

Weekly Sheep & Lamb Comments - 02.07.21

PUBLISHED FRI, 2 JULY 2021



By [AuctionsPlus](#)

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AuctionsPlus sheep and lamb listings tailed off this week, with the platform registering a 9% decrease from last week, at 48,836 head. With forecasts of more rain on its way in the Eastern States, seasonal conditions are encouraging restockers and feeders to look closer at the lamb market, while the clearance rate for the joined ewe categories decreased.

Lambs dominated this week's offering, experiencing a price increase in four-out-of-six categories. Despite the higher week-on-week listing of 27,255 head, it seemed that the widespread wet conditions underpinned confidence, resulting in strong prices and clearance rates across most lamb categories. Merino wethers registered the highest number of listings at 11,776 head - up 3,087 head on the week prior. The category recorded a \$14 increase, averaging \$155/head, with a clearance rate of 80%. In contrast, Merino ewe lambs fell in value this week, with the 2,249 head listed recording a \$29/head decrease, but a competitive clearance rate of 93%.

Crossbred lambs and first cross ewe lambs continued to be in high demand, noting \$10 and \$17/head increases. Shedding breed lambs observed the highest increase for the week, averaging \$259/head for the 1,604 offered - increasing \$55 on last week, with an 88% clearance rate.

The joined ewe offering eased this week, with only 17,609 head listed. The reduced supply was met with softer demand, with clearance rates averaging

53% across the relevant categories. With seasonal conditions very good across many states, producers appear to have seized the opportunity to be selective on when to hold and sell breeding stock. SIL Merino ewes fell again this week, slipping \$7, to average at \$243/head for the 5,465 head offered. SIL first cross ewes and composite/other breed articles recorded a positive change, up \$19 and \$91/head, respectively. SIL shedding breed ewes recorded a consecutive week-on-week rise, averaging at \$420 – boosted again by a line of Aussie White cross ewes in Armidale receiving \$496/head.

SM ewes registered lower offerings this week, with two-out-of-three categories declining in price. SM Merino ewes registered a \$62 fall, to average at \$153/head - with a low clearance rate of 38%. Similarly, SM shedding breeds recorded a sharp decrease of \$197, to average at \$314/head - however they did achieve a 94% clearance rate.

NSM lines experienced a further fall in prices this week, with only two lots of merino hogget and shedding breed ewes registering sales.

NOTE: Prices as at 5pm, Thursday 1st July, 2021

Classification	Offered	Low	High	Average	Change	Clearance	Low	High	Average	Change
		\$/head					actual c/kg lwt			
Lambs										
<i>crossbreds</i>	4,720	114	205	164	10	91%	332	580	456	-4
<i>Merino wethers</i>	11,776	118	204	155	14	80%	326	453	369	20
<i>first cross ewe</i>	3,493	225	275	265	17	68%	510	654	576	97
<i>Merino ewe</i>	2,249	151	253	202	-29	93%	425	658	536	56
<i>shedding breeds</i>	1,604	138	350	259	55	88%	404	1074	557	-33
<i>composite/other breed lambs</i>	3,413	127	295	182	0	36%	344	519	451	-6
Sheep										
<i>ewes and lambs (Mixed)</i>	446	421	421	421	-	11%	568	568	568	-
<i>Merino ewes and lambs</i>	1,311	162	360	298	-1	100%	406	713	556	83
<i>Merino wethers</i>	1,681	134	182	158	6	100%	330	349	340	8
Joined Ewes										
<i>SIL Merino ewes</i>	5,465	175	321	243	-7	64%	297	536	424	6
<i>SM Merino ewes</i>	816	131	175	153	-62	38%	264	303	283	-110
<i>SIL first cross ewe</i>	4,294	220	362	310	19	51%	449	670	565	80
<i>SIL composite/other breeds</i>	5,224	177	485	340	91	43%	292	642	483	70
<i>SM composite/other breeds</i>	122	170	400	285	104	43%	307	709	508	126
<i>SIL shedding breed</i>	831	340	496	420	144	40%	512	669	609	142
<i>SM shedding breed</i>	857	211	394	314	-197	94%	283	761	554	-363
Non Station Mated (NSM)										
<i>Merino hogget ewe</i>	349	211	211	211	-11	22%	349	349	349	-114
<i>shedding breed ewes</i>	185	336	336	336	-	100%	491	491	491	-

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