

Weekly Sheep & Lamb Comments - 3.12.21

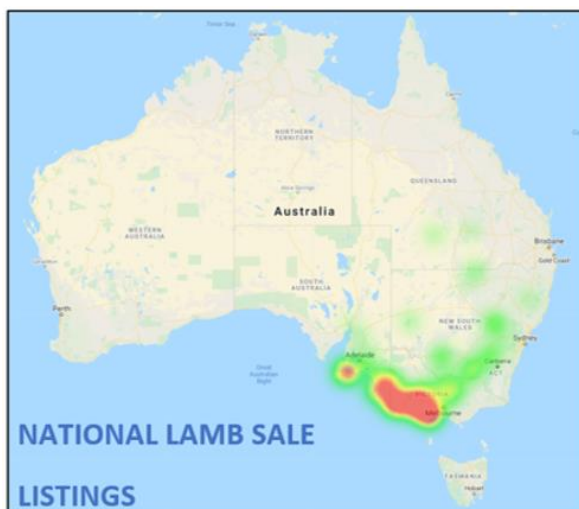
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By AuctionsPlus

AuctionsPlus sheep and lamb numbers totalled 100,259 head this week – back 22% from last week and 58% lower than the same week in 2020, as the very wet November continues to impact logistics and finish. Water filled paddocks and flooding across parts of NSW facilitated a large drop in the offering this week, with the state listing just over 22,000 head of sheep and lambs – back 42,000 from last week. Demand for lambs and several sheep categories remained strong this week, with the top purchasing regions including Southwest Victoria (19,777 head), Central West NSW (12,815 head) and the NSW Riverina (8,061 head).

A total of 70,750 head of new season lambs were offered this week - an increase of 9% from last week. Victoria and South Australia accounted for a majority of lamb listings this week. Demand remained firm for lambs, with five of the six lamb categories averaging dearer than last week.



Crossbred lambs accounted for 34% of the catalogue this week, with 33,943 head listed. Victoria offered the vast majority of crossbred lambs this week, with 24,956 head listed. Prices for the category ranged from \$125-\$246/head, to average \$162/head – up \$4 with an 89% clearance. Two indicative lines consisting of 780 head of White Suffolk/Border Leicester/Merino mixed sex suckers weighing 41.2kg from Casterton Victoria, returned \$181/head and will travel to a buyer in Dirranbandi, Queensland – approximately a 1,500km journey north.

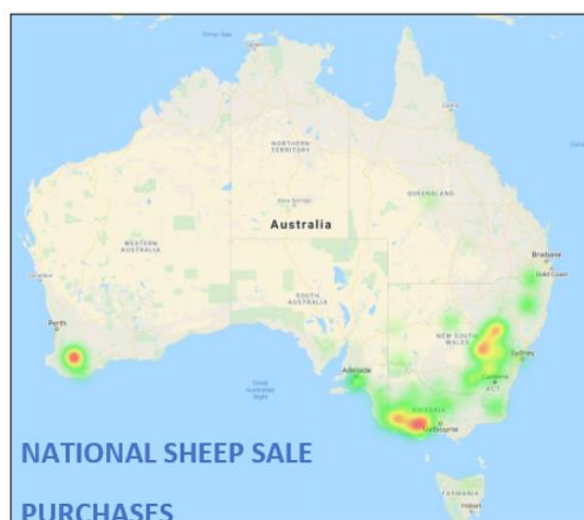
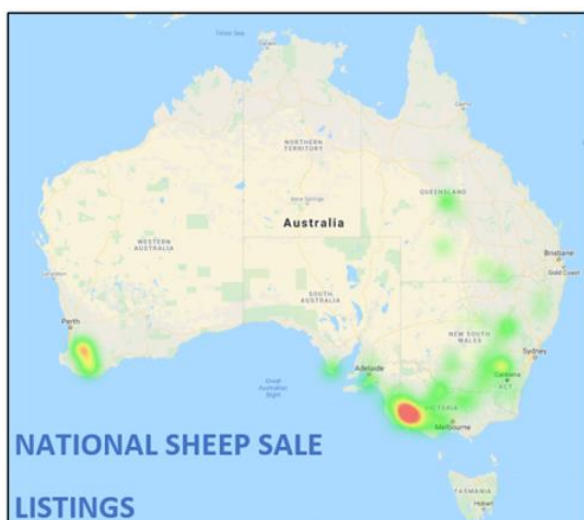
Merino wether lambs totalled 12% of the offering. Prices averaged \$142/head - up \$8 from last week, with clearance rates reaching 90%. Merino ewe lambs continued to rise in value and demand this week, as the category averaged \$173/head - \$20 up from last week with a 72% clearance. South Australia offered a majority of Merino ewe lambs this week, with 72% of sold SA lines going to NSW buyers.

First cross ewe lambs accounted for 12% of the catalogue, with 11,757 head listed. The category returned a \$244/head average - up \$39 from last week with a 58% clearance.

