

# Studs' twofold champion breed titles

## Wattle Farm, Retallack success

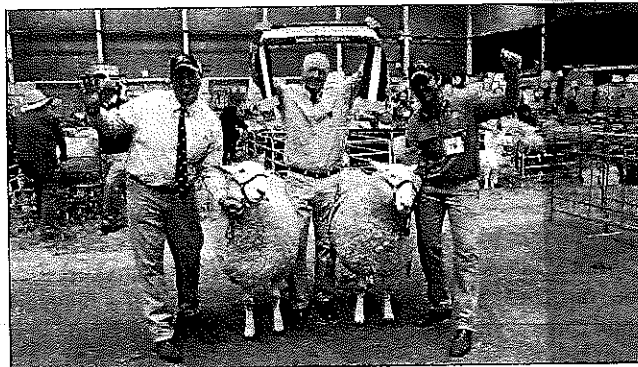
BY ANNABELLE CLEELAND

JUDGE Trevor James, Mundulla, South Australia, crowned exhibits from Wattle Farm, Temora, and Retallack, Ariah Park, both champion ram and ewe titles, respectively.

The event marked the largest meat breed showing, numbers-wise, for the 2017 Sydney Royal, with 10 exhibitors parading 135 Border Leicesters.

The Sutton family of Wattle Farm took home the junior, senior and grand champion ram titles. Mr James said Wattle Farm's rising one year-old ram was sashed junior champion for being a "great example of the breed, with tremendous neck extension, length and wool coverage". The August-2016 drop, by last year's grand champion ram's sire, Cadell Wonga 11th, boasted impressive growth for age at 83 kilograms.

A young ram exhibited by Toni and Derek Treanor, Kildara Glen, Duramana, was sashed reserve junior champion - a prelude to his first-place win in the objective measurement class.



Wattle Farm principal, Jeff Sutton, with the grand Border Leicester ram, judge, Trevor James, and reserve, held by Tom Corkhill, Normanhurst.

Senior champion ram, Wattle Farm JJ, caught the judge's eye. The son of Geraldine Gladiator went on to win the grand champion ram title because of his "length, bone and fleece qualities", ahead of reserve grand and senior champion ram, exhibited by Normanhurst Border Leicester stud, Boorowa. Sired by the 2014 junior champion ram, the rising two year-old had continued his run of wins, following champion ram at Canberra Royal.

Isabella and Graham Grinter, Retallack, hit their stride in the ewe judging, winning both the champion junior and senior ewe, be-

fore the senior woolly exhibit went on to be crowned the grand champion.

In her show debut, the champion ewe was applauded for its femininity, good fleece coverage and carriage. She is scanned in lamb to a Sydney Royal champion. Bauer Border Leicester stud, Ariah Park, were sashed reserve champion senior ewe and reserve grand title. Retallack's success continued in the group judging where they nabbed a win in the Peter Taylor trophy, consisting of one ram and two ewes showing milk teeth only, who were predominantly by stud super-sire, Exceed and Excel.