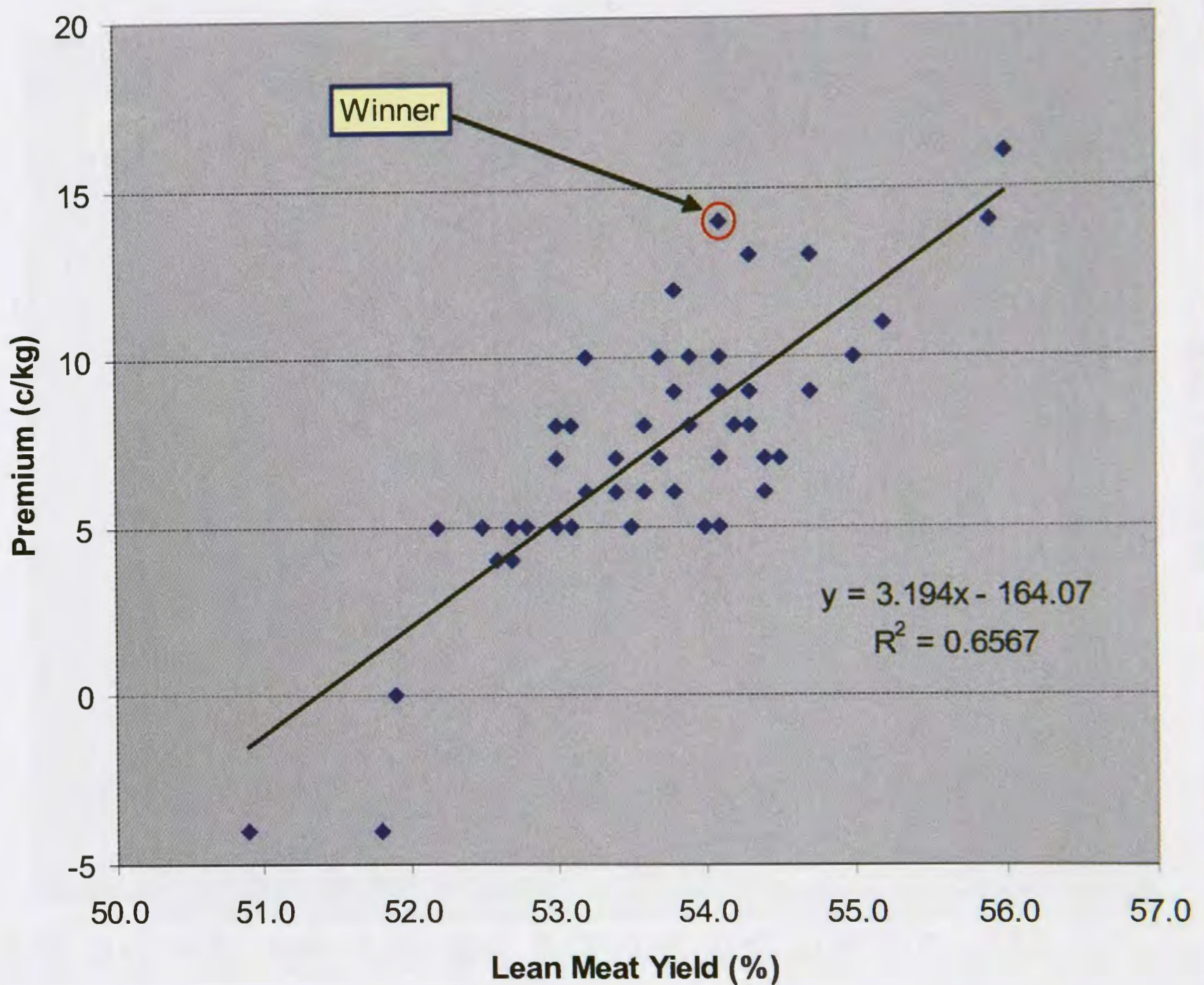
1. PREMIUM (C/KG) VS LEAN MEAT YIELD (KG)



Heavier carcasses generate higher lean meat yield (kg), but generally as carcasses get heavier they also get fatter. The groups above the trend line have produced higher value meat from heavier carcasses – indicating that they are the ones that are very lean for their weight. The winning group achieved the highest amount of lean meat yield (kg) combined with a high carcass premium and is highly placed above the trend line.

