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## Merino ewe giveaway offers exciting opportunity at LambEx 2016

ONE LUCKY sheep producer will win 50 Roseville Park Merino ewes while another will win a started Border Collie pup from Waddy's Collies at this year's LambEx 2016.

The NSW Stud Merino Breeders' Association, Roseville Park, Waddy's Collies and Fairfax Agricultural Media have teamed up to offer the prize giveaway at LambEx at Albury, New South Wales, from August 10-12.

LambEx chairman Rodney Watt said producers can win by filling out an entry form published in Fairfax Agricultural Media's rural weeklies starting in May – The Land, Stock & Land, Queensland Country Life, Stock Journal and Farm Weekly.

"The prize giveaway is an exciting opportunity to take home some top quality livestock and I would like to thank the sponsors, and those who have donated animals," Mr Watt said.

"The Australian sheep and lamb industry is made up of a diverse mix of industries and breeds, which is why the committee has worked so hard to develop a program that is relevant to all producers.

"The committee also recognises that the Merino ewe is a vitally important part of the NSW – and Australian –lamb industry, which is reflected in this giveaway.

"With a prize like this on offer, there's no excuse to not buy a ticket and enter."

The NSW Stud Merino Breeders' Association has sourced all 50 ewes from Matthew and Cherie Coddington, Roseville Park, Dubbo, NSW. The rising two-year-old, March-shorn ewes cut an average of about nine-kilograms of 18-micron wool when they were last shorn.

Mr Coddington said they were stud ewes – worth about \$200 a head.

One of the first studs in Australia to use artificial insemination and embryo transfers in the 1980s, Roseville Park aims to produce Merinos with outstanding growth rates, fleece weight, fertility and disease resistance.

"I'm proud to support this year's LambEx through the ewe giveaway," Mr Coddington said.

"It's an event that has such great industry and producer support, and I'm looking forward to attending and being able to promote our stud through the giveaway."



Angus and Sarah Waddell, Peakview, Young, NSW, will provide a started Border Collie pup, about 5.5 months old, to the winner.

The Waddells established their stud in 1993, with dogs selectively bred, and highly sought after for their genetics, temperament, strength, heading ability and versatility.

LambEx chairman Rodney Watt says the Waddell's generous offer is a great opportunity for producers to secure a top working dog from one of the state's best breeders.

"Research has shown the work performed by a sheepdog during its life can be equivalent to \$40,000 in wages so the pup will most certainly be an asset to any operation," he said.

"The Waddells will work and train with the pup's new owners to ensure it is going to a good home and that they have the skills and knowledge to put it to work on their farm."

The pup will be fully vaccinated and wormed.

The Merino ewes and the pup will be on display at LambEx before the winning ticket is drawn on the final day of the event on Friday, August 12.

## **HOW TO WIN:**

To enter the prize giveaway, producers simply need to:

- Fill out and return the competition entry form, published in Fairfax rural weeklies from May
- Register to attend the LambEx conference

Early-bird tickets have now opened for LambEx 2016, to book your ticket head to www.lambex.com.au

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View a high resolution photo of Matthew Coddington here

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