

Weekly Sheep & Lamb Comments - Week ending Friday 11th March 2022

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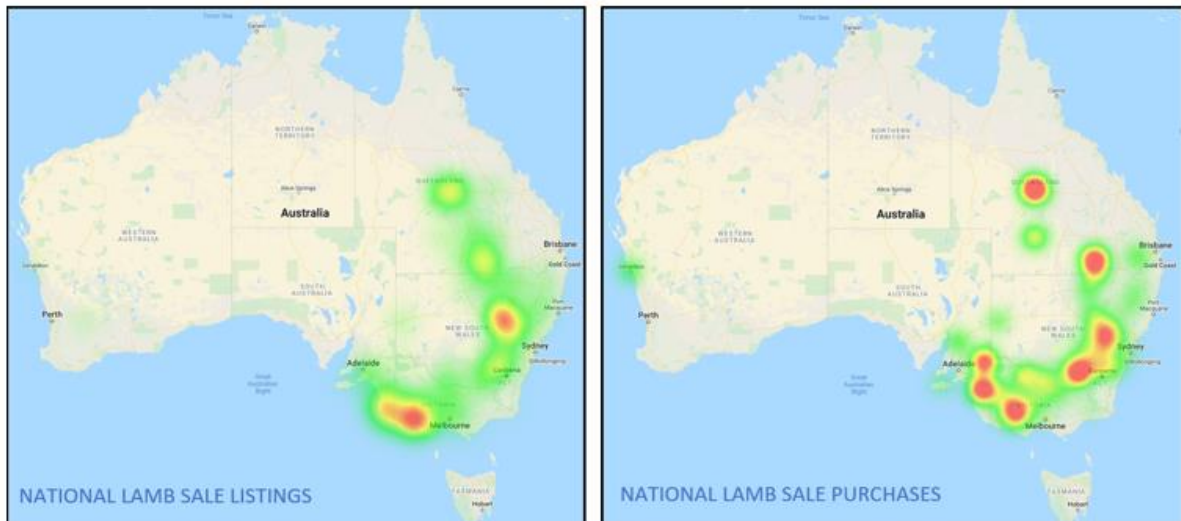


By AuctionsPlus

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AuctionsPlus commercial sheep and lamb numbers bounced back this week, increasing 17% on last week, for a total offering of 121,947 head. The larger offering resulted in several categories falling in value, with four-out-of-six lamb categories reporting price decreases, as clearances rates fluctuate across categories.

As has been the case in previous weeks, the immediate clearance rates at Tuesdays' auction end was again low, registering 49% overall, but increased steadily throughout the week, to finish the week at 60%. Interestingly, of the lots that sold during the Tuesday auction, the average selling price was \$76 above the set reserve. In contrast, the lots which sold via post-sale negotiations averaged \$5 lower than the set reserve.



New season lambs totaled 59,467 head, or 49% of the offering, with Merino wether lambs and crossbred lambs making up most of the new season offering. Central West NSW remains the largest listing region, while also securing the most stock for the week, with 11,443 head purchased.

Crossbred lambs reported one of their largest week-to-week price fall, averaging \$145 for the 15,703 head – decreasing \$11/head. On a c/kg basis the change was only 1c, as the sold offering was on average 3kg liveweight lighter per lot this week. Clearance was steady on last week at 70%. From Trundle NSW, a line of 67 mixed sex Border Leicester/Merino lambs weighing 48.2kg liveweight sold for \$172/head.