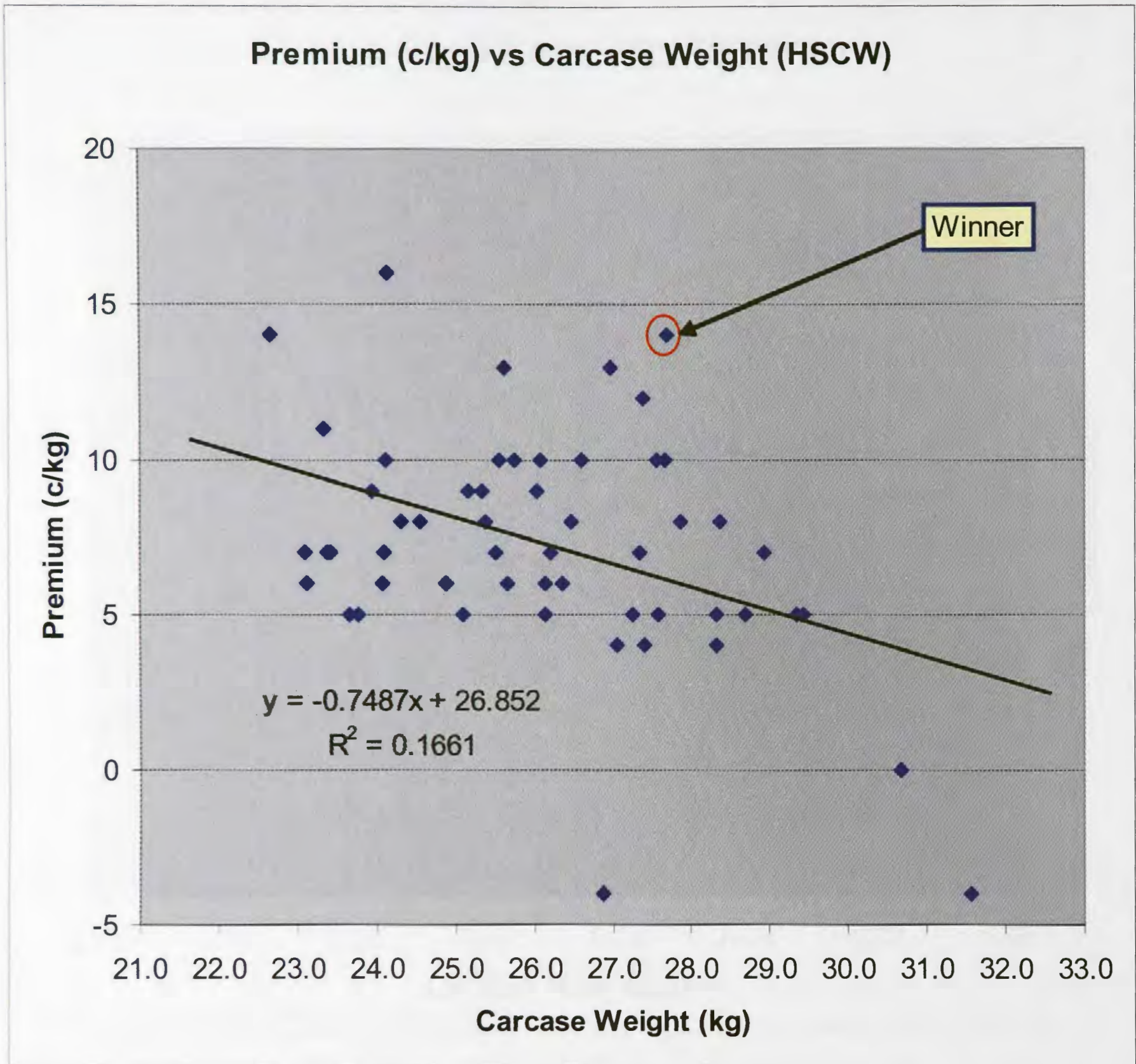
2. PREMIUM (C/KG) VS LEAN MEAT YIELD (%)

