

kelso. LISTENING.  
THINKING.  
INNOVATING.

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## RAM BUYERS GUIDE



## KELSO MATERNAL GENETICS

## Kelso Maternal

The Kelso Maternal is a dynamic breed for farmers who seek ongoing performance gains from the carefully planned diversification of the genes of their maternal flock. Diversity and dynamic change are hallmarks of Kelso, resulting in high survival rates and higher lambing percentages with leading growth rates and meat yields.

The key traits that we select for in our Maternal rams are:

- Fertility - including hogget reproduction
- Survival - lamb vigour
- Lamb Growth - birth to weaning, weaning to slaughter
- Meat - yield (live weight to carcass weight)
- Adult Size - ewe efficiency
- Body Condition Score
- Wool
- Worm FEC
- Facial Eczema

## Facial Eczema Tolerance

Kelso is actively working on a genomic programme for improved facial eczema tolerance while retaining the other key traits listed above.

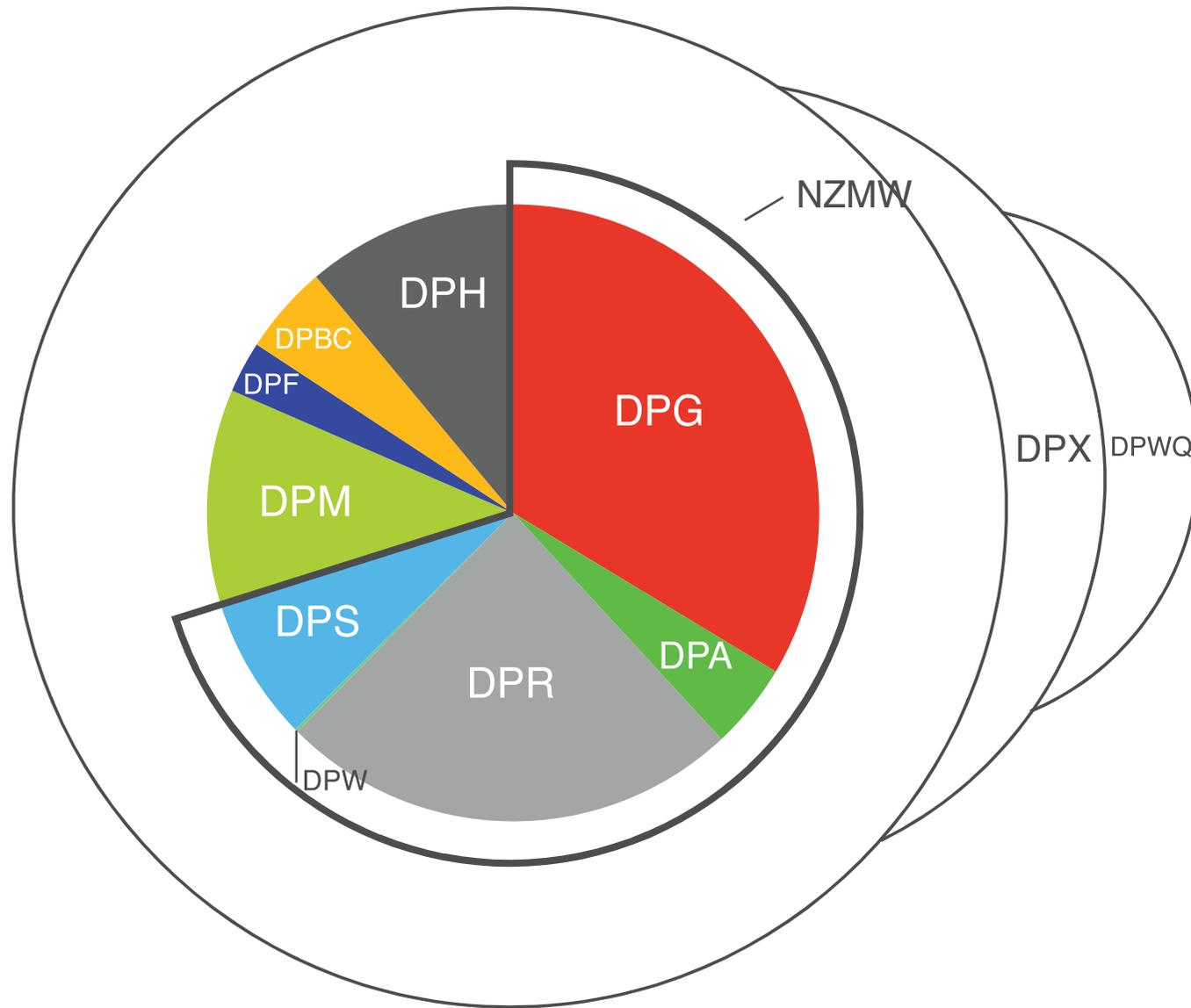


Our Kelso Maternal Ram options are based on their SIL KMW Index (Kelso Maternal Worth)

### Kelso Maternal Ram Prices by Index

KMW INDEX	\$
3000+	1700
2000+	1500
1500+	1300
1000+	1100

# Kelso Maternal Worth - KMW



- DPG - Growth
- DPA - Adult Size
- DPR - Capped Reproduction
- DPW - Wool
- DPS - Survival

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- DPM - Meat
- DPF - FEC
- DPBC - Body Condition Score
- DPH - Hogget Reproduction

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- DPX - Facial Eczema

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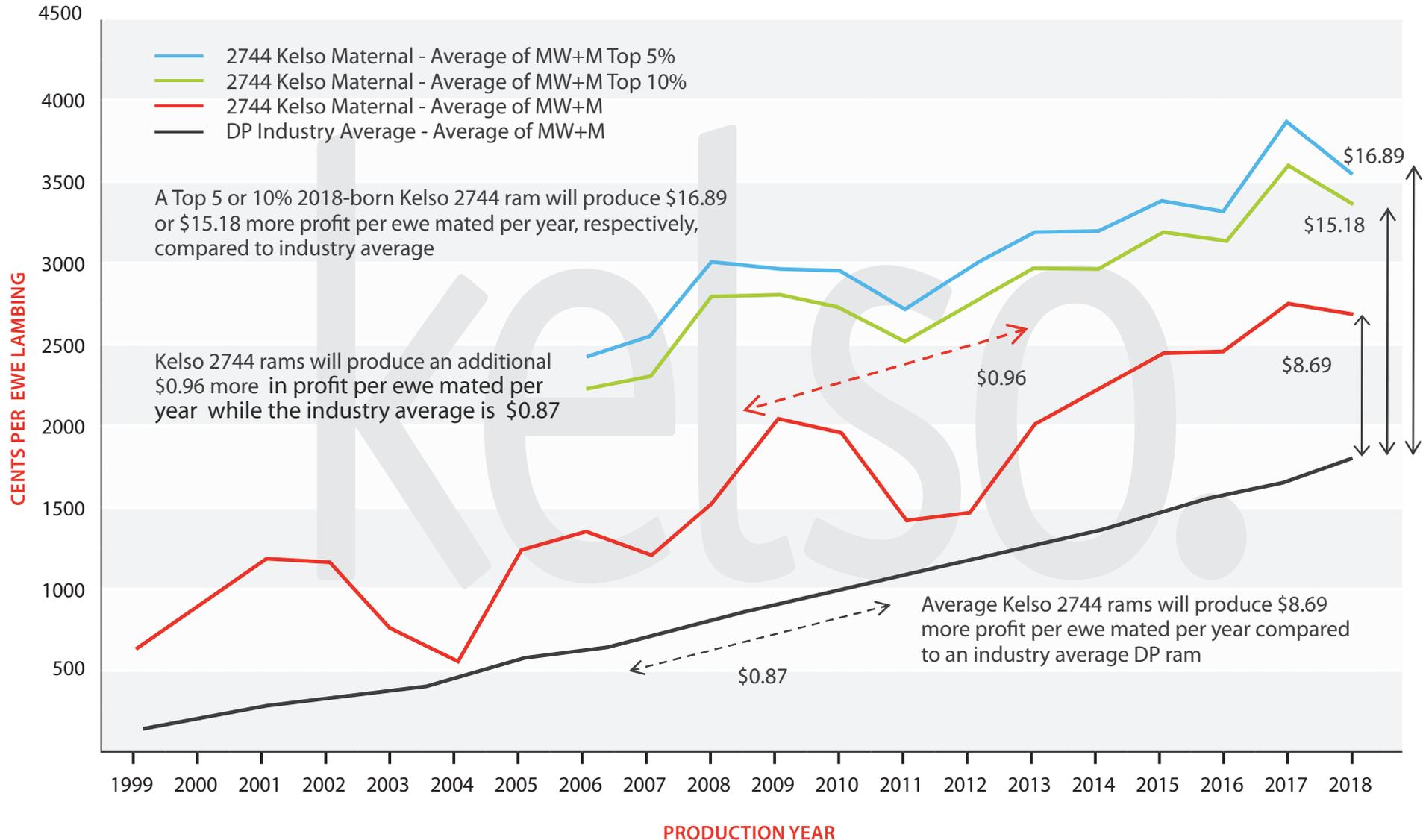
- DPWQ - Wool Quality



