

Weekly Cattle Comments - 16.07.21

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By AuctionsPlus

A sharp jump in cattle numbers offered exclusively through AuctionsPlus this week had only a minor impact on the record prices of recent weeks, with clearance rates remaining at near capacity. The 13,936 head offered this week, was up 33%, with some of the additional numbers offered undoubtedly being drawn out by the “once-in-a-lifetime” prices being returned.

One of the main features of this week’s Weaner and Yearling sale was the very persistent and deliberate bidding on numerous excellent lines of cattle - which resulted in a longer than normal sale length. Given the very high clearance rates for a second consecutive week, with an additional 33% offered this week, buyers willingness to ferociously compete for suitable lines in a very tight market continues to underpin the record prices and astound market watchers.

The main change in the market this week was for young heifers, with supplies rebounding after last weeks significantly lower offering. With clearance rates well into the 90% range, 330-400kg heifers averaged \$45 lower, at \$1,824, while the 200-280kg and 280-330kg categories slipped back to \$1,463 and \$1,622/head, respectively.

In the steer market, the largest category, 330-400kg liveweight, averaged \$15 higher, at \$1,939/head, with a 97% clearance rate for the 1,307 head offered. Signaling the strength of the market, the mid-weight 280-330kg young steer category registered a very rare 100% clearance rate for the 781 head offered, averaging \$1,735/head. Heavy steers, 400kg+ finished the week \$27 back, averaging \$2,114/head – with a 98% clearance rate for the 658 head offered.

PTIC heifers continue to be offered online in comparatively large numbers, with the 1,552 head offered \$83 dearer on last week, averaging \$2,361/head – with a clearance rate of 79%. In contrast, PTIC cows contracted in price, slipping back \$260/head on quality, averaging \$2,544/head – with a very respectable 94% clearance rate for the 1,260 head offered.

Representing the north to south span of the very strong breeder market, 142 SM Brahman cows with 142 CAF out of Burketown in northern Queensland sold to \$2,360/head– with the cows averaging 448kg liveweight and ranging from 4-12 years of age. In the south from Dunkeld, Victoria, 23 PTIC Angus cows, 7-8 years of age and averaging 582.1kg liveweight, sold to \$2,800/head – equating at 1,015.6c/kg dressed.

NOTE: Prices as at 2pm Friday, 16th July, 2021.

Classification	Offered	Low	High	Average	Change	Clearance	Low	High	Average	Change
		\$/head					actual c/kg lwt			
Steers										
less than 200kg	140	570	1,465	1,103	348	66%	443	762	659	73
200.1-280kg	845	910	1,820	1,507	-76	94%	333	731	604	-37
280.1-330kg	781	1,360	2,070	1,735	-8	100%	413	628	560	-10
330.1-400kg	1,307	1,310	2,887	1,939	15	97%	359	817	545	0
400.1+kg	658	1,460	2,754	2,114	-27	98%	336	564	474	-20
Heifers										
less than 200kg	57	700	1,045	873	-187	79%	569	679	624	15
200.1-280kg	1,824	1,190	1,920	1,463	-117	95%	459	750	586	-55
280.1-330kg	1,306	1,110	2,010	1,622	-245	99%	396	687	535	-70
330.1-400kg	931	1,305	2,794	1,824	-45	94%	385	811	509	3
400.1+kg	412	1,675	2,500	2,080	24	91%	406	549	469	-28
Breeding Stock										
NSM Cows	229	1,760	2,600	2,360	0	51%	310	373	347	35
SM Heifers	254	1,340	1,340	1,340	-585	32%	541	541	541	53
SM Cows	64	1,510	1,810	1,660	-	100%	352	379	365	-
PTIC Heifers	1552	1,630	3,010	2,361	83	79%	427	658	555	18
PTIC Cows	1260	1,610	3,710	2,544	-260	94%	321	701	467	9
NSM Cows & Calves	341	2,610	4,180	3,395	382	79%	546	1167	686	-
SM Heifers & Calves	165	3,410	4,240	3,953	-	97%	665	835	768	-
SM Cows & Calves	830	1,910	3,880	2,955	-240	93%	416	854	635	-
PTIC Cows & Calves	36	3,300	3,880	3,648	-72	100%	604	798	706	-

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