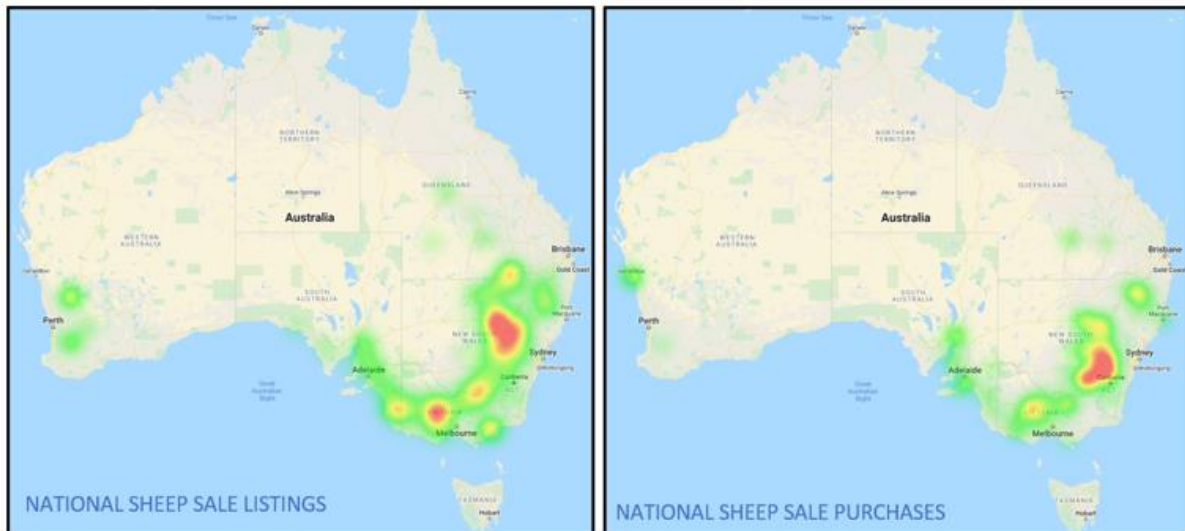
Merino wether lambs were well supplied again this week, at 19,174 head, and while down on last week, the smaller volume resulted in a stronger clearance rate of 68%. The category decreased \$5, selling from \$70 to \$152, and averaged \$127/head. Merino ewe lambs held steady in terms of both volume and prices this week. The 5,341 head was met with strong demand, recording an 84% clearance and averaging \$158/head.

Composite/other breed lambs accounted for 7% of the offering this week, with 8,352 head. The category averaged \$160/head, erasing all last week's gain. A highlight for the category included a line of Sept/Oct '21 drop Nudie future breeder ewe lambs weighing 36kg, which returned \$452/head.

First cross ewe lambs averaged lower for the second consecutive week at \$223/head – down \$24 for the 8,151 head. Demand was stronger this week for the bigger offering, recording a 59% clearance, up from 47% last week.

The joined ewe offering comprised of 30,047 head this week, with SIL Merino ewes accounting for the largest category with 14,951 head, followed by SM

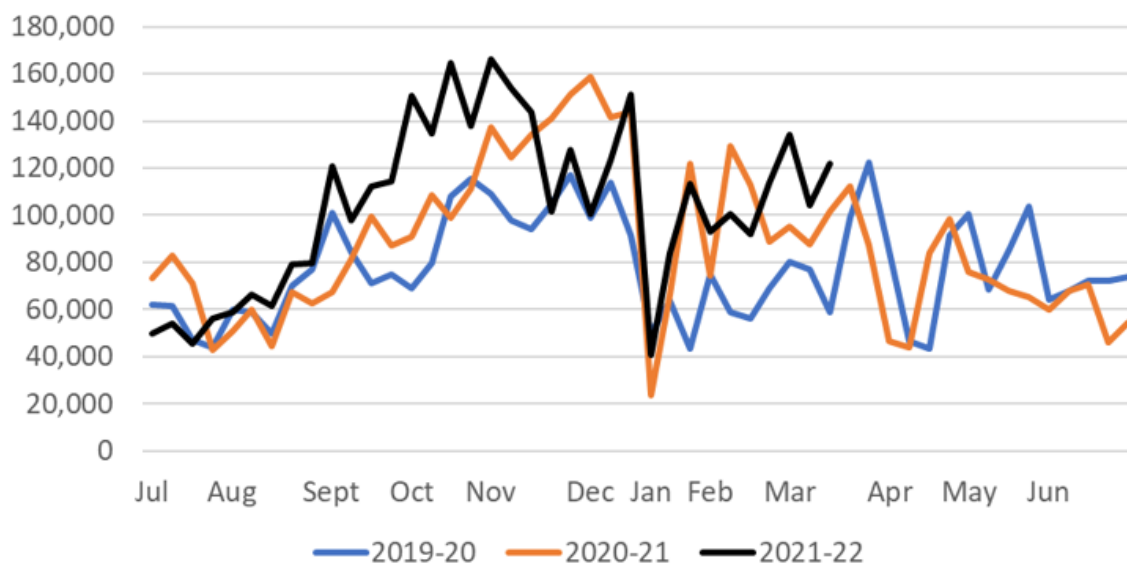
Merino ewes with 6,225 head. SIL Merino ewes averaged \$244 and SM Merino ewes averaged \$204, down \$12 and \$26/head, respectively. SM first cross ewes was one of the few categories to report a price increase for the week across the joined offering, increasing by \$40 to average \$265/head – with a strong 90% clearance rate.



