

Land Services Program

Garry Hannigan - mentor

Location

Garry owns and operates two properties across the Western region. The first, "Churinga", is located 70 km west of Wilcannia and is 50,000 ha, which consists of Bluebush and Saltbush pastures in hilly country, while the second property, "Narringa", at Nyngan, is 4,500 ha.

Enterprises

Organic Dorper production is the primary enterprise. Garry also runs a managed boar cross goat herd.

Background

Garry's family has been on the land since the early 1900s, with his family on "Churinga" since 1950. Garry has owned the property since 2000, working alongside his wife Tracy. They have two sons and two daughters

Before moving to the property, Garry worked as a wool classer for 15 years. Garry pioneered the introduction of organic meat sheep in the western division. He first went into Damaras and Dorspers in 1997, transitioning from a traditional Merino flock.

Garry highly values training and group networking, as demonstrated by the below:

- A rural leadership course in 1999
- In 2006, completed a Nuffield scholarship, spending 16 weeks travelling the world studying organic lamb production and marketing.
- Director on the Rural Lands Board 2000 until the board dissolved.
- Spent five years as a NSW representative on the National Bestprac Project Advisory Panel.
- Councillor on the Pastoralists' Association of West Darling.
- Western Local Land Services advisory group member.



- Western Lands Advisory board.
- Member of the NSW Farmers Association.

Area of expertise — claim to fame

Garry is highly experienced in organic lamb production, having early involvement in forming a marketing group which now sells export lamb to America. He is also involved in organic boar goat production.

In 2004 Garry was awarded the NSW Farmer of the Year.

Garry takes great pride in a 5,000 ha conservation scheme which is on his property. This scheme was part of a stewardship for 12 years and since then it has been self-maintained for eight years. Garry is passionate about conservation of the landscape and interaction with the business.

Management motto

World class product in harmony with the environment.