

Wiltipoll rams to \$4200

By MIRANDA KENNY

A WILTIPOLL sire made the \$4200 top at San Jolly and Ann Wallace's first Wonoka on-property sale at Kapunda on Friday.

Two interstate studs grappled to purchase the ram, which weighed 86 kilograms at 15 months with a CarcasePlus index of 105, SRC index



VOLUME BUY: Josie and Jamie Jackson, Tallawong, Willalooka, buyers of five rams at Wonoka, the fourth year they have returned to purchase Wiltipoll and composite sires from the Kapunda stud.

Sale Summary

■ Offered	28
■ Sold	22
■ Top	\$4200
■ Av	\$1013

of 105, 6.5 millimetres of fat and 38.3mm of eye muscle depth, but in the end Peter and Judy Colless, Carthona, Wingham, NSW, won out.

A first-time Wonoka buyer, Mr Colless said the 6525-tagged ram had very good figures.

"He's a well-grown and well-developed ram," he said.

"He has good conformation and the best hindquarters in the shed."

Having flown from Sydney on the morning of the sale, Mr Colless said he was very happy to have bought his pick of rams, also taking a second Wiltipoll sire for \$1400.

Ms Jolly said that while they had held the first ever Wiltipoll sale in the South East in 2006, Friday was their first on-property sale at Kapunda.

The Wonoka Partnership has

bred composite Wiltipoll-White Dorper-Poll Dorset rams alongside Wiltipoll sires since 1998, three years after they started breeding Wiltipolls.

Ms Jolly said they bred composites and Wiltipolls for their shedding ability, early maturity, fertility and muscling. They had bought several Poll Dorset and White Dorper sires from Hillcroft Farms, Narrogin, WA, to produce the best composite sires.

"It's a process but we're getting there," she said.

Twenty-two Wiltipoll and composite rams sold to average \$1013.

The composite rams sold to \$1500, with Wonoka also offering 19 Wiltipoll and composite ewes, with eight sold to \$600, averaging \$337.50.

Volume buyers during the sale were Jamie and Josie Jackson, Tallawong, Willalooka, who took five rams to \$1100.

Landmark auctioneer Gordon Wood said the ram section of the sale was "certainly very well supported" for a first sale.



FLY BUY: Peter Colless, Carthona, Wingham, NSW, with Landmark stud stock's Gordon Wood and Wonoka's Ann Wallace and San Jolly, Kapunda, flew over the morning of the Wonoka sale to buy the top-price ram of the sale at \$4200.

AWI committed to extension

Does Australian Wool Innovation have reduced its spending on extension?

In the 2013-14 financial year, Australian Wool Innovation (AWI) is investing \$2.8 million on grower focussed extension activities and is the same amount as previous years.

What are the real projects within that spend?

This includes \$300,000 on the Making More from Sheep program with \$1.2 million committed to this flagship program to 2015.

Over 1600 producers have now been involved with the Lifetime Ewe Management program and AWI has recently invested a further \$800,000 to this program.