

# Flock & Herd

## CASE NOTES

### NSW STATE REPORT SPRING 2013

EXTRACT: BILL JOHNSON (GOULBURN) COMMENTS -

“Earlier this spring, Bill reported that heavy rainfall (130mm over 36 hours) took a toll on recently **shorn sheep**. One affected owner who lost about 700 hoggets described significant losses in his finewools, and virtually no deaths in his Monaro-blood sheep run in the same mob. Bill speculated 'perhaps they benefitted from 'selection of the fittest' over generations of Monaro winters' The owner observed the sheep appeared OK while it was just raining, but packed up along fences and in gullies when the wind started. He attributed many of the losses to smothering. Of interest, the deaths occurred despite the sheep having been treated with Thermoskin® off shears. However as Bill commented, 'even the owner admitted the product would have been hard-pressed to withstand these conditions; instead he wondered how many more he may have lost without it.'