# NZ Maternal Worth + Meat (MW+M) Index



NZGE evaluation Job 36496 8/3/2019 1229 analysis flocks 123 connected NZMW Index Flocks





## KELSO TERMINAL GENETICS

## Kelso Terminal

At Kelso we are constantly asking “Will this add more value to farmers in the real world?”. When it comes to our flock of more than 1500 terminal ewes and 800 terminal ewe hoggets we are focused on the simple goal of helping farmers to produce more fast growing, high yielding lambs.

The key traits that we select for in our Terminal rams are:

- Survival - lamb vigour
- Lamb Growth - birth to weaning, weaning to slaughter
- Meat - yield (live weight to carcass weight)
- MyoMAX - gene marker for increased carcass yield
- Meat Quality - tenderness and marbling

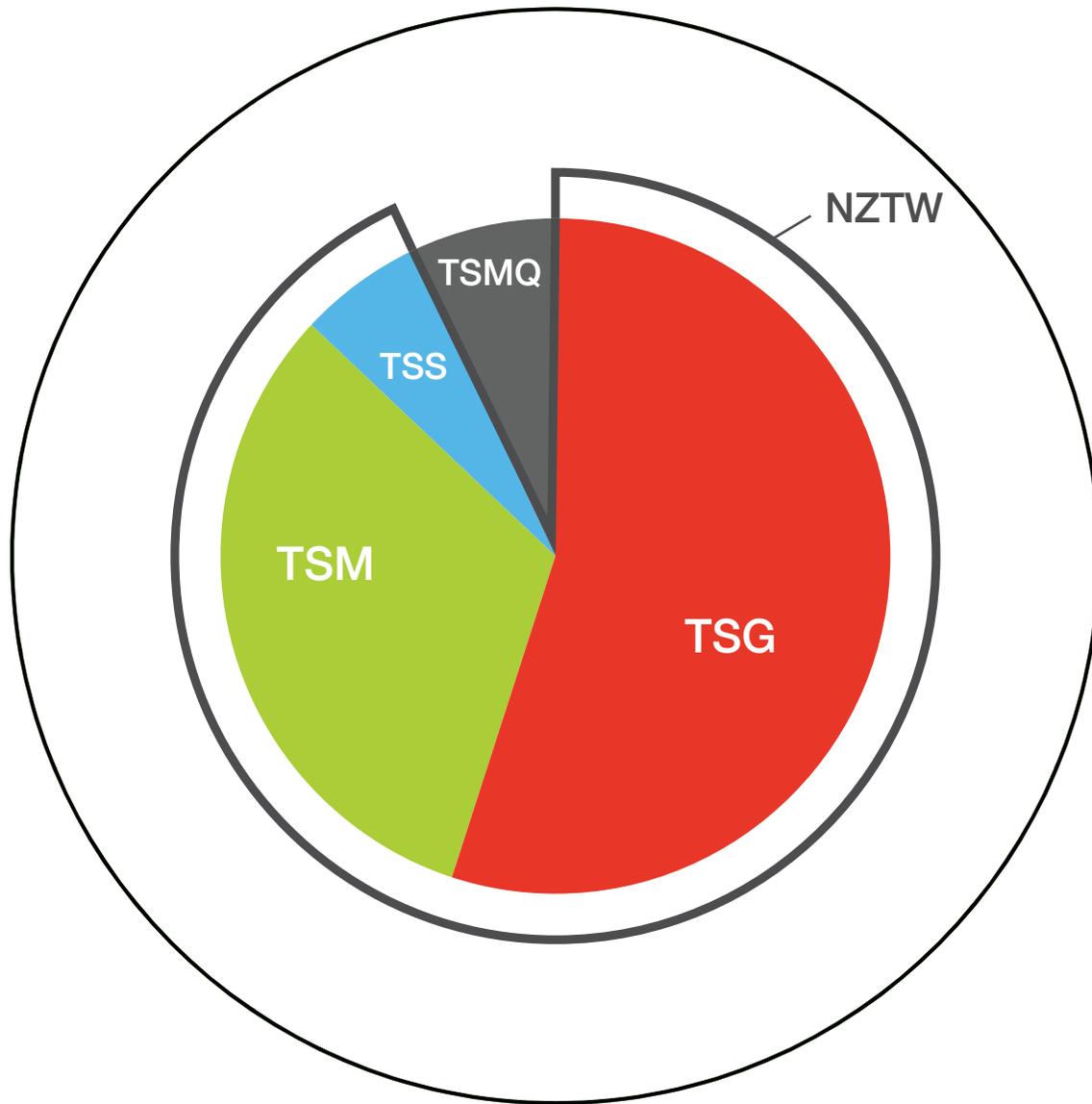


Our Kelso Terminal Ram options are based on their SIL KTW Index (Kelso Terminal Worth)

### Kelso Terminal Ram Prices by Index

KTW INDEX	\$
1500+	1200
1250+	1050
1000+	900
Multiplier Rams	700
Multiplier Hogget Rams	500

# Kelso Terminal Worth - KTW



TSG - Growth

TSM - Meat

TSS - Survival

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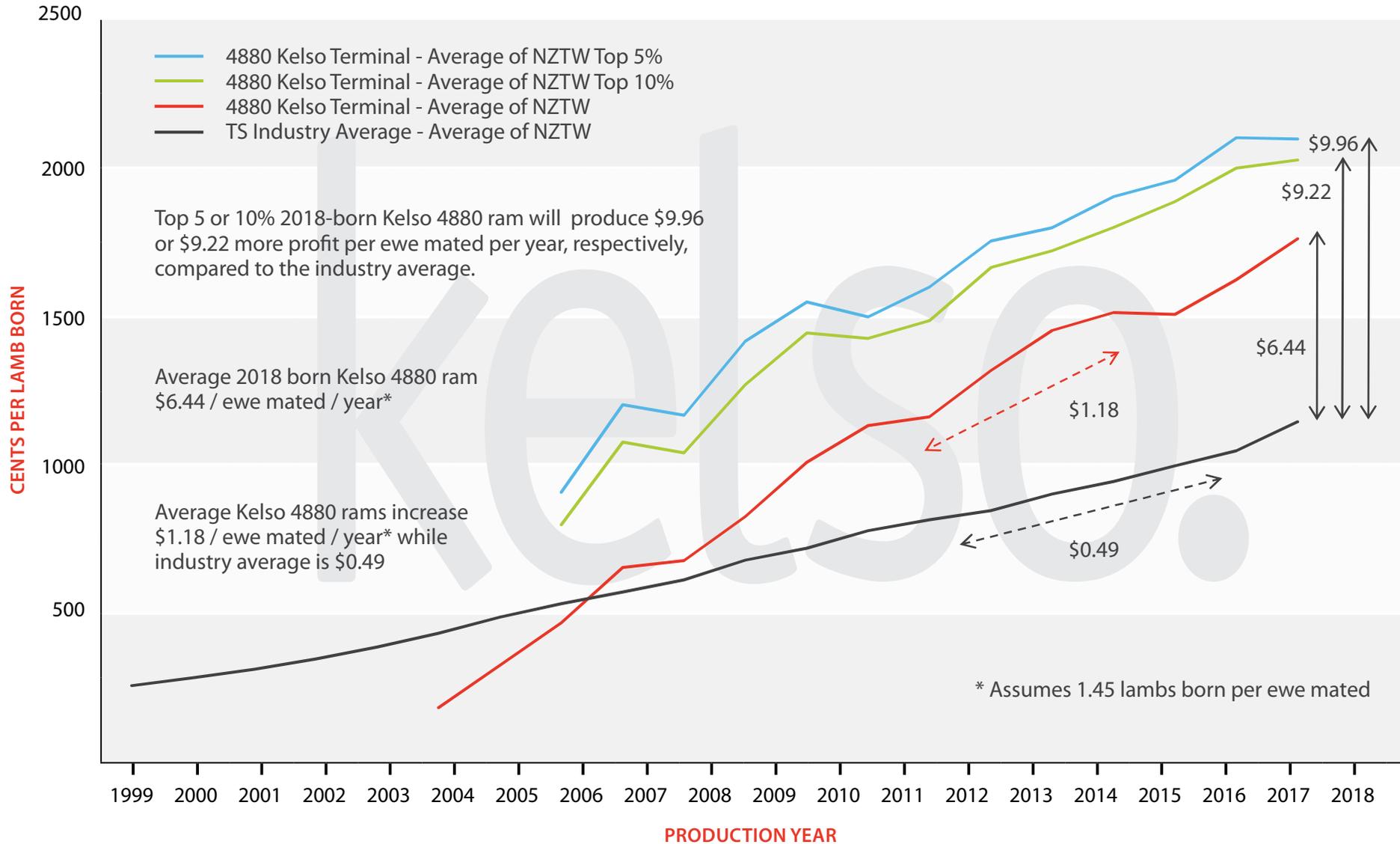
TSMQ - Meat Quality



