

Weekly Sheep & Lamb Comments - 24.09.21

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By AuctionsPlus

AuctionsPlus sheep and lamb offering this week increased for the second consecutive week, with numbers rising by 2%, to total 114,152 head. A gradually increasing supply of new season lambs represented 63% of the total catalogue this week, which had averages trend downward across five of the six lamb categories. Merino categories across the offering all registered lower averages this week. Central West NSW was the top listing region with 24,764 head, followed by the Riverina NSW, with 14,564 head offered.

Crossbred lambs sold from \$110 to \$196, to average \$163/head - back \$1 from last week. Clearance rates remained strong but softened from last week, at 89% of lines sold. The category offered a total of 24,947 head – 22% of the total catalogue with Central West NSW offering 6,194 head.

Merino wether lambs totalled 28,406 head this week, with the category averaging \$5 cheaper at \$140/head. Prices ranged from \$93 to \$176/head, with the NSW Riverina offering 7,087 head in the category. The top price of \$176/head consisted of a line of Poll Merino store wether lambs from the Riverina NSW, which were Apr 21' drop and weighed an average 40.8kg liveweight.

First cross ewe lambs had a total offering of 9,188 head this week, with the category averaging \$12 higher, at \$312/head. Clearance rates also increased from last week, with robust demand facilitating 89% of the offering selling at auction.

Merino ewe hoggets sold from \$210 to \$392, to average \$291/head – back \$5 from last week. The category offered a total of 11,395 head - 32% lower than last weeks offering, with demand for the category also slowing as clearance rates slipped to 68%.

NSM first cross ewes averaged \$343/head this week – a \$39 increase from last week with the category offering 5,887 head. Across the NSM categories, first cross ewes had the highest clearance rate, at 75%. The top price of \$427/head from Central West NSW consisted of two lines of 12-13-month-old ewes totalling 396 head, which weighed an average of 69.8kg liveweight.

Another impressive record was broken this week, with a line of Australian White ewes and lambs selling for \$2,145/head - knocking the previous record of \$1,276/head out of the park. Offered by “Tattykeel” the lot consisted of 15 NSM ewes and 20 lambs at foot. The 12-13-month-old ewes weigh 66.1kg liveweight, with the lambs weighing 15kg.

NOTE: Prices as at 5pm, Thursday 23rd September, 2021

Classification	Offered	Low	High	Average	Change	Clearance	Low	High	Average	Change
				\$/head					actual c/kg lwt	
Lambs										
Crossbreds	24,947	110	196	163	-1	89%	377	700	488	-23
Merino Wethers	28,406	93	176	140	-5	86%	339	492	424	-36
First X Ewes	9,188	170	380	312	12	89%	505	1,037	714	53
Merino Ewes	4,529	139	310	222	-60	89%	379	750	582	-6
Shedding Breeds	3,738	133	618	364	-84	81%	417	1,460	1,020	101
Composite/Other Breeds	855	161	168	164	-121	86%	489	523	506	13
Sheep										
Merino ewes and lambs	1,187	255	410	316	-7	100%	460	738	575	4
Ewes and lambs (Mixed)	1,045	330	2,145	-	-	71%	393	3,220	-	-
Merino Wethers	3,405	122	172	144	-7	80%	271	368	315	-5
Joined Ewes										
SIL Merino Ewes	2,134	164	351	242	-26	67%	295	623	419	-35
SM First X Ewes	243	286	286	286	-35	42%	421	421	421	-59
SIL Shedding Breed Ewes	1,470	246	1,191	641	-75	77%	458	1,933	973	-126
SM Shedding Breed Ewes	922	310	382	346	-41	62%	584	886	735	35
Non Station Mated (NSM)										
Merino Ewe Hoggets	11,395	210	392	291	-5	68%	369	696	525	-39
Merino Ewes	8,154	120	311	224	-8	69%	240	488	357	-23
First X Ewes	5,887	207	427	343	39	75%	277	710	546	16
Composite/Other breed Ewes	1,564	180	313	246	-26	72%	289	535	435	34
Shedding Breed Ewes	2,553	186	675	401	68	52%	474	1,433	821	325