

Accepted Manuscript

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PII: S0921-4488(17)30282-1
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.smallrumres.2017.10.010>
Reference: RUMIN 5578

To appear in: *Small Ruminant Research*

Received date: 1-6-2017
Revised date: 26-10-2017
Accepted date: 27-10-2017

Please cite this article as: Ponnampalam, E.N., Linden, N.P., Mitchell, M.L., Hopkins, D.L., Jacobs, J.L., Production systems to deliver premium grade lambs to the growing international and Australian markets. *Small Ruminant Research* <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.smallrumres.2017.10.010>

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Production systems to deliver premium grade lambs to the growing international and Australian markets

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Short title: Premium grade lambs for growing international markets

Highlights

- Daily DM and ME intakes were greater for lambs on the commercial pellet.
- Carcass weight was lowest in the annual based pasture with feedlot group.
- On the lucerne pasture, 63% of lambs reached 22 kg carcass weight.
- Lucerne based pastures have the potential to produce premium grade carcasses.

Abstract:

This study investigated the potential to produce premium grade (>22 kg carcass weight and fat score 2-4 [10-20 mm GR range]) Australian lambs using feeds available in late spring to summer to meet a growing demand from growing international and local markets. Second cross lambs (Poll Dorset x [Border Leicester x Merino]) were fed either: lucerne pasture (*Lucerne, Medicago sativa* L.); annual ryegrass (*Lolium rigidum* Gaud.) with sub-clover pasture

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