



WAITAKI BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL FRASER FARM

Waitaki Boys' High School Fraser Farm Update. March 2022

North Otago has been having a great season for sheep and beef farmers – more rain than we know what to do with at times, and as a result ewe condition looks great on Fraser Farm, but we'll get an objective measure when the rams go out (planned for 24 March).

Just as the weather hasn't been great for arable farmers (or the schools' cricket teams), it meant we had plenty of hay to make but challenging conditions to get it ready and safely in the shed. This was finally completed earlier this month. Many thanks to **Jock Mcleod** who baled it for us, and if you would like to buy some top quality small bales of meadow hay (\$9 + GST per bale), please contact us.

Key points this month:

- 119 lambs have been sold to date, along with the 33 cull ewes. All sold at Waiareka Saleyards. About 100 lambs still to be sold before winter, and 5 will be retained for stock handling exercises
- 449 small bales of hay made, and this will all be sold
- 36 ewes are grazing at the North Otago A&P showgrounds, until mating.
- Remaining ewes shorn by **Ben Winders**, all ewes now consistent in wool length
- Rams joined with the ewes 24 March, for a planned 19 August start to lambing. Once again we have been fortunate to be loaned two high genetic merit terminal sires from **Doug and Jeannie Brown's Punchbowl Stud**. The Browns have sold their stud ewe flock, so 2023 will be the last year we use their rams which have made a significant contribution to the profit of the farm.

