

# Cleanskins plan big day out Down Under

A GROUNDBREAKING international cleanskin sheep symposium is scheduled for February 18 and 19 at the Adelaide Showground.

It is estimated that about 12 per cent of the world's sheep population are cleanskins - hair or shedding sheep.

Numbers are increasing steadily but there is a limited knowledge base in Australia for producers to access.

In a direct response to this deficiency, Cleanskin Sheep Australia has scheduled a symposium for February 2010.

This event will provide a world-wide stage for educational opportunities and information exchange with like minded producers, as promotional opportunities for individual breeds and breeders.

As margins have tightened,

many primary producers have looked at ways to maintain or increase their income without greatly increasing labour costs.

One option that has found favour is cleanskin sheep production.

The last decade has seen a massive swing to the many cleanskin sheep breeds now in Australia, some of which have been long established while others have been more recently introduced or developed.

Worldwide demand for sheepmeats is increasing dramatically and cleanskin sheep production is offering an economic incentive to producers who supply a quality product.

However, many producers do not want to run sheep with wool due to depressed world wool markets, limited available labour, additional



infrastructure and increased management requirements.

Also, graingrowers are looking to complement their income through diversification or to add to their grain income.

With unpredictable seasons, droughts and busy timetables, cleanskin sheep production is a viable alternative for most farming enterprises.

The international cleanskin sheep symposium will provide a challenging and informative program involving international and local speakers.

The seminar on day one of the symposium will stimulate discussion and encourage all breeders to contribute to the positive development of this growing industry.

It will be an ideal forum for prospective breeders seeking more information on the cleanskin sheep industry and any of the 13 cleanskin breeds currently established

in this country.

Day two will allow breeders to inspect the breeds, peruse related industry products and source new genetics for their flocks.

The breeds that will be presented throughout the program are Damara, Damper, Dorper, Droughtmaster, Kojak, Minis, Meatmaster, Persian, Polled Wiltshire, Van Rooy, White Dorper, Wiltipoll and Wiltshire Horn.

This event is the first of its kind in Australia and it is anticipated that it will become an annual event on the agricultural calendar.

Anybody interested in the symposium can register for the symposium or obtain additional information on the event by contacting the Rural Services Office, Adelaide Showground on (08) 8210 5235; email: [info@cleanskinsheep.com.au](mailto:info@cleanskinsheep.com.au); Web: [www.cleanskinsheep.com.au](http://www.cleanskinsheep.com.au)

## 1302465 Best Genetics Available

**Dorper and White Dorper rams**  
**\$550-\$660 inc GST**  
**for private selection**

Fast forward your breeding

by up to 3 years.

Upgrade to F3/F4 and full blood ewes.

**Contact:**  
**Preston Clarke**  
**0429 778 884**

# From the Coolup catwalk...

# ...10 Classic Beauties...coming soon!