



Woolorama

2018 review

Shirlee Downs excels in Prime SAMM

PRIME SAMM

By TAMARA HOOPER

THE Prime SAMM section of the catalogue at Make Smoking History Wagin Woolorama, was once again dominated by the Shirlee Downs stud, Quairading.

Judge Warren Garlick, Capolonga Prime SAMM stud, Kondinin, enlisted the help of his son Jake to decide the winners from the three studs, nine classes and 22 entries.

He said it was always good to have the assistance of a second opinion, especially when there were so many really good quality animals on display.

Sandown Prime SAMM stud, Badgingarra, took the blue ribbon in the first ram class, however, it was from the pairs class that the champion and reserve champion ram originated.

When the pair of rams were judged in their class, Mr Garlick said they were the best pair for their perfect topline and leg structure.

In the champion ram section he said he needed to be really strict on structure, as the rams grow to be so large in frame, they need to be able to perform and have that structural base.

"The champion ram was very well structured with a good top line and very good fat," he said.

"The muscling was excellent right through the sheep."

Mr Garlick said the reserve champion ram just had a little bit



□ The champion Prime SAMM ram section win went to the Shirlee Downs stud, Quairading. With the ram were Elders stud stock manager Tim Spicer (left), judges Jake and his father Warren Garlick, Kondinin, and Sascha Squiers, Shirlee Downs stud.

of scur and slightly less muscle.

Shirlee Downs stud principal Chris Squiers said the champion ram was by Shirlee Downs 644/14.

In the ewe category it was the older woolly Shirlee Downs ewe that took the champion ribbon over the younger reserve champion from the Kaula Dale stud, Cunderdin.

"I went for the older ewe because she has come straight out of the paddock,

with no show preparation and presents herself very well," he said.

"She has a really good carcass and the wool quality and coverage is excellent."

"The reserve was a very well muscled ewe with a beautiful topline."

With that being said this year it was the Shirlee Downs champion ewe that took out the grand champion Prime SAMM title over the champion ram.



□ It was the Prime SAMM ewe from Shirlee Downs stud, Quairading, that won the title of grand champion Prime SAMM. With the impressive ewe were judges Jake and Warren Garlick, Kondinin, and Sascha Squiers, Shirlee Downs stud.

"She just has excellent carcass quality traits, with a very square, long body," Mr Garlick said.

"She was also very well filled out, with a good coverage of wool from her head and down her legs.

"The fact that she has come straight out of the paddock a few weeks ago and is in this condition is testament to her quality."

Shirlee Downs principal Chris

Squiers said the grand champion ewe had won the supreme sash at the IGA Perth Royal Show in 2017.

Overall Mr Garlick said the sheep were very well presented and showcased very good genetics.

"There were really good carcass attributes on display," he said.

"It was a very even line-up of sheep from across the three studs and it made my job that bit harder."