

Weekly Sheep & Lamb Comments - 27.08.21

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By AuctionsPlus

The AuctionsPlus weekly sheep and lamb offering increased by 2% this week, with a total of 78,857 head listed online. With winter drawing to a close and the spring selling season just around the corner, new season lambs continued to flock to the online market - making up 65% of the total offering this week.

Following last week's 25% increase in listings and price contraction across most of the lamb categories, the market this week regained some ground, with price lifts in four out of the six lamb categories. Central Western NSW was the top purchasing region again this week, securing 14,844 head, followed by Southwest Victoria and the Riverina (NSW), which secured 10,411 and 10,408 head respectively.

Crossbred lambs registered a 20% lift in listings this week, totaling 22,227 head - with an impressive 100% clearance obtained for the category. Prices for the category increased by 42c/kg to average 534c/kg lwt, or \$166/head. NSW offered 70% of the crossbred lamb category - 48% of which were sold to Victorian buyers.

Shedding breed lambs saw a contraction in numbers this week, with 1,942 head listed online. A tighter offering was met with robust demand, as the category averaged \$83/head higher than last week, at \$334/head.

Merino wether lambs registered an 18% lift in listings this week, which was matched by a jump in the clearance rates, as 96% of the category sold. Prices ranged from \$119 to \$174, to average \$9 higher than last week, at \$142/head.

Merino ewe lambs, on the other hand, reported an 80% contraction in supplies from last week, to only 2,126 head. Despite a reduced supply, prices eased for the second week in a row – back \$28, to average \$210/head.

Off the back of yet another record-breaking sale of SIL Australian White ewes in Tuesday's sheep sale, the SIL shedding breed ewe category saw a \$198 lift, to average \$598/head. The category reported a reduced offering of only 603 head this week, with numbers back 61% from last week. With the reduced offering, buyers competed fiercely, resulting in a 100% clearance rate.

SIL first cross ewes averaged \$40 higher this week, to average \$316/head, with the category achieving 100% clearance - a significant jump from last weeks' 69% from a smaller offering. The top line consisted of 154 SIL ewes from Naracoorte SA, which averaged 55.6kg and returned \$338/head. These ewes will travel interstate, to Birchip, Victoria.

NSM Merino ewe hoggets had a similar offering to last week, at 3,525 head, with a steady clearance rate of 89%. Prices were back on last week, falling \$31, to average \$251/head.

NOTE: Prices as at 5pm, Thursday 26th July, 2021

Classification	Offered	Low	High	Average	Change	Clearance	Low	High	Average	Change
				\$/head				actual	€/kg lwt	
Lambs										
Crossbreds	22,227	124	204	166	4	100%	402	689	534	42
Merino Wethers	15,483	119	174	142	9	96%	325	730	459	-16
First X Ewes	7,578	160	416	272	1	82%	445	873	670	83
Merino Ewes	2,126	124	270	210	-28	68%	441	674	523	44
Shedding Breeds	1,942	139	869	334	83	91%	335	1,752	731	77
Composite/Other Breeds	2,067	150	303	255	-10	93%	417	530	498	-50
Sheep										
Merino ewes and lambs	1,212	302	501	383	52	76%	516	1,092	659	91
Ewes and lambs (Mixed)	882	300	330	319	-57	86%	491	711	633	47
Merino Wethers	3,669	140	177	158	15	75%	288	375	319	39
Joined Ewes										
SIL Merino Ewes	2,526	174	331	271	0	57%	413	635	518	31
SM Merino Ewes	711	200	240	220	-17	73%	391	448	427	-113
SIL First X Ewes	1,439	271	338	316	40	100%	423	608	501	13
SM First X Ewes	262	362	362	362	-	80%	717	717	717	-
SIL Shedding Breed Ewes	603	302	1,210	598	198	100%	589	1,993	1,000	323
SM Shedding Breed Ewes	1,681	178	567	354	40	83%	472	1,477	800	193
SIL Composite/Other Breed Ewes	671	244	394	313	-8	100%	370	704	508	-70
Non Station Mated (NSM)										
Merino Ewe Hoggets	3,525	193	327	251	-31	89%	363	591	503	-82
Merino Ewes	6,767	113	274	217	-	86%	224	488	361	-
First X Ewes	1,203	235	422	325	21	63%	425	593	529	1
Composite/Other breed Ewes	697	272	272	272	43	50%	444	475	459	36