Premium (c/kg) vs Lean Meat Yield (%)



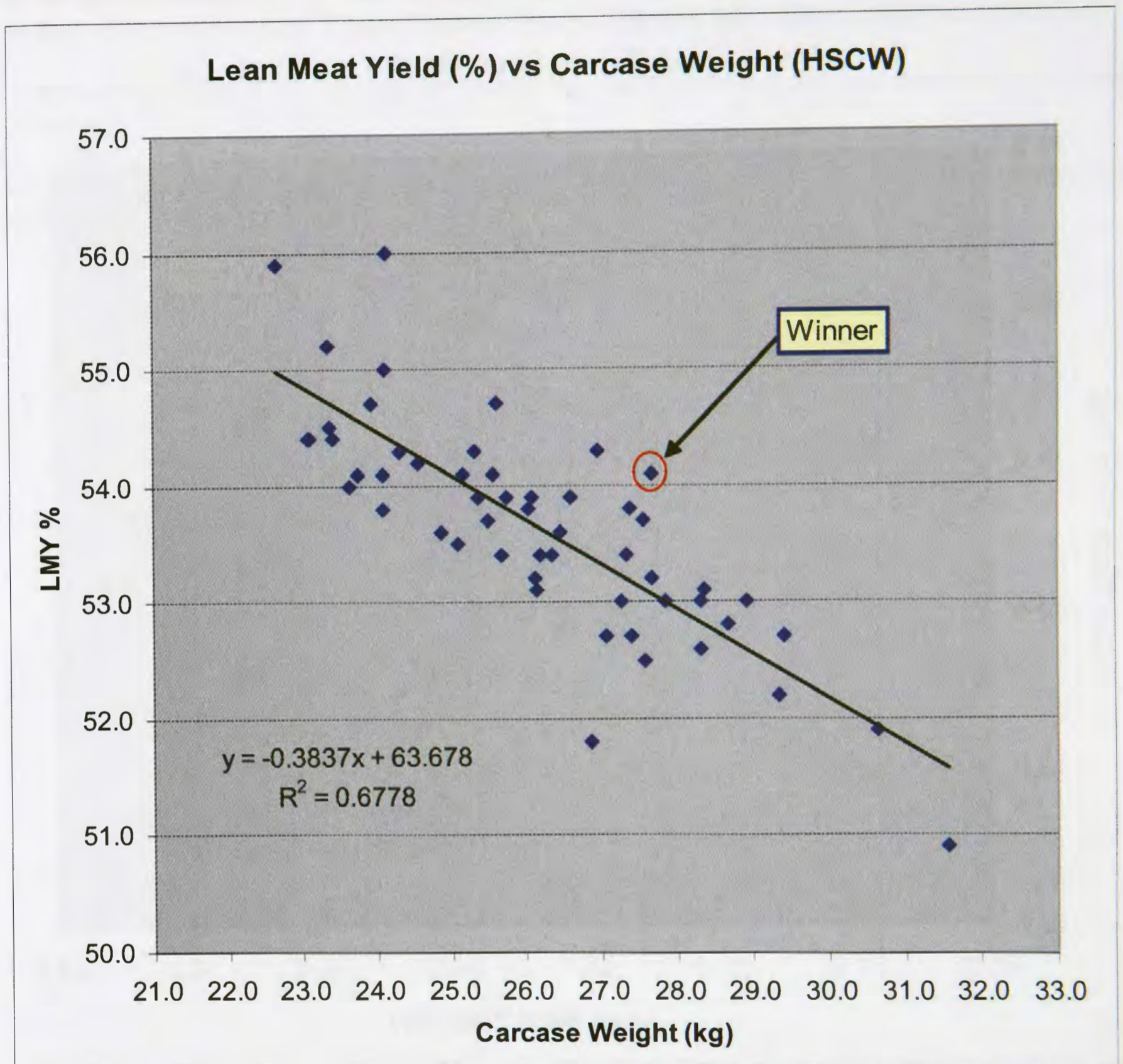
This chart shows that the carcass value is related to Lean Meat Yield – carcasses that are high yielding earn most money per unit of carcass weight. The winning group achieved a very high Lean Meat Yield for its carcass weight and is very well placed above the trend line.