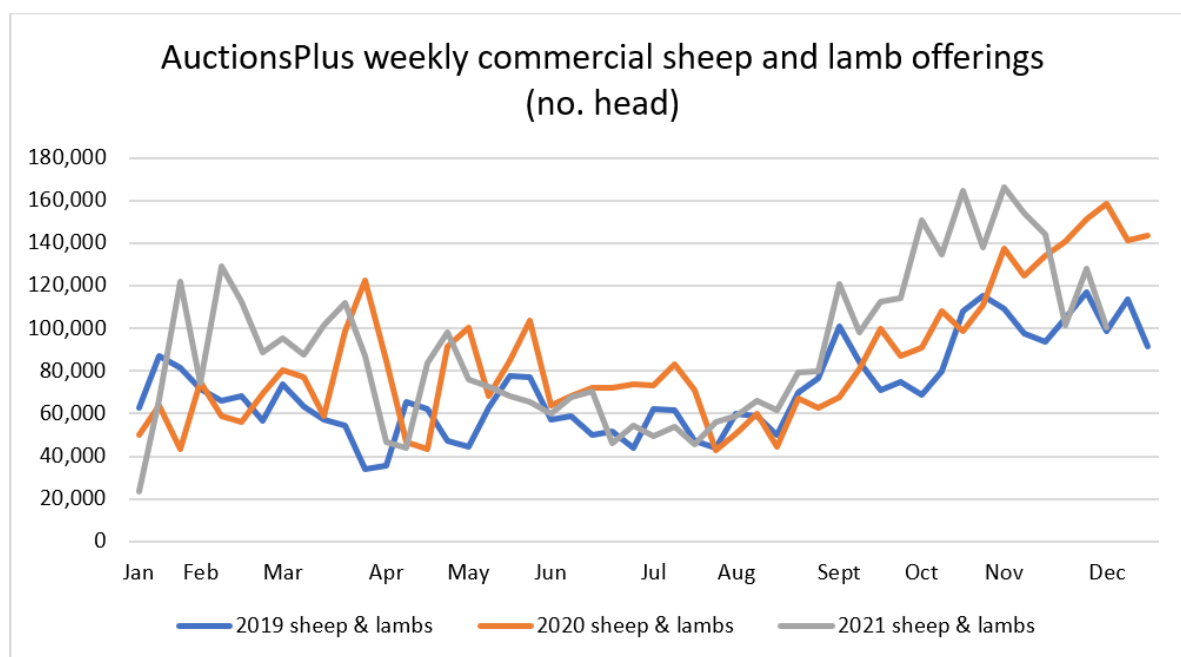
The offering of Composite/other breed lamb numbers held firm on last week, with 8,061 head offered - 8% of the total catalogue. Despite good demand within the category returning the highest clearance rate across the lamb categories for the week, at 94%, it also registered an easing in prices as the category averaged \$164/head – back \$13.

Joined ewes again remained very limited in the sheep sale this week, with a total of 1,692 head offered across the five categories.

Non Station Mated ewes improved across three of the four categories listed this week, following prices declining across all categories last week. Merino ewe hogget listings halved this week and were subsequently met with steady demand, as clearance rates rose to 72%. Prices for the category ranged between \$171-\$327/head, to average \$260/head - up \$21. NSM Merino ewes accounted for 11% of the catalogue, with 11,292 head offered, as the category averaged \$236/head - up \$24 with 73% of lines selling.



NOTE: Prices as at 5pm, Thursday 3rd December, 2021



Classification	Offered	Low	High	Average	Change	Clearance	Low	High	Average	Change
				\$/head					actual c/kg lwt	
Lambs										
<i>Crossbreds</i>	33,943	125	246	162	4	89%	377	602	438	-22
<i>Merino Wethers</i>	10,991	86	168	142	8	90%	355	541	404	11
<i>First X Ewes</i>	11,757	173	347	244	39	58%	357	757	571	23
<i>Merino Ewes</i>	4,385	141	217	173	20	72%	416	643	532	1
<i>Shedding Breeds</i>	1,613	150	471	265	17	92%	392	961	677	-66
<i>Composite/Other Breeds</i>	8,061	131	285	164	-13	94%	368	809	434	-96
Sheep										
<i>Shedding Breed Ewes & Lambs</i>	334	456	1,398	752	-	100%	624	2,002	1,086	-
<i>Composite/Other Breed Ewes & Lambs</i>	404	391	391	391	-	85%	699	699	699	-
<i>Merino Wethers</i>	2,950	135	180	156	4	64%	238	358	311	2
Joined Ewes										
<i>SIL First X Ewes</i>	69	212	212	212	-	100%	291	291	291	-
<i>SM First X Ewes</i>	174	240	240	240	-	100%	322	322	322	-
<i>SIL Shedding Breed Ewes</i>	9	812	812	812	-	100%	1,158	1,158	1,158	-
<i>SM Shedding Breed Ewes</i>	1,330	141	410	266	-49	99%	306	811	549	-97
<i>Joined Shedding Breed Ewes & Lambs</i>	110	280	1,050	587	-	100%	460	1,452	918	-
Non Station Mated (NSM)										
<i>Merino Ewe Hoggets</i>	5,499	171	327	260	21	72%	396	658	500	20
<i>Merino Ewes</i>	11,292	97	342	236	24	73%	223	546	426	72
<i>First X Ewes</i>	2,944	230	425	280	22	21%	296	606	420	39
<i>Composite/Other Breed Ewes</i>	1,682	170	330	248	-3	50%	260	471	365	-45