



José Luis Trifoglio  
From my desk at the farm

July 2024

## **URUGUAY PRODUCES MORE FINE WOOL WITH A “GRIFA VERDE” (GREEN LABEL)**

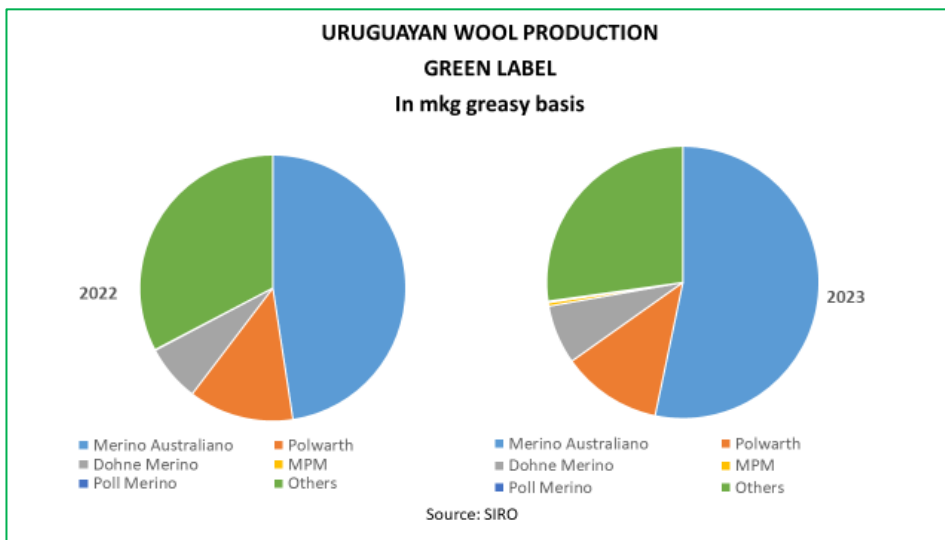
*Recognized for its excellent quality*

In Uruguay, for many years, through the Uruguayan Wool Secretariat, a wool harvesting and conditioning system (GREEN LABEL) has been implemented, positioning it among the leading countries in producing very high-quality wool. This is supported by strong objective data measured in accredited laboratories, reaching many of the world's most important destinations in various states.

Uruguayan wool growers have adopted this conditioning system to ensure they deliver a high-quality product suitable for subsequent industrial stages. This system aims to provide clean wool free from contaminants, with excellent colour and well-defined categories, thereby enhancing the quality of the fleece wool.

Additionally, in recent years, there has been an increase in the production of very high-quality fine wools harvested under this protocol and certified with the Green Label.

Recently, the SIRO (Integral System for the Sheep Sector) published on its website the final data for the 2023 wool harvest.



The data reveals an increase in total Green Label wool harvested compared to 2022, approximately 1.2%, reaching 14.3 million kilograms of greasy wool.

When analysing the figures for each breed, we observe a 14.5% growth in Australian Merino wool, which is the predominant breed

that has adopted the Green Label harvesting and conditioning protocol.

Australian Merino wool certified with the Green Label represents 53.4% of the total conditioned wool in Uruguay.

Other fine wool-producing breeds in Uruguay, such as Poll Merino, Dohne Merino, Polwarth, MPM, etc., also play a significant role.

Together, the production of Australian Merino wool and these other breeds accounts for 73.4% of the Green Label harvested and conditioned wool.



## **URUGUAY: ULTRA-FINE WOOL OF 15.7 MICRONS**

A few days ago, **Estancias Puppo S.A.**, through a tender process in Uruguay, acquired the wool produced by the **Regional Consortium for Innovation of Ultrafine Wools of Uruguay** (CRILU). This organization contributes to the sustainable development of high-value Merino wool and meat producers through research, innovation, development, institutional coordination, and cooperation (both public and private), considering the demands of value chains, the public sector, markets, and consumers.

The key objective data of the fleece wool produced by CRILU were: **an average diameter of 15.7 microns**, ranging from 14.5 to 16.9 microns. **The yield clean (SCH) was 74.6%**, with a colour (Y-Z) of -0.1. Additionally, it had the **Green Label and RWS certification**.

## **URUGUAYAN WOOL EXPORTS** (Jul/23-Jun/24)

### **GREASY WOOL (42% of the total greasy wool base)**

During the 2023/2024 wool season (July 2023 - June 2024), Uruguay exported a total of 15.9 million kilograms of greasy wool, marking a 110% growth compared to the 2022/23 season.

In terms of value, Uruguay sold greasy wool overseas totalling \$44.2 million USD.

The four main destinations for greasy wool were (% of total US dollars): China (88.2%), Bulgaria (5.7%), Italy (4.9%), India (1.0%), and Egypt (0.2%).

*In the 2023/2024 wool season, as in the last 8 seasons, Estancias Puppo S.A. remained Uruguay's largest exporter of fine greasy wool in terms of total foreign exchange earnings for the country.*

### **SCOURED WOOL (23% of the total greasy wool base)**

Regarding exports of washed wool, they totalled 5.8 million clean kilograms (mkg), which represents a 90.7% increase compared to the same period last year.

The main destinations for exports of scoured wool were (percentage of total US dollars): China (57%), India (13%), Mexico (9%), Egypt (5%), and the USA (4%) among 17 destinations.


### **WOOL TOPS (35% of the total greasy wool base)**

In the wool tops sector, exports from July 2023 to June 2024 totalled 8.5 million kilograms of clean weight, marking a 21.4% decrease compared to the same period last year. Uruguay earned \$60 million USD in foreign exchange from the sale of combed wool.

The main destinations for Uruguayan wool tops, in terms of percentage of total US dollars, were Italy (28.1%), Germany (22.4%), China (8.6%), and Turkey (8.2%).

## **ESTANCIAS PUPPO S.A. HAS RENEWED ITS WEBSITE**

A few months ago, Estancias Puppo S.A. renewed its website with the latest technology available in the



market, aiming to continue promoting Uruguayan wool production and that of other countries in the region, as well as showcasing the company's other activities.

In a user-friendly format, it is accessible in three languages: English, Chinese, and Spanish.

We invite you to visit us at [www.estanciaspuppo.com](http://www.estanciaspuppo.com)