3. PREMIUM (C/KG) VS CARCASS WEIGHT (KG)



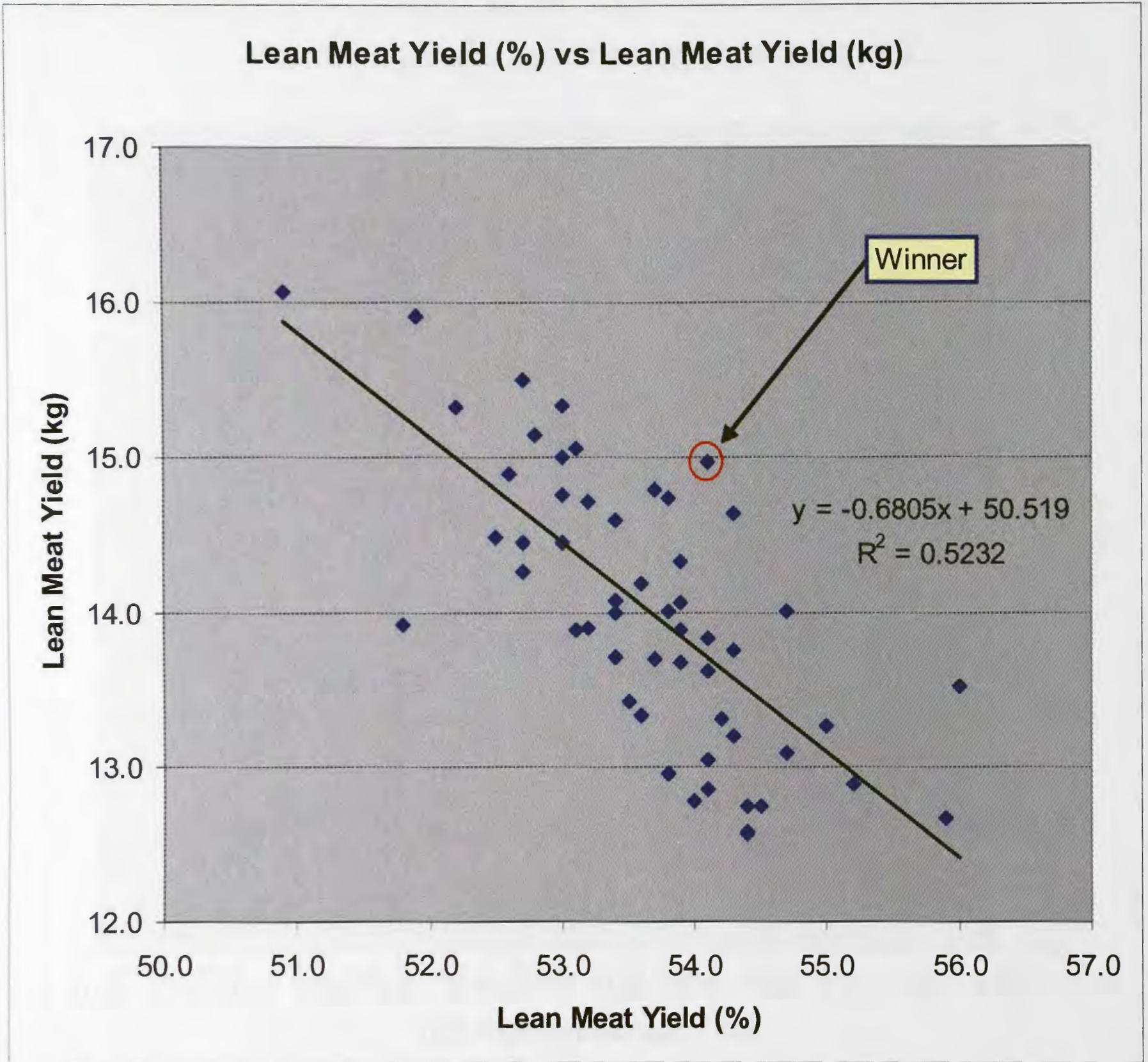
Within the group of entries – and across lambs generally – the higher the carcass weight, the fatter the lambs become. This reduces their value on a c/kg basis – because there is fat to trim – and so the overall slope of the line is downwards. The winning group achieved high carcass weight without excessive fatness, and so are worth a great deal more on a c/kg basis than we would predict.

