

Weekly Sheep & Lamb Comments - 13.08.21

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By AuctionsPlus

AuctionsPlus sheep and lamb listings slipped this week, down 6% to 58,009 head. Despite some price fluctuation seen across the range of sales this week, lamb categories continued to experience higher prices, with four of the six indicative categories rising, while the majority of joined ewe categories registered falls.

Crossbred lambs had the largest offering at 22,013 head, averaging \$6 dearer at \$167/head – with a clearance rate of 80%. First cross ewe lambs and Merino ewe lambs both registered higher supplies this week, which was matched by stronger demand. Both categories recorded higher price trends, up \$14 and \$21 to average at \$288 and \$257/head, respectively, with a strong average clearance rate of 86% across the two.

Composite and other breed lambs registered the largest fall in supply this week, offering 873 head and registering a \$47 decrease to average \$188/head. Merino wethers were the only other indicative category to see cheaper prices, registering a \$7 drop to average \$136/head – with the clearance rate at 92%.

Shedding breed ewe lambs recorded a third consecutive week of gains in price, up \$32 to average \$286/head – with a clearance rate at 68%. The top lot in the National Lamb Sale for this category was a line of 97 Australian White ewe suckers, selling for \$412/head. The lambs averaged 34.5kg live weight from Trundle, in Central West NSW.

The joined ewe offering fell this week, down to 11,769 head. Only the SIL shedding breed ewe category saw a boost in prices, to average \$444/head - swayed by the record-breaking line of Australian White ewes from Northern Victoria, which reached a record breaking \$1,015/head. While SIL Merino ewes dominated supply with 4,768 offered, the category saw a \$5 decrease, to average \$260/head. SM Merino ewes saw a similar cheaper trend, dropping \$20, to average \$173/head - with a 100% clearance achieved for the 853 head offered.

NSM lines also decreased this week, with only 2,613 head offered. However, with the reduced numbers demand remained solid, with the indicative categories achieving an average clearance rate of 87%. Merino ewe hoggets registered a decrease in value, down \$51 to average \$221/head. Merino ewes and Composite/other breed ewes both registered price increases, seeing boosts of \$13 and \$15 respectively.

NOTE: Prices as at 5pm, Thursday 12th July, 2021

Classification	Offered	Low	High	Average \$/head	Change	Clearance	Low	High	Average actual €/kg lwt	Change
Lambs										
Crossbreds	22,013	105	350	167	6	80%	374	585	483	-46
Merino Wethers	6,509	100	175	136	-7	92%	324	526	400	-
First X Ewes	5,644	150	370	288	14	81%	386	811	643	31
Merino Ewes	2,756	180	298	257	21	91%	463	696	604	53
Shedding Breeds	1,817	160	412	286	32	68%	392	1194	646	-27
Composite/Other Breeds	873	158	218	188	-47	43%	457	498	478	-30
Sheep										
Ewes and lambs (Mixed)	810	240	483	361	-15	82%	483	665	588	-23
Merino ewes and lambs	100	246	246	246	-39	100%	408	408	408	-82
Joined Ewes										
SIL Merino Ewes	4,768	203	334	260	-5	85%	355	609	466	-37
SM Merino Ewes	853	137	207	173	-20	100%	264	416	343	-28
SIL First X Ewes	1,374	230	310	281	-11	44%	474	505	490	-27
SIL Shedding Breed Ewes	1,971	265	1,015	444	81	60%	368	1463	686	105
SM Shedding Breed Ewes	1,216	253	401	327	-5	100%	367	973	696	147
SIL Composite/Other Breed Ewes	1,587	250	341	283	-17	71%	360	566	475	-80
Non Station Mated (NSM)										
Merino Ewe Hoggets	700	221	221	221	-51	76%	473	473	473	-66
Merino Ewes	1,638	172	265	217	13	86%	296	659	408	78
Composite/Other breed Ewes	275	265	265	265	15	100%	402	402	402	-42