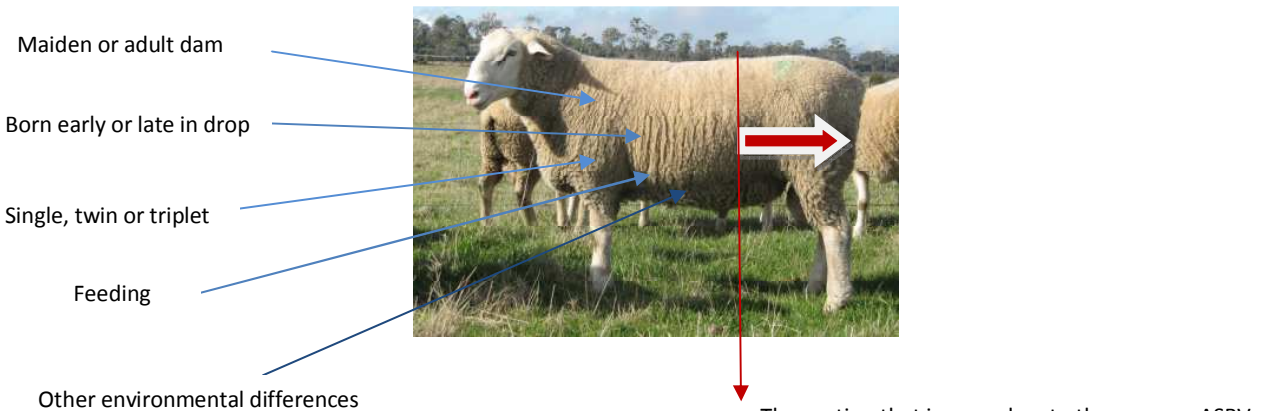
Commercial Ram Buying – Prime lamb sires

BUYING NEW GENES

Buying the right rams: **What you see, isn't always what is passed on to your lambs**
About **70%** of what a sheep looks like goes down its throat.

A rams appearance is influenced by many factors:



Breeding Values are a tool to help work out which ram has the best genes to pass on to their progeny.
Rams will NOT pass on their own performance to their progeny – they will only pass on their genes

Visual assessment is important but it is also important that you buy the genes for the performance you are seeking

Australian Sheep Breeding Values (ASBVs) allow you to select for the traits of interest and accounts for known environmental influences on performance and provide the likely impact of the animals GENES. ASBVs should always be used IN CONJUNCTION with visual selection.