4. LEAN MEAT YIELD (%) VS CARCASS WEIGHT (KG)



This chart highlights the fact that in general, as carcass weight increases, LMY will fall, as the carcasses generally become fatter.
 The winning group achieves very high LMY for its carcass weight – it is a long way above the trend line. This is because it was very lean for its weight, and therefore very high yielding.
 The other placed groups are all above this trend line and at the high end for LMY%

5. LEAN MEAT YIELD (KG) VS LEAN MEAT YIELD (%)



This chart shows that in general, higher LMY% is achieved on lighter carcasses – which will be lower in Lean Meat Yield (kg). The winner has a much higher LMY% than would be expected for its weight. The placed carcass groups are also well above the trend line, demonstrating the closeness of this Competition.

CONCLUSION

The Competition illustrates a very important point for the prime lamb industry; though heavy carcasses earn more for everybody in the production chain, it is much better to have heavy carcasses that contain maximum saleable product.

Therefore, while the producer can make good money from heavy carcasses, they can earn even more money from heavy and lean carcasses.

The winning group achieves the highest premium in total carcass value, a combination of a high Carcass Weight (kg) and high Lean Meat Yield (%).

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA LIMITED

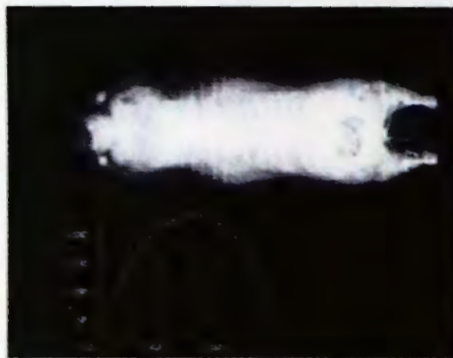
PRIME LAMB CARCASS COMPETITION

The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria Limited (RAS) is conducting an export Prime Lamb Carcass Competition, with a powerful commercial focus, for the third consecutive year.

This competition aims to exploit value-based marketing and promote the genetics and production systems, which will deliver lambs with carcasses, that meet the specifications demanded by the respective export markets.

Technology developed by the Australian Meat Industry and currently owned and further developed by SASTEK Brisbane, measures the characteristics of individual lamb carcasses electronically, at normal chain speeds. It is installed at Castricum Brothers Dandenong, Victoria.

A large commercial delivery overcomes any unconscious bias exhibitors could introduce in selecting smaller consignments. It will provide a valid measure of the characteristics of an exhibitor's flock and therefore will reflect the genetics and production systems used by the exhibitor.



Competition Objectives

- Contribute to the development of excellence in lamb production
- Embrace the principles of value-based marketing,
- Reward the production of heavier, leaner, higher yielding lamb carcasses with a high proportion of loin
- Encourage the use of genetics and production systems, which deliver such lambs
- Provide Lamb Producers with the opportunity to benchmark their flock against the industry



The Judging System

Carcasses will be assessed by the whole carcass Viascan system for Lean Meat Yield, based on carcass weight, estimated fat depth and overall evenness of fat distribution. A measure will be incorporated to reward carcasses with an above average loin content (*the loin comprises around 55% of the value of export lambs*)

The value of each lamb will be calculated in cents/kg from a grid based on carcass weight and lean meat yield and an adjustment for loin score. The entry with the highest premium \$ value per carcass will be the winner. This is based on carcass weight and premium \$ per kg.

