

# MerinoLink

## 2021 Sire Evaluation Entry Invitation

MerinoLink is calling for sire entrants in the 2021 sire evaluation trial to be run at a new host property located on the Central Tablelands of New South Wales, working in conjunction with Bathurst Merino Association.

The Kelly family operate 'Ferndale', at Caloola, 30 minutes south-east of Bathurst NSW. The property is 2000ha of stringy bark country with clay loam soils. The pastures have a dominant sub-clover base with annual grasses, phalaris and some perennial ryegrass. The property has an annual rainfall of 750-800mm.

The Kelly's annually join 5000+ Merino ewes to Merino sires (of Roseville Park bloodline in recent years). Ewes cut 6.2kgs of wool per head, with an average of 18.2 micron. Lambing occurs from early September for 5 weeks. The flock has been averaging 103% lambs marked from ewes joined over the last 3 years.

### Site Breeding Objective:

*To breed sheep that produce a fine wool, quality fleece and of sound conformation suitable for the Tablelands environment; maintain a micron of 18-18.5, increase wool cut to slightly above 6.2kgs with increased staple length of more than 100mm per annum. A selection focus is also on increasing weaner weights and muscle/fat levels across the flock to improve reproduction results.*

### 2021 trial information:

The site has the capacity to trial 15 Merino sires which will be joined by AI to 55 foundation ewes in April 2021. The trial plan is to complete a Yearling and Adult classing and assessment to cover two shearings. Data for all sires will be submitted to MERINOSELECT as it is collected, and sires will be eligible for publication in Merino Superior Sires after the Adult assessment. Ewe progeny will also be assessed in their first reproduction cycle for Conception and Litter Size.

The cost to enter a sire is **\$4,000** (plus GST). This covers all costs associated with the trial including AI, all measurements, professional trial management, data analysis and reporting. ALL progeny and sires in the 2021 trial will be DNA sampled.

### **Entrants will need to supply 61 doses of semen, delivered to Livestock Breeding Services, Jerilderie by 23<sup>rd</sup> April.**

*Semen and delivery of semen is the responsibility of the entrant and at the entrants' expense.*

Five of these doses will be used in a Sydney University project which is looking to be able to accurately predict a male's fertility via in vitro semen testing, plus propose minimum industry standards for in vitro testing to reduce AI semen-induced reproductive losses – important results for breeders!

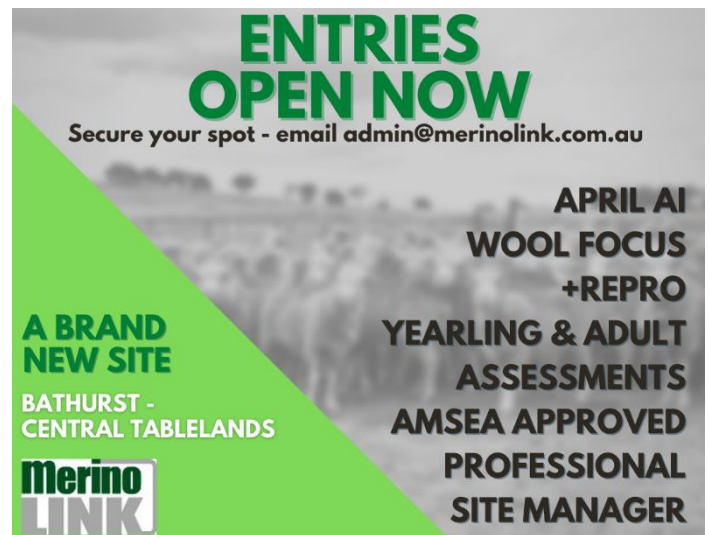
If you would like to enter a sire, please complete the attached entry form by **March 30 2021** and send to Laura Broughton by email to [admin@merinolink.com.au](mailto:admin@merinolink.com.au). A position will only be kept available with a completed nomination/entry form.

Entrants will be contacted within 5 days.

### Further enquires can be directed to:

Laura Broughton on 0487 181 896  
Rich Keniry on 0427 878 541 or,  
emailed to [admin@merinolink.com.au](mailto:admin@merinolink.com.au).

Yours sincerely,  
Rich Keniry  
MerinoLink Chair



**ENTRIES  
OPEN NOW**

Secure your spot - email [admin@merinolink.com.au](mailto:admin@merinolink.com.au)

**A BRAND  
NEW SITE**

BATHURST -  
CENTRAL TABLELANDS

**Merino  
LINK**

**APRIL AI  
WOOL FOCUS  
+REPRO  
YEARLING & ADULT  
ASSESSMENTS  
AMSEA APPROVED  
PROFESSIONAL  
SITE MANAGER**

# Sire Entry Form



## 1. Site details for the sire being entered

Site & year being entered Site: ..... Year: .....

Other sites & years the sire has been entered: .....

Has the sire been genotyped:  Yes  No  Unsure

## 2. Sire details

Sire's stud/flock name: .....

Sire's identification: .....

Sire's stud/flock code: ..... Sire's year of drop: .....

Breed of stud/flock (Merino or Poll Merino. If other breed give details): .....

Sire's 16 digit code [see sample code below right:] \_ \_ - \_ \_ - \_ \_ - \_ \_ - \_ \_

Is the sire currently alive:  Yes  No

Is semen available for sale:  Yes  No

Example 16 digit code:	50	-	4697	-	2014	-	140012
	Breed		Flock		Year of drop		On-farm ID

Sire of sire (16 digit code): [see sample code above right:] \_ \_ - \_ \_ - \_ \_ - \_ \_ - \_ \_

Grandsire of sire (16 digit code): [see sample code above right:] \_ \_ - \_ \_ - \_ \_ - \_ \_ - \_ \_

## 3. Owner details - Owner and contact for enquiries about the sire, plus owner(s) permission

Owner: .....

Contact: First name: ..... Surname: .....

Address: .....

Town: ..... Postcode: .....

Phone: ..... Mobile: .....

Fax: ..... Email: .....

Does the owner of the sire give permission to enter the sire into this sire evaluation site:  Yes  No Initial: .....

Does the owner of the sire give permission to publish the sires results in *Merino Superior Sires*:  Yes  No Initial: .....

Does the owner of the sire give permission to publish the sires results in Sheep Genetics reports:\*  Yes  No Initial: .....

\* If you are an existing Sheep Genetics member, your default Sheep Genetics publication settings for your flock code will be used.

## 4. Breeder details - only fill in section 4 if the breeders details are different to the owners details in section 3.

Breeder: .....

Contact: First name: ..... Surname: .....

Address: .....

Town: ..... Postcode: .....

Phone: ..... Mobile: .....

Fax: ..... Email: .....

Does the breeder of the sire give permission to enter the sire into this sire evaluation site:  Yes  No Initial: .....

Does the breeder of the sire give permission to publish the sires results in *Merino Superior Sires*:  Yes  No Initial: .....

Does the breeder of the sire give permission to publish the sires results in Sheep Genetics reports:\*  Yes  No Initial: .....

\* If you are an existing Sheep Genetics member, your default Sheep Genetics publication settings for your flock code will be used.

Note: Sires entered will be included in the AMSEA database and managed by AMSEA.

## 5. Signature of entrant

I believe all the above details to be true: ..... Date: .....

## 6. Stud/flock details - if you are a first time entrant of sire evaluation please provide a short summary of your stud/flock's history and breeding objective.

.....  
 .....  
 .....