# NZ Terminal Worth (NZTW) Index



NZGE evaluation Job 36496 8/3/2019 1229 analysis flocks 74 connected NZTW Index Flocks



## The financial benefit of hybrid vigour

In our experience one of the fastest ways for Kelso to add value to a sheep farm business is through terminal genetics. The table below shows a potential \$15.84 gain per ewe mated as a result of increased survival, more lambs and higher weaning weight.

	EWE MATED TO TERMINAL RAM	EWE MATED TO MATERNAL RAM	BENEFIT
EWES	1000	1000	
LAMBING % (SURVIVAL)	145%	142%	+3%
LAMBS	1450	1420	30 lambs
WEANING WEIGHT KGS	34	31	+3kg
\$ PER KG LW	\$3.00	\$3.00	Potential higher value if terminal rams sold store
VALUE OF LAMBS AT WEANING	\$102.00	\$93.00	+\$9.00 per lamb
LAMB SALES	\$147,900	\$132,060	+\$15,840
\$ PER EWE	\$147.90	\$132.06	+\$15.84

## Looking after your investment in Rams

Kelso is Brucellosis Accredited for both SIL Flocks 2744 & 4880, we palpate and blood test our rams annually.

Our recommendation is to keep young or new rams separate of the MA ram team until the end of the first winter if that is practical. This helps reduce injury and domination by older rams.

We are not an advocate of the 'ram paddock' - a selection of paddocks that offer good feed and a clean/healthy environment for them to graze is the best way to look after the vehicle that carries your genetic investment.

Supported by Veterinary advice, keeping up to date with drenching - 2 to 3 times a year as required. An annual clostridial vaccine booster, 6-in-1 or similar coincided with a 'Vet Check' including palpation for Brucellosis in the Spring. This will help ensure your rams are in a fit healthy state for the upcoming breeding season.

Sperm development takes eight weeks, so all sperm present at mating has developed prior to the mating period. Begin good feeding and exercise at least eight weeks pre-mating.

Avoid shearing rams within eight weeks of mating, a small cut or nick to a teste can have disastrous results. When rams get 'pinked' - you will see this on the inside of the back legs, only use IGR products for preventative fly-strike treatment.

Consult your vet about giving your terminal rams a zinc bolus as a preventative measure prior to elevated spore counts for facial eczema. It's an inexpensive way to protect your terminal rams.

We are only a phone call away if you have any concerns with your recently purchased rams or ram team. Give Hamish or myself a call for advice on how to get the best out of your genetic investment.

## Who we are and What you can expect from us

- Trusted ram genetics provider who acts with integrity.
- Scale, but with discipline to deliver profitable genetic options.
- Carefully balanced stockmanship with leading technologies.
- Farming families and enduring relationships that stand the test of time.

## Contact



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