



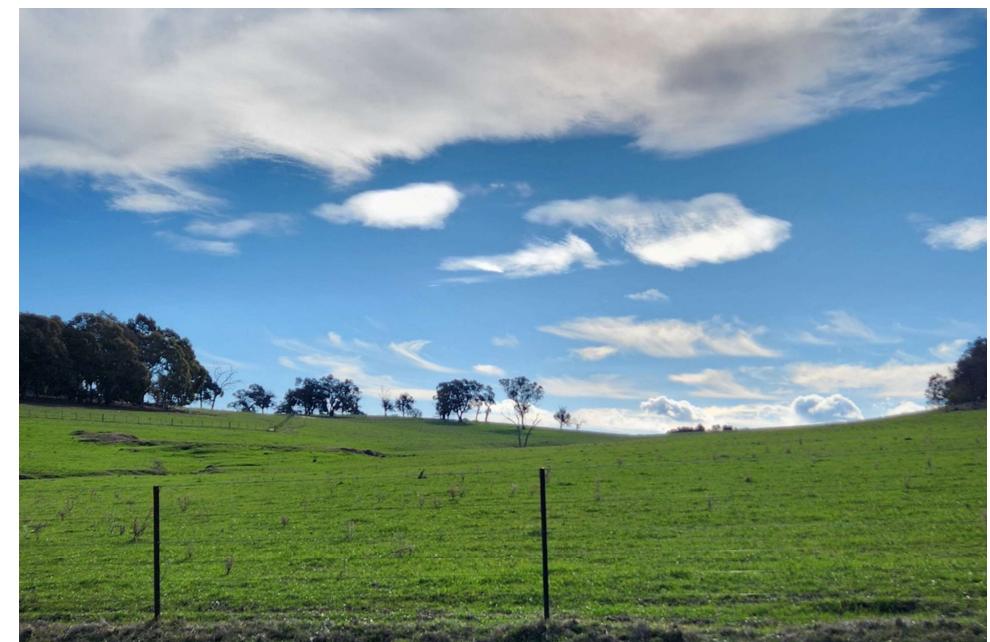
# RED MEAT UPDATES

TASMANIA

26 July 2024

**Profitable and ~~efficient~~  
effective enterprises**

John Francis  
Arista

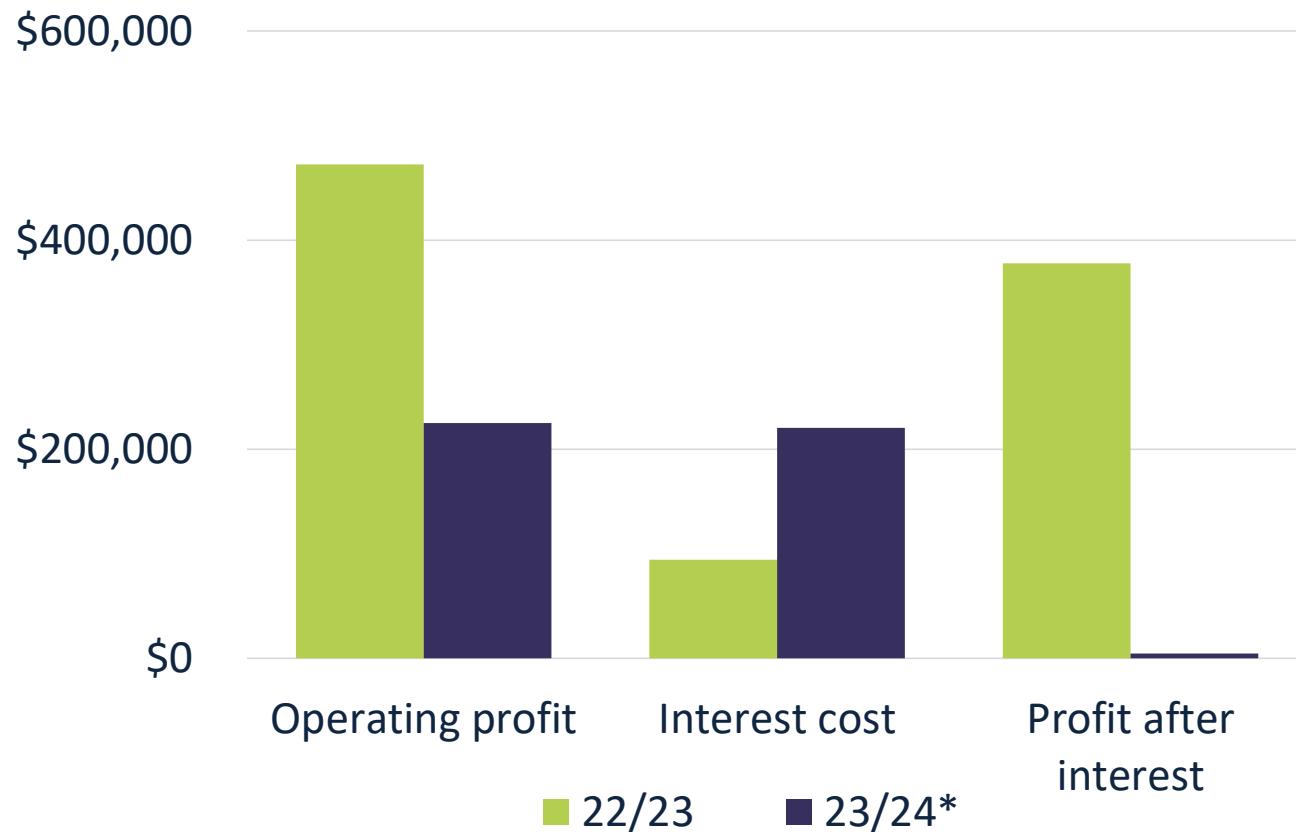


# Ability ≠ competence or skill



# Context

## Solid businesses are under duress



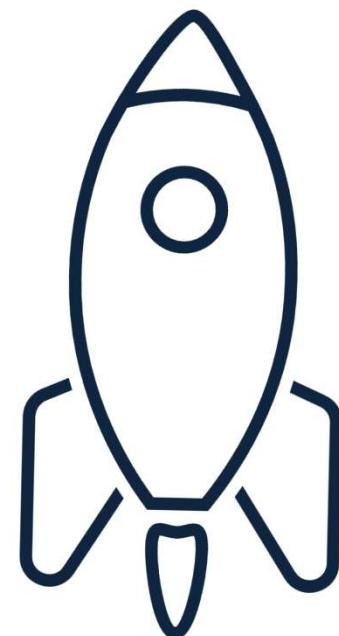
# Problems/systems

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Simple



Complicated



Complex



Source: Professor Diane Finegood

# It is time to prioritise effective

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Efficient  
2nd  
Doing  
things right

or

The order  
matters



Effective  
1st  
Doing the  
right things



# Prime lamb system A - efficient

Things being done right - But are they the right things?

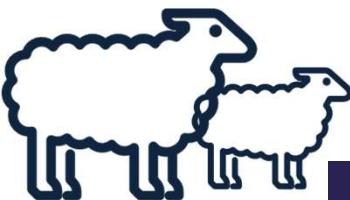
## Performance measure

Lambs weaned/ewes joined

Production (kg cwt/DSE)

Operating profit (\$/DSE)

	System A	System B
Lambs weaned/ewes joined	155%	120%
Production (kg cwt/DSE)	11.8	10.3
Operating profit (\$/DSE)	\$31	\$30



# Prime lamb system B - effective

## The right things

### Performance measure

Cost of production

Production (kg cwt/ha/100mm)

Ewes joined/ha/100mm

Operating profit (\$/ha)

