

Weekly Sheep & Lamb Comments - 29.10.21

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By AuctionsPlus

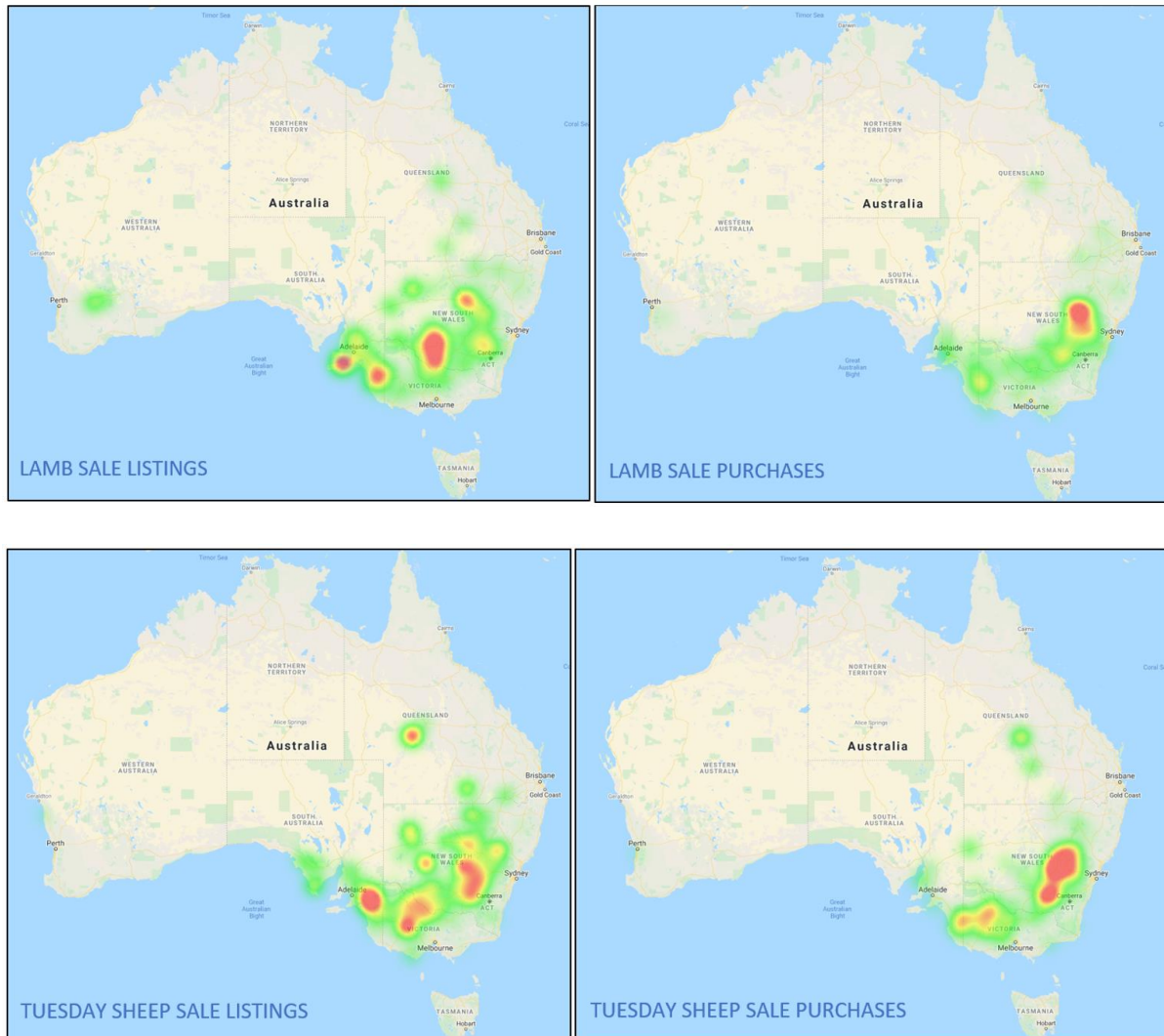
AuctionsPlus weekly sheep and lamb throughput broke online listing records this week, with a total of 166,007 head offered across the commercial sales – breaking the previous high of 164,375 head set just two weeks earlier. Listings this week were 20% higher than last weeks offering and 21% higher than the corresponding week in 2020.

NSW again registered the largest offering this week, with 71,676 head of sheep and lambs listed - consisting mostly of crossbred lambs (20%), NSM Merino ewes (16%) and Merino wether lambs (15%). The top purchasing regions this week included Central West NSW and the NSW Riverina, which secured 18,589 head and 13,982 head, respectively.

New season lamb numbers totalled 114,746 head this week. The surge in numbers is a combination of several factors, but ultimately underpinned by the excellent lambing rates from the positive seasonal conditions across the eastern seaboard in 2021. The additional push from many mixed farming operations to get lambs off prior to the commencement of what is shaping up to be a bumper harvest has fuelled the record offerings. High lamb numbers placed pressure on the market this week, with five of the six lamb categories averaging lower than last week, with clearance rates also back considerably.

The crossbred lamb category had 57,462 head listed online, accounting for 35% of the total offering - a 42% increase from last week. Prices for the category ranged from \$125 to \$221, to average \$163/head – back \$8 with clearance rates lowering to 71%.

Merino wether lambs had a total of 21,789 head listed online this week, with the category experiencing increased demand, returning an 87% clearance rate. Prices for the category averaged \$140/head – back \$2. Merino ewe lambs had the only price rise across the lamb categories this week, with the category averaging \$182/head – up \$15. Clearance rates, however, for the category were back to 57%, indicative of restockers seeking high quality future breeder lines.

