



Dorpers' Impact on the Sheep Industry



Brief history

- South Africa in 1940-50
- Horned Dorset and Persian Fat Tail
- Arid climate
- No feed resources
- Black head or pure white



provided by Dr Alberto Zorloni



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Provided by Mr P J Cilliers

Trade offs- positives

- Early maturing small framed animals
- Lamb at a year of age
- Get fat on grass
- Large loin eyes
- Raise a lamb on minimal resources.
- Parasite tolerant. (some)
- Lamb survival & non-seasonal breeding



Trade off negatives

- Early maturing and small framed
- Lower mature weight for packers
- Get really fat in confinement
- Prolapsed and respiratory
- Seasonal sales fall, winter and spring

Change the way we think

What can we expect of a ewe

- High intensity max income
 - High labor, feed, vaccinate, shear, ultrasound, mark lambs, drench, predator control, mineral
- Low intensity minimize cost
 - Make sure they have grass to eat, rotate pastures, keep predators out
- Quit telling me how much you going to do and show me how much you got done.



Dopplers arrival

- Created new enthusiasm from new breeders
- In-vogue
- Smaller herds still profitable
- Help keeping supply chains open
- Changing the mindset on what the commercial sheep needs to do and look like
- More people doing predator control
- Allowing for range ready lamb to be marketed

Dopplers down the road

- Ewe herd that has moderate Dorper influence
- Terminal sires, Suffolk, Hamp being used
- Lambs staying on pasture for large wt,
- Less time in feed lots and lower grain
- More muscle on smaller carcasses
- South and East commercially dominated by dorpers unless wool price increase dramatically

Direct Marketing



Direct marketing means

- Cutting out the middle man
- Value added products
- Dealing with the public
- Customer differs usually in class or culture
- Additional time needed
- Consistent quality product

Markets

- Breeders market – stud animals
- Ethnic market - location
- Processed lamb
 - Shows
 - Farmers market
 - Restaurants
 - Website, phone orders

Processed lamb

Cost of transportation

Lack of slaughter plants

Scale of economics

Losses in hide, organs, head

Freezer cost

Utilizing all the carcass

Working with inspectors

Supply of quality lambs

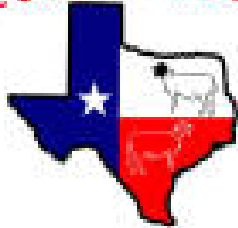


Dollar per dollar

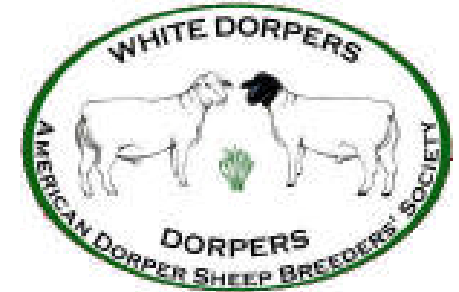
- \$35 harvest fee
- \$1.25 per lb to cut and package
- Label, insurance, transportation cost,
- 120 lb lamb will dress 60lb carcass
- $\$35 + \$75 + \$100 = \$210 / 60 = \$3.5/\text{lb}$
- Your time, marketing, freezer, mileage

Advantages

TEXAS HILL COUNTRY DORPER ASSOCIATION



WWW.THCDORPERASSOCIATION.COM



Resources

- Twin County Dorpers-- Harper Tx
- Menzies Farms– Harper Tx
- Half Circle Six Ranch – Sterling City
- Texas Hill Country Dorper Assoc.
 - www.tchdorperassociation.com
- American Dorper Breeders Society
 - www.dorper.org
- Texas Sheep & Goat Raisers.