System A System B

\$5.30

\$4.50

21.4

25.3

0.6

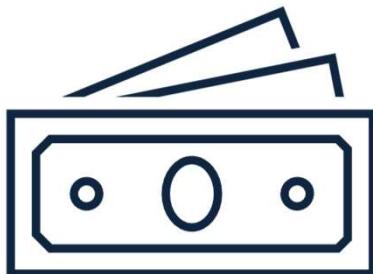
1.0

\$417

\$550

# Effective = low cost of production

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Operating cost (\$)

\$

=

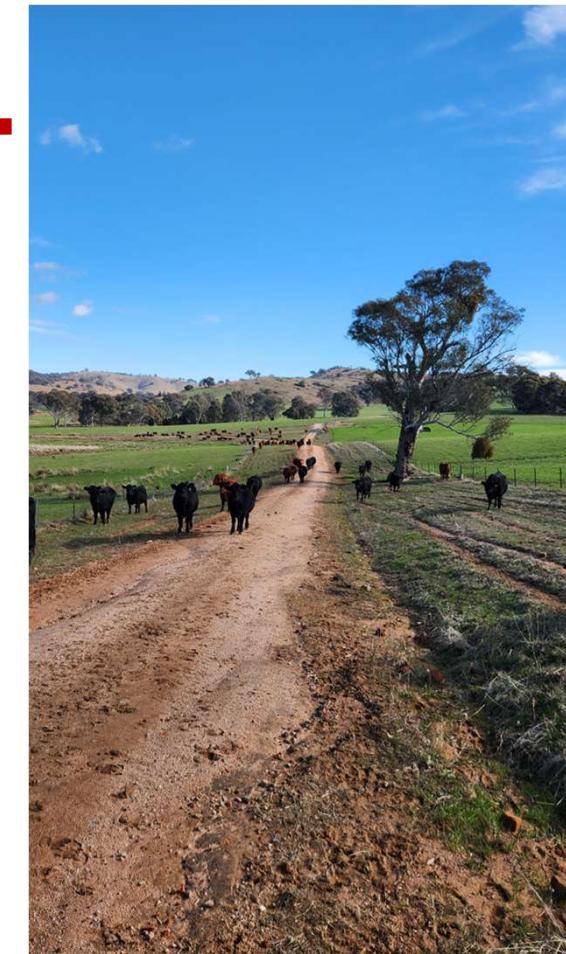
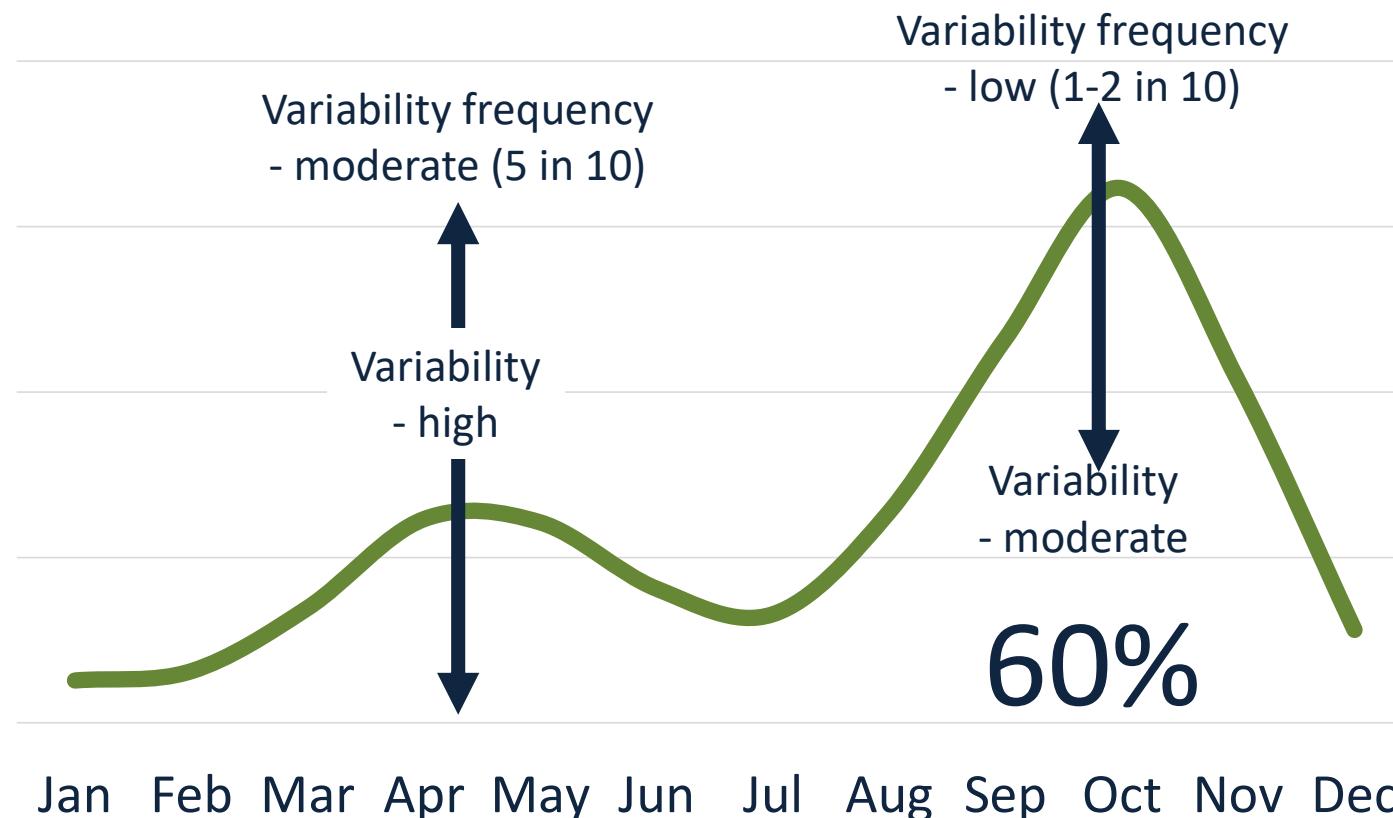