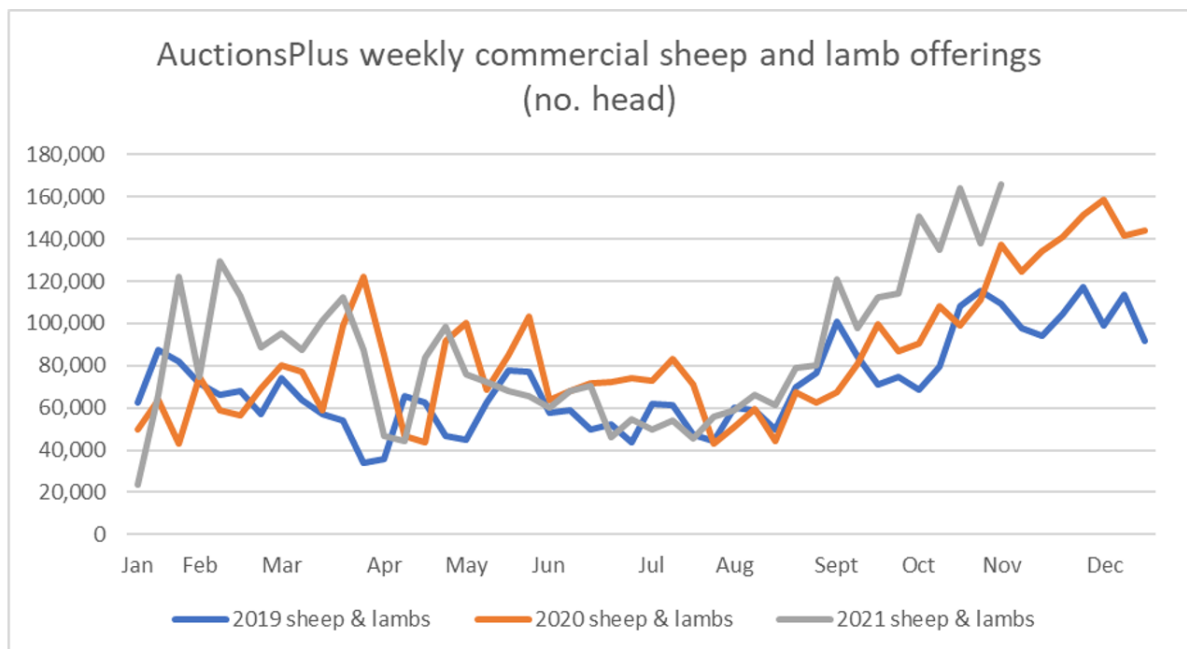


First cross ewe lamb numbers were similar to last week, with 12,756 head listed online – making up 8% of the total offering. Clearance rates for the category remained steady at 60%, while prices were back on last week to average \$247/head – down \$25.

Joined ewe numbers remained sparse this week. Station mated shedding breed ewes had a total offering of 1,792 head and returned a 100% clearance rate, with the category averaging \$291/head.

NSM Merino ewes had a total offering of 17,776 head this week - 11% of the total consignment. Prices for the category ranged from \$150 to \$302, to average \$220/head - a \$4 drop from last week. Clearance for the category increased from last week to 62%, with younger and heavier lines more attractive to both restockers and processors.

NOTE: Prices as at 5pm, Thursday 28th October, 2021



Classification	Offered	Low	High	Average	Change	Clearance	Low	High	Average	Change
				\$/head				actual	¢/kg lwt	
Lambs										
Crossbreds	57,462	125	221	163	-8	71%	354	785	466	2
Merino Wethers	21,789	91	190	140	-2	87%	333	473	403	-7
First X Ewes	12,756	139	391	247	-25	60%	388	972	661	-77
Merino Ewes	7,315	141	307	182	15	57%	403	612	514	-42
Shedding Breeds	6,116	125	522	229	-111	86%	373	1,407	639	-322
Composite/Other Breeds	9,308	120	356	194	4	84%	420	706	513	4
Sheep										
Merino Ewes and Lambs	517	230	248	239	-161	75%	424	459	441	-246
Ewes and Lambs (Mixed)	578	280	381	318	-67	16%	560	649	601	-36
Merino Wethers	472	139	160	149	7	100%	275	279	277	-36
Joined Ewes										
SIL Merino Ewes	287	259	305	282	15	100%	342	467	405	-128
SM Merino Ewes	555	276	296	286	41	100%	451	491	471	31
SIL First X Ewes	730	164	164	164	-	81%	351	351	351	-
SIL Shedding Breed Ewes	463	300	876	495	-	62%	460	1,208	726	-
SM Shedding Breed Ewes	1,792	250	362	291	-	100%	469	722	611	-
Joined Ewes and Lambs (Mixed)	1,479	238	405	308	-	64%	360	790	558	-
Joined Merino Ewes and Lambs	357	180	248	214	-	63%	337	450	394	-
Non Station Mated (NSM)										
Merino Ewe Hoggets	16,599	170	340	252	-16	46%	368	607	496	0
Merino Ewes	17,776	150	302	220	-4	62%	225	514	358	8
First X Ewes	3,573	200	420	332	18	76%	275	704	533	26
Shedding Breed Ewes	227	180	180	-	-	51%	331	331	-	-
Composite/Other Breed Ewes	5,623	180	380	277	-9	67%	235	627	377	-76