

UNDERSTANDING the Fibre Production Indexes



The new Fibre Production (FP & FP+) indexes rank animals on their ability to produce merinos for a wool production operation.

The index is aimed at those producers whose majority of sheep income come from their wool clip. It is for self-replacing merino flocks who keep their wethers as part of their wool producing flock.

What is the difference between the FP and FP+ indexes?

The FP index is calculated using the traits most recorded by MERINOSELECT of Fleece Weight, Fibre Diameter, Body Weight and CV. The FP+ uses these traits as well as additional traits such as Staple Strength, Worm Egg Count and Curvature. The FP index uses the traits most recorded by MERINOSELECT subscribers

What would I get from using this index?

After ten years of using either the base or plus index you would be likely to get the following gains in production

FP index

Trait	Likely Response	Contribution to economic gain (%)
Fleece Weight	+5.2%	21%
Fibre diameter	-1.7 μ m	53%
Body Weight	+1.5kg	3%
CV of FD	-1.1%	22%

FP+ index

Trait	Likely Response	Contribution to economic gain (%)
Fleece Weight	+3.8%	11%
Fibre diameter	-1.3 μ m	47%
Body Weight	+1.1kg	1%
CV of FD	-0.9%	16%
Staple Strength	+4.7 N.ktex	29%
Worm Egg Count	-16%	2%
Curvature	+1.8 deg/mm	1%
Number of Lambs Weaned	+3%	6%

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UNDERSTANDING the Merino Production Indexes



The Merino Production (MP & MP+) indexes rank animals on their ability to produce progeny for a fine wool operation that has significant surplus sheep sales.

The index is aimed at those producers whose sheep income is a balance of both wool and surplus sheep sales. It is for self-replacing merino flocks who do not keep their wethers to produce wool.

What is the difference between the MP and MP+ indexes?

The MP index is calculated using the traits most recorded by MERINOSELECT of Fleece Weight, Fibre Diameter, Body Weight and CV. The MP+ uses these traits plus the additional traits of staple strength and number of lambs weaned.

What would I get from using this index?

After ten years of using either the base or plus index you would be likely to get the following gains in production

MP index

Trait	Likely Response	Contribution to economic gain (%)
Fleece Weight	+6.2%	16%
Fibre diameter	-0.9µm	21%
Body Weight	+6.2kg	51%
CV of FD	-0.9%	13%

MP+ index

Trait	Likely Response	Contribution to economic gain (%)
Fleece Weight	+4.3%	13%
Fibre diameter	-0.8µm	21%
Body Weight	+5.0kg	24%
CV of FD	-0.8%	2%
Staple Strength	+3.1N/ktex	16%
Number of Lambs Weaned	+7%	25%

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UNDERSTANDING the Dual Purpose Indexes



The Dual Purpose (DP & DP+) indexes rank animals on their ability to produce merinos for a dual purpose operation.

These indexes are aimed at those producers whose majority of sheep income comes from sheep sales. It is for self-replacing merino flocks that do not keep their wethers and also join a portion of their ewes to terminal sires for lamb production.

What is the difference between the DP and DP + indexes?

The DP index is calculated using the traits most recorded by MERINOSELECT of Fleece Weight, Fibre Diameter, Body Weight and CV. The DP + index includes these traits as well as additional traits of eye muscle depth and number of lambs weaned.

What would I get from using this index?

After ten years of using either the DP or DP+ index you would be likely to get the following gains in production

DP index

Trait	Likely Response	Contribution to economic gain (%)
Fleece Weight	+10.2%	28%
Fibre diameter	0µm	0%
Body Weight	+7.3kg	70%
CV of FD	-0.5%	3%

DP+ index

Trait	Likely Response	Contribution to economic gain (%)
Fleece Weight	+8.5%	21%
Fibre diameter	0µm	-1%
Body Weight	+6.1kg	21%
CV of FD	-0.3%	0%
Eye Muscle Depth	+1.0mm	13%
Fat Depth	+0.2mm	0%
Number of Lambs Weaned	+8%	35%

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