The NSM ewe offering increased this week, at 23,166 head, with clearance rates varying and prices predominantly lower. The only category to report a price rise was Merino ewes, which lifted \$8 to average \$199/head for the 7,801 head offered. The category that was met with the strongest demand was Composite/other breed ewes, recording an 87% clearance rate for the 3,653 head offered - averaging \$262/head.

NOTE: Prices as at 5pm, Thursday 10th March 2022

AuctionsPlus weekly commercial sheep & lamb offerings (no. head)



Classification	Offered	Low	High	Average	Change	Clearance	Low	High	Average	Change
				\$/head					actual €/kg lwt	
Lambs										
Crossbreds	15,703	86	175	145	-11	70%	270	602	401	-1
Merino Wethers	19,174	70	152	127	-5	68%	296	397	344	-24
First X Ewes	8,151	161	283	223	-24	59%	431	618	526	-19
Merino Ewes	5,068	102	250	158	0	84%	347	569	467	3
Shedding Breeds	5,727	150	684	373	62	38%	396	1,286	777	21
Composite/Other Breeds	8,352	90	235	160	-119	91%	374	580	442	-310
Sheep										
Merino Ewes & Lambs	160	161	161	161	-68	100%	288	288	288	-119
Merino Wethers	3,827	160	166	163	9	25%	321	351	336	24
Joined Ewes										
SIL Merino Ewes	14,951	160	298	244	-12	53%	304	566	398	10
SM Merino Ewes	6,225	150	278	204	-26	61%	236	463	369	-22
SIL First X Ewes	2,128	138	411	289	-8	43%	279	560	396	-45
SM First X Ewes	561	180	310	265	40	90%	269	584	461	114
SIL Shedding Breed Ewes	704	300	545	448	-216	95%	493	945	730	-175
SM Shedding Breed Ewes	909	286	454	342	8	78%	438	708	540	-79
SIL Composite/Other Breed Ewes	1,245	281	575	495	-	44%	441	706	639	-
SM Composite/Other Breed Ewes	2,775	210	240	224	-	50%	340	472	403	-
SM Shedding Breed Ewes & Lambs	549	289	402	331	-	90%	433	536	499	-
Non Station Mated (NSM)										
Merino Ewe Hoggets	9,511	143	282	223	-21	37%	254	586	432	-68
Merino Ewes	7,801	102	255	199	8	42%	175	513	365	25
First X Ewes	1,141	265	272	269	-	26%	-	532	453	-
Shedding Breed Ewes	1,150	160	380	217	-405	68%	251	595	357	-564
Composite/Other Breed Ewes	3,563	238	304	262	-36	87%	369	477	452	-10