



Farm Management Handbook Update

Department of Agriculture
Falkland Islands Government

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THIS PAPER WAS PASSED AT THE MARCH 2006 MEETING OF THE AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Title of Report: Use of FIG PIP Funds at "Saladero Ram Sale"

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 To establish a protocol for the use of FIG funds (PIP Scheme) to obtain rams at the annual "Saladero Ram Sale".

2.0 Recommendation

- 2.1 That the sale and distribution system as outlined in the attached "Saladero Ram Sale" information sheet be approved for use at the 2006 "Saladero Ram Sale".

3.0 Background

- 3.1 FIG (DoA) have approximately 270 rams available for sale/distribution on sale day. The rams are a mixture of ages and breeds. NSF Polwarth and Corriedale rams have been bred naturally while other rams have been bred using fresh and frozen embryo transfer technology. Reserve prices reflect historical values (NSF, Polwarth and Corriedale rams) and approximate "cost of production" of rams generated via imported frozen embryos.
- 3.2 The exclusion of the use of FIG (PIP Scheme) funds from the initial Helmsman auction system is believed necessary to ensure all farmers in the Falkland Islands have equal access to the best animals available on sale day. In contrast, the ability for some farmers to use FIG (PIP) funds to purchase or partially purchase, some rams during the open Helmsman auction process could provide them with a potentially unfair purchasing power over farmers who are not part of the PIP Scheme.
- 3.3 The process as outlined is also believed to represent a suitable method of ensuring that ram prices are not artificially inflated and that the maximum number of farmers obtain rams of the breed that they seek.