

# UNDERSTANDING the Fibre Production Indexes



The 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	Potential Response	Contribution to economic gain (%)
Fleece Weight	+2.8%	23%
Fibre diameter	-0.8 $\mu$ m	77%
Yearling Body Weight	+0.4 kg	0%

### FP+ index

Trait	Potential Response	Contribution to economic gain (%)
Fleece Weight	+2.0%	16%
Fibre diameter	-0.7 $\mu$ m	55%
Body Weight	+0.2 kg	0%
Staple Strength	+1.2 N.ktex	15%
Worm Egg Count	-9%	6%
Number of Lambs Weaned	+1.5%	8%

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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	Potential Response	Contribution to economic gain (%)
Fleece Weight	+6.4%	61%
Fibre diameter	-0.4 $\mu$ m	23%
Yearling Body Weight	+1.8 kg	16%

### MP+ index

Trait	Potential Response	Contribution to economic gain (%)
Fleece Weight	+5.1%	45%
Fibre diameter	-0.3 $\mu$ m	19%
Body Weight	+1.4 kg	11%
Staple Strength	+1.4 N/ktex	7%
Number of Lambs Weaned	+2.4%	18%

# 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	Potential Response	Contribution to economic gain (%)
Fleece Weight	+4.2%	58%
Fibre diameter	-0.1 $\mu$ m	3%
Body Weight	+3.3kg	38%

### DP+ index

Trait	Potential Response	Contribution to economic gain (%)
Fleece Weight	+3.0%	23%
Fibre diameter	0 $\mu$ m	1%
Yearling Body Weight	+2.3 kg	15%
Staple Strength	+0.5 N/Ktex	3%
Carcase traits*	+0.5mm	13%
Number of Lambs Weaned	+4.5%	45%

\*Carcase trait gain is in Carcase Eye Muscle Depth, economic gain is from carcasse eye muscle depth, saleable meat yield and dressing percentage

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