

Young Talent – Kallum Blake, Katanning, WA Contribution from our member, WAFarmers

Born 20 kilometres east of Katanning, Kallum Blake spent his childhood on the family farm, Ewlyamartup. Graduating from Katanning Senior High School, Kallum considered a career in mining engineering before transferring to Muresk Institute to study agribusiness.

The Blakes run mixed cropping and livestock on their land, growing wheat, barley, oats, lupins and canola as well as running a Dowell Dohne stud and commercial sheep. The Blakes are a small producer and run just over 2,000 ewes. They have been operating the Dowell Dohne stud since 2004 but have had Dohnes in their flock since the breed was first introduced to Western Australia. They use electronic tagging and recording for their Dohne stud and are considering doing the same for their commercial sheep. Kallum has previously been involved with transporting sheep through contract carrying and is looking to continue working in the transport arm of operations in the future.

Kallum overcomes some of the challenges of farming like the long hours and remoteness by being involved with various groups including WAFarmers and AgConnectWA. Kallum has been an active member with WAFarmers and AgConnectWA for a number of years. He is currently the AgConnectWA President, the Grains Council Vice President and a member of the WAFarmers Board.