

Weekly Cattle Comments - 18.06.21

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By AuctionsPlus

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Underpinned by more rain in key areas and a renewed forecast for sustained wet conditions into the third quarter of 2021, overall supplies through AuctionsPlus contracted 20% on last week, to 11,684 head. As the young cattle market continued to soar this week, with the EYCI remaining above 900c/kg cwt, online clearance rates kicked higher, registering between 85-97% for the heaviest populated categories.

Demand for the lighter lines of steers remained firm this week, with clearance rates robust across all five categories. While several lines of dairy steers influenced a significant fall in the lightest steer category, the heaviest populated category of 200-280kg liveweight steers averaged \$1,467/head for the week – down \$47 on last week for the 2,161 head offered.

For the young heifers, prices averaged higher for the two largest heifer categories, with the 200-280kg liveweight portion of the market jumping \$104 on last week, to average \$1,416/head – with an 88% clearance rate for the 1,241 head offered. Similarly, the 280-330kg category jumped \$178, to average \$1,752/head – boosted by fierce bidding for 180 unweaned Angus heifers, which sold to \$2,520/head. All out of the same vendor (with more in other weight categories) from Tenterfield, NSW, the 180 heifers were 8-12 months of age, EU accredited and interestingly, spread across five separate bidding lots, ranging from 31 to 42 head, and from a lot average of 297.9kg to 327.7kg liveweight.

In contrast for the high clearance rates for the young cattle, PTIC heifers only registered 42% clearance this week, for the 1,139 head offered, with the average price slipping back \$43, to \$2,358/head. However, with overall breeding numbers back considerably, competition for quality breeding lines continues unabated, with several offerings receiving excellent returns this week. Out of Holbrook in Southern NSW, an excellent line of 29 PTIC Angus heifers, averaging 477.9kg liveweight and 22-23 months of age, sold to \$2,830/head – or an equivalent of 1110.2c/kg dressed. Further south, from Howes Creek, Victoria, a line of 60 Angus PTIC cows, joined to a Shorthorn bull, sold to \$2,850/head. Ranging from 4.6-5.6 years of age, the cows averaged 568.6kg liveweight.

Ticking all the possible boxes for quick herd rebuilding, an indicative line of 36 PTIC Hereford cows with 36 CAF sold to \$3,000/head – averaging 586.6kg liveweight and ranging from 6-11-years-of-age.

NOTE: Prices as at 2pm Friday 18th June, 2021.

Classification	Offered	Low	High	Average	Change	Clearance	Low	High	Average	Change
		\$/head					actual c/kg lwt			
Steers										
less than 200kg	111	450	1,370	805	-206	84%	347	685	544	-45
200.1-280kg	2,161	1,050	1,790	1,467	-47	90%	413	741	611	5
280.1-330kg	1,651	1,370	1,860	1,650	-43	85%	444	616	550	-3
330.1-400kg	849	1,500	2,045	1,789	13	89%	389	568	507	8
400.1+kg	404	1,835	2,200	1,958	-74	97%	392	452	426	-43
Heifers										
less than 200kg	143	700	1,360	1,109	-76	88%	427	738	586	-33
200.1-280kg	1,241	980	2,350	1,416	104	88%	357	863	575	42
280.1-330kg	1,073	1,260	2,520	1,752	178	91%	449	833	571	48
330.1-400kg	475	1,410	1,940	1,738	57	97%	357	570	483	11
400.1+kg	160	1,660	1,990	1,856	-99	100%	407	477	428	-34
Breeding Stock										
NSM Cows	664	1,100	1,940	1,615	215	97%	409	525	462	214
SM Heifers	13	1,680	1,680	1,680	260	46%	419	419	419	-35
PTIC Heifers	1,139	1,750	3,380	2,358	-43	42%	422	593	510	99
PTIC Cows	752	1,780	3,825	2,485	279	79%	299	676	437	-106
NSM Heifers & Calves	536	2,500	3,975	3,259	-67	73%	-	-	-	-
NSM Cows & Calves	150	2,600	2,900	2,700	-303	89%	-	-	-	-
SM Heifers & Calves	123	2,820	3,840	3,569	307	100%				
SM Cows & Calves	320	2,640	3,690	3,028	401	41%	-	-	-	-
PTIC Cows & Calves	68	3,000	3,000	3,000	57	53%	-	-	-	-

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