Production  
(kg cwt/lwt)

kg cwt/lwt

# System design considerations to drive a low cost of production

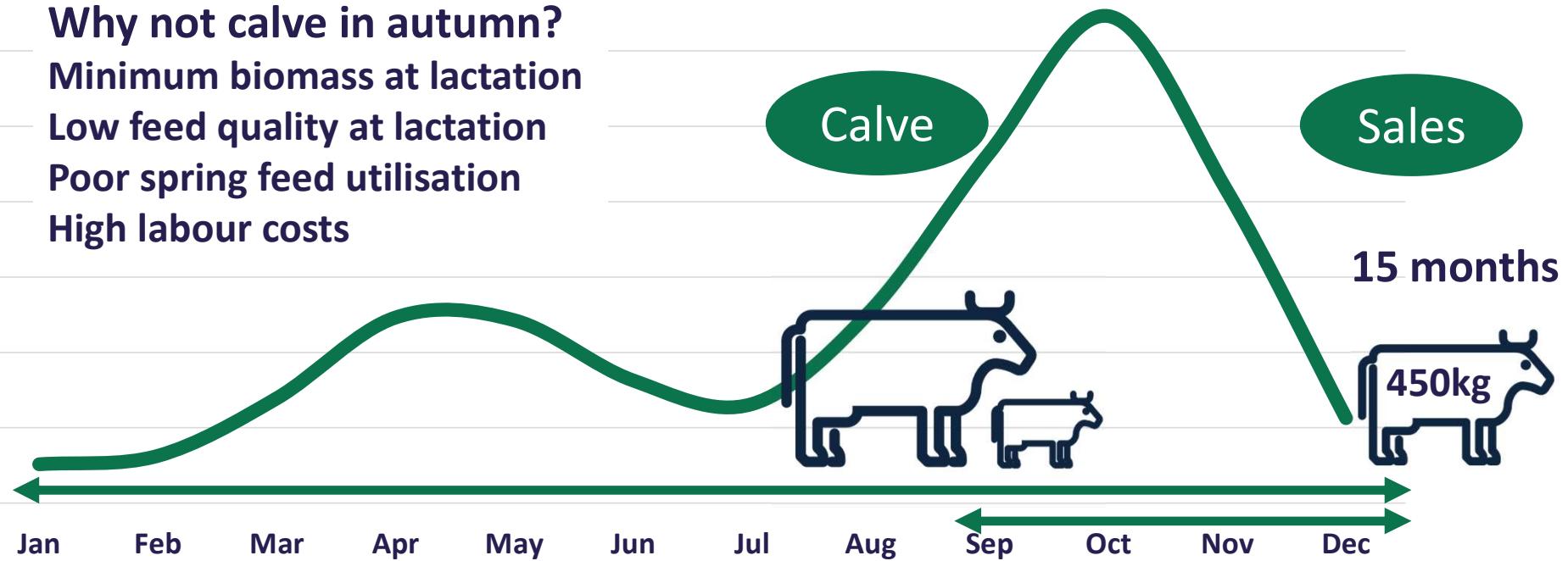
Pasture growth rate



# Beef system design to deliver low CoP

Daily pasture growth rate (kg DM/ha/day)

- Why not calve in autumn?
- Minimum biomass at lactation
- Low feed quality at lactation
- Poor spring feed utilisation
- High labour costs



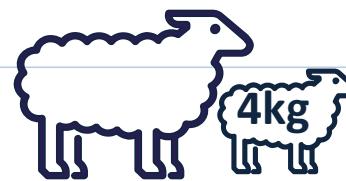
Target >48kg lwt/ha/100mm

# Prime lamb system design to deliver low CoP

Pasture growth rate

Why not carry lambs over this period?

High cost of carry  
Low marginal weight gain  
Compromises ewe numbers



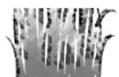
$$\begin{aligned} 48-4 &= 44 \text{kg lwt} \\ &\div 260 \text{g/hd/day} \\ &= 167 \text{ days} \end{aligned}$$



Target >24kg cwt/ha/100mm

# What does systems design deliver?

## Effective system



High feed utilisation



Greater stocking intensity



More production/unit area



Better labour efficiency

\$ cost/kg

Lower cost of production

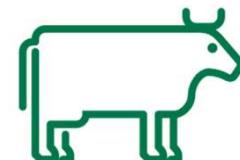
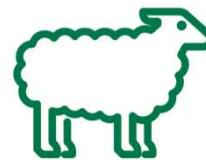
\$ cost/kg

## Ineffective system



# “Effective” but challenging targets

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Cost of production/kg	<\$4.50 kg cwt	<\$1.50 kg lwt
Production/ha/100mm	>24 kg cwt	>48 kg lwt
Operating cost/DSE*	<\$45/DSE	<\$30/DSE