Conditions of Entry:

The rules appearing in these conditions of entry form part of the General Regulations to this event. In the event of any inconsistency between the General Regulations and these rules, the General Regulations shall prevail to the extent of the inconsistency unless the General Regulations provide otherwise. General Regulations (Animal) can be found at www.rasv.com.au.

Numbers:	A consignment of at least 200 lambs.
Live weight:	45 – 65 kg (approx 20 - 30 kg carcass weight) after a 24-hour curfew before trucking.
Breeding:	First and second cross only. No rams or cryptorchids permitted.
General Condition of Lambs:	Wool to be no longer than 50 mm, free of seed, burr and dags. Castricum Bros. reserves the right to refuse any consignment, which is not fit for slaughter.

Entry Fee: \$15 (incl GST) with application.

Prize Pool: 1st \$4000, 2nd \$2000 and 3rd \$1000

Proudly Sponsored by:



DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES

RIST in conjunction with the Department of Primary Industries offers MLA *EDGENETWORK* programs to provide Prime Lamb Producers with the skills needed to profitably produce top Prime Lamb carcasses.

LAMBCHEQUE

LambCheque is all about growing and utilising more grass, growing more lamb, mutton and wool and ultimately - making more money!

LambCheque is a 3-year program featuring:

- 10 sessions per year
- Year 1 providing opportunities to learn principles of pasture and livestock interaction
- Involves groups of 15 people facilitated by experienced industry specialists
- Accesses technical specialists providing advice in fertiliser application, soil fertility and financial benchmarking

EFFECTIVE BREEDING PROGRAMS

This program helps participants evaluate the effectiveness of their existing breeding program and determine strategies to better match market requirements.

The workshop will explore how to boost profitability through use of proven genetic techniques focusing on:

- Setting production targets
- Understanding and interpreting LAMBPLAN figures
- What are estimated breeding values
- Breed selection and identifying breed traits

MONEY MAKING MUMS

During the last decade, ewe numbers in Australia declined to 55 million from 75 million (1989) and continue to decline as a result of drought conditions across Australia.

In order to prevent loss of export markets through inability to cater to market demand, Australia needs to achieve increases in lamb supply by mating more ewes, achieving higher reproductive rates and increasing carcass weights.

Money Making Mums is a one day workshop enabling participants to evaluate the effectiveness of the contribution of maternal genes to a breeding program.

PROGRAZE

Prograze® is based on the principles of pasture and livestock interaction becoming the basis for improved pasture and livestock management.

Prograze® will equip you with the management skills and knowledge to make better management decisions based on matching pasture production with animal requirements.

For more information about **LambCheque**, **Effective Breeding Programs**, **Money Making Mums** or **Prograze®** or for a full list of available courses please contact:

The RIST Centre, Private Bag 105, Hamilton, VIC. 3300

Telephone: (03) 5573 0943

Email: ristvic@rist.com.au

Facsimile: (03) 5573 0962

Web: www.rist.com.au

Or your local Department of Primary Industries Office.



UPCOMING RAS EVENTS

2005 AUTUMN BEEF FOCUS

The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria Limited presents the 2005 Autumn Beef Focus, including the Awards Presentation for the Domestic Feedlot Carcase Competition and the Beef Industry Symposium.

The **Domestic Feedlot Carcase Competition** attracted 63 head of cattle, which entered the feedlot at ICM Peechelba in late December for 65 days. Beef producers from North Central and North Eastern Victoria entered the competition as a means to compare the performance of their stock against others and participate in the educational workshops offered through the Department of Primary Industries.

Carcases meeting specifications will be sold to a guaranteed buyer at a premium price reflecting the quality of carcasses. Feed costs and commission will be deducted from the proceeds of the sale, and surplus will then be paid to the competitors.

Whilst producer feedback and education is the key objective of the RAS and the DPI, the competition also offers substantial prize money, with \$11,000 offered over five award categories.

