

# Kolindale genetics pull a large crowd

By **CAITLYN BURLING**

WITH four times the pulling power, the Kolindale stud attracted a large crowd at its annual field day last week.

In just a short couple of years, the Dudinin-based stud incorporated outstanding Merino and Poll Merino genetics from their original Kolindale stud base, Lewisdale Wickepin and now Lewisdale Corrigin.

Stud principal Luke Ledwith has also branched out from the Merino breed into White Suffolks after he purchased the majority of the genetics from a fourth stud last year, Yanda White Suffolk, established by John Argent, Karlgarin.

The wide range of ram genetics on display attracted interest from a broader client base at this year's Kolindale on-property field day, with more than 60 interested parties checking out the penned rams earmarked for this year's offering.

Many of the attendees were impressed by the quality of rams, with the day made all the more sweeter when a much hoped-for rain began to fall, not bothering some happy ram inspectors in the open pens one bit.

Once the weather settled in, the crowd moved into the shearing shed where Kolindale principal Luke Ledwith gave a short presentation on the positive sheep market conditions and where the Kolindale stud was heading.

He believes the short-term and long-term outlooks for sheep are promising, and their focus remains on producing top-performing rams that will maximise the beneficial characteristics and traits needed for every commercial flock.

Luke said the decision to add Yanda White Suffolk genetics to the Kolindale name was consumer driven, and he had recognised a lift



□ Geoff (left) and Matthew Orchard, Wickepin, went to the Kolindale Merino and Poll Merino studs and Yanda White Suffolk stud's annual on-property field day at Dudinin last week to check out the latest Kolindale genetics.



□ Kolindale stud principal Luke Ledwith (left), Dudinin, looks over some of the stud's rams with chef Vincenzo Velletri and Lake Grace sheep producers Greg and Justin Carruthers.

in demand for prime lamb in some markets.

"At the end of the day, it's all about ensuring our clients are able to breed commercially viable, profitable flocks," Luke said.

"We want to make sure our sheep will continue to thrive in Wheatbelt conditions."

Following Luke's presentation, special guest Vincenzo Velletri, the talent behind Il Paiolo Events Catering Service, served up different lamb cuts cooked in a variety of mouthwatering ways.



□ A strong contingent of Hyden farmers attended the Kolindale field day, including Carlo Varone (left), Bruce Hossack, Kolindale stud connection Daniela Varone and her father Mario Varone.