\*Includes sheep trading loss

# How? Invest in this order to lower CoP

high



Systems first =  
more livestock

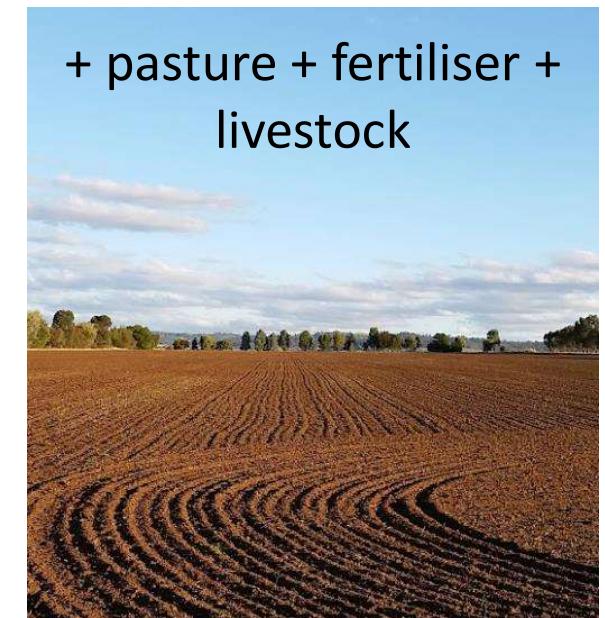
Higher ROI

medium



+ fertiliser + livestock

low



+ pasture + fertiliser +  
livestock

Lower ROI

# The human element - attributes

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**Clear strategy**



**Skilled decision maker**



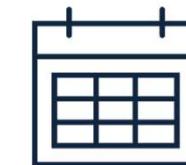
**Thinks critically**



**Feed budget competency**



**Values team culture**



**Proactive ops calendar**



**Operationally efficient**



**Financially literate**

# Calls to action – take homes

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Clarify goals

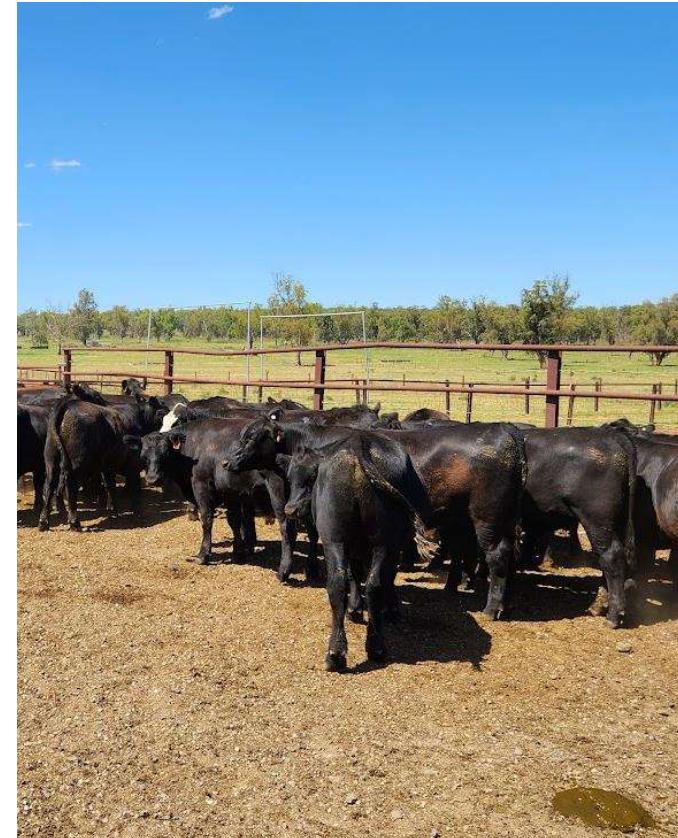


Assess production gap



Assess opportunity (S&D curve)

ABC Keep it simple



# What are the tools?

## Productivity & Profitability series



PRODUCTIVITY & PROFITABILITY  
series

A NSW Government website

NSW GOVERNMENT

Workshops and Events Toolkits Podcasts Case Studies Grants and Assistance

## Farm Financial Management Toolkit

## Feedbase planning and budgeting tool

HOME INSTRUCTIONS DATA ETOOLS

FREAKonomics  
THE HIDDEN SIDE OF EVERYTHING

HIDDEN  
BRAIN

CALCULATOR

Under maintenance

Feed demand calculator

This calculator allows producers to gain an appreciation of the pattern of feed supply and demand over a twelve-month period, the location of "feed gaps" and the ways in which modifying the livestock enterprise might help to close these gaps.



<https://etools.mla.com.au/hub/>

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