- Best Compliance Rate to Customer Specification
- Best Eating Quality
- Best Growth Rate
- Reserve Champion Carcase
- Champion Carcase

The carcasses will be judged in late February using Meat Standards Australia guidelines. The entrants have the opportunity to attend an **MSA Grading Workshop** and receive detailed feedback on the performance of their livestock on feed rations.

The **Awards Presentation Lunch** commencing at 12 noon on Friday 11 March 2005 at the Department of Primary Industries Rutherglen Centre will feature a barbeque with selected cuts from the winning carcasses. Following lunch is the **Beef Industry Symposium** open to those with an interest in the beef industry.

Beef Industry Symposium Agenda

1:15 pm	Introduction & welcome to the Symposium Chair: Tim Hollier, Sub Project Manager – Meat & Wool (NE), and Beef Industry Development Officer, DPI
1:25 pm	Requirements for Different Export Markets Hugh Amoyal, General Manager International Marketing, Meat & Livestock Australia
1:45 pm	Consumer Needs and Requirements for Domestic Markets Barry Wilson, National Livestock Manager, Coles Supermarkets
2:05 pm	Questions
2:15 pm	Importance of Meeting Market Requirements for Optimum Profitability – A Processor Perspective
2:35 pm	Questions
2:40 pm	Factors that Improve Ability to Meet Specifications and Profitability – A Feedlot Perspective. Gina Lincoln, General Manager Feedlot and Genetics, ICM Farm Products (Peechelba Beef)
3:00 pm	Questions
3:05 pm	Case Study – A Producers' Perspective on Improving Profitability by Meeting Specific Markets Michael McCormack, Producer, Tallangatta Valley, Victoria
3:25 pm	Questions
3:30 pm	Plans for the 2007 RAS Southern Meat Expo Geoff Phillips, Director, The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria Limited
3:40 pm	Conclusions & Feedback Chair: Tim Hollier, Sub Project Manager – Meat & Wool (NE), and Beef Industry Development Officer, DPI
3:45 pm	Afternoon Tea & Close

Tickets are \$60 to attend the Awards Presentation Lunch and Beef Industry Symposium. For further information regarding the program, or to make a booking, please contact Scott Hamilton on 03 9914 2422, or email scott.hamilton@rasv.com.au.

GRAZING ON BEEF – AN RAS DINNER AT RUTHERGLEN

The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria Limited, in conjunction with the 2005 Melbourne Food & Wine Festival, presents **Grazing on Beef - an RAS dinner at Rutherglen.**

A rare opportunity is available to savor some of the best prime beef available in Victoria. Gourmets will gather at Rutherglen for dinner on Saturday 12 March to relish five superb courses at the **Grazing on Beef** dinner conducted by The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria Limited.

The dinner is being held as part of the 2005 Melbourne Food and Wine Festival, which will cover 14 major events across the State in March. The cuts for the Grazing on Beef dinner will come from Award-winning carcasses in the Domestic Feedlot Carcase Competition, which will be aged and butchered for the dinner.

In charge of the dinner is renowned local Rutherglen chef Chris O'Connor who has a great love of fine foods and wines. Chris is currently the head chef at the Rutherglen Wine Experience, which incorporates the Visitor Information Centre, Wine Experience Centre and Café in a beautiful historic building.

At the conclusion of the Grazing on Beef dinner, Chris will speak about the menu and provide insights into the preparation of the food. The dinner will include selections of local wine and will be accompanied by live music with a jazz band.

Bookings are essential for the dinner at a cost of \$105 per person, all inclusive. For bookings or for further information, telephone 03 9914 2578 or email events@rasv.com.au



The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria Limited
A.B.N 66 006 728 785 A.C.N 006 728 785
Melbourne Showgrounds, Epsom Road, Ascot Vale, Victoria 3032
Telephone: 03 9914 2400 Facsimile: 03 9914 2492
Email: rasvadmin@rasv.com.au Internet Site: www.rasv.com.au