

# 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  | +5.1%           | 22%                               |
| Fibre diameter | -1.6µm          | 53%                               |
| Body Weight    | +1.4kg          | 3%                                |
| CV of FD       | -1.1%           | 22%                               |

### FP+ index

| Trait                  | Likely Response | Contribution to economic gain (%) |
|------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Fleece Weight          | +2.8%           | 11%                               |
| Fibre diameter         | -1.3µm          | 47%                               |
| Body Weight            | +1.1kg          | 1%                                |
| CV of FD               | -0.9%           | 3%                                |
| Staple Strength        | +4.6 N.ktex     | 29%                               |
| Worm Egg Count         | -12%            | 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  | +6.1%           | 16%                               |
| Fibre diameter | -0.8 $\mu$ m    | 20%                               |
| 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         | -0.7 $\mu$ m    | 20%                               |
| Body Weight            | +5.0kg          | 24%                               |
| CV of FD               | -0.8%           | 2%                                |
| Staple Strength        | +3.0 N/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%          | 27%                               |
| Fibre diameter | -0.2µm          | 0%                                |
| Body Weight    | +7.3kg          | 70%                               |
| CV of FD       | -0.4%           | 3%                                |

### DP+ index

| Trait                  | Likely Response | Contribution to economic gain (%) |
|------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Fleece Weight          | +8.5%           | 31%                               |
| Fibre diameter         | 0µm             | 0%                                |
| 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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