

Weekly Sheep & Lamb Comments - 20.08.21

PUBLISHED FRI, 20 AUGUST 2021



By AuctionsPlus

AuctionsPlus sheep and lamb listings this week increased by 19,451 head – up 25% from the previous week, totalling 77,460 head. Compared to the same period in 2020, total listings for the week were 7% higher, with a steady increase in the number of new season lambs on offer.

Offerings across five of the six lamb categories rose from last week, with Merino wether lamb and Merino ewe lamb categories increasing by 95% and 74%, respectively. Large rises in new season lamb offerings did facilitate falls across five of the lamb categories, with shedding breed lambs registering the largest drop of \$35. The NSW Central West was the top purchasing region for the week, securing 13,353 head, while the NSW Riverina and SW Victoria regions secured 8,310 and 5,880 head, respectively.

The crossbred lamb category again had the largest offering, with 17,891 head listed - although back 4,122 head from last week. The reduced offering assisted a rise in clearance rates to 91%, however a \$5 reduction was registered on the previous week, as the category averaged \$162/head. Shedding breed lambs recorded a 149% increase in numbers, with an 87% clearance rate. Despite the high clearance rate, the category decreased by \$35/head, to average \$251/head.

Merino wether lambs registered a jump in supplies, with a total of 12,660 head offered - with 72% of listings from NSW. Clearance rates remained strong, at 87% for the week, while the category averaged \$133/head - easing \$2 from the previous week. Composite and other breed lambs registered a 29% increase in supplies from last week, offering a total of 1,127 head.

Increased numbers were matched with increased prices, with the category increasing by \$76 from last week, to average \$264/head.

First cross ewe lambs recorded a 90% clearance rate this week, as the average price slipped back \$17, to average \$271/head. Two lines of Sep/Oct '20 drop first cross future breeder ewe lambs weighing 62kgs from Ardlethan NSW, returned \$355 and \$353/head, respectively, and will travel to Junee in the NSW Riverina.

The joined ewe offering increased for the week, with 12,582 head offered. SIL Merino ewes dominated supplies again this week, with an offering of 4,653 head. The steady supply was met with sustained restocker demand, as the category registered an increase of \$11 for the week, to average \$271/head. Station mated Merino ewes registered the largest price increase for joined ewes, up \$64 to average \$237/head, with the category achieving a 100% clearance rate. SIL and Station mated Shedding breed ewe categories both registered falls this week of \$43 and \$14, respectively. SIL first cross ewes experienced a drop in supply, with only 920 head listed. Despite improved clearance rates, the category fell \$5 from last week, to average \$276/head.

NOTE: Prices as at 5pm, Thursday 19th July, 2021

Classification	Offered	Low	High	Average	Change	Clearance	Low	High	Average	Change
				\$/head					actual c/kg lwt	
Lambs										
Crossbreds	17,891	127	193	162	-5	91%	369	613	492	9
Merino Wethers	12,660	86	180	133	-2	87%	349	689	475	75
First X Ewes	5,894	168	355	271	-17	90%	341	890	587	-56
Merino Ewes	10,769	156	469	238	-19	65%	316	721	479	-125
Shedding Breeds	4,528	71	588	251	-35	87%	364	1652	654	8
Composite/Other Breeds	1,127	257	268	264	76	64%	535	556	548	70
Sheep										
Merino ewes and lambs	736	305	361	331	85	84%	470	711	568	160
Ewes and lambs (Mixed)	1,103	301	450	376	15	53%	359	741	586	-2
Merino Wethers	1,750	143	143	143	-	34%	280	280	280	-
Joined Ewes										
SIL Merino Ewes	4,653	180	331	271	11	71%	339	639	487	21
SM Merino Ewes	1,378	141	295	237	64	100%	359	619	540	197
SIL First X Ewes	920	259	290	276	-5	69%	372	570	488	-2
SIL Shedding Breed Ewes	1,529	265	595	401	-43	25%	463	860	677	-9
SM Shedding Breed Ewes	2,513	270	420	313	-14	87%	433	711	607	-89
SIL Composite/Other Breed Ewes	939	200	418	321	37	100%	493	676	578	103
SM Shedding Breed Ewes	650	232	232	232	-	100%	547	547	547	-
Non Station Mated (NSM)										
Merino Ewe Hoggets	3,874	187	461	282	61	85%	466	732	585	112
First X Ewes	998	224	376	305	-	100%	363	590	528	-
Composite/Other breed Ewes	1,440	190	272	229	-36	78%	334	527	423	21
Shedding Breed Ewes	1,147	215	300	258	-	28%	351	626	489	-