

Weekly Sheep & Lamb Comments - Week ending Friday 25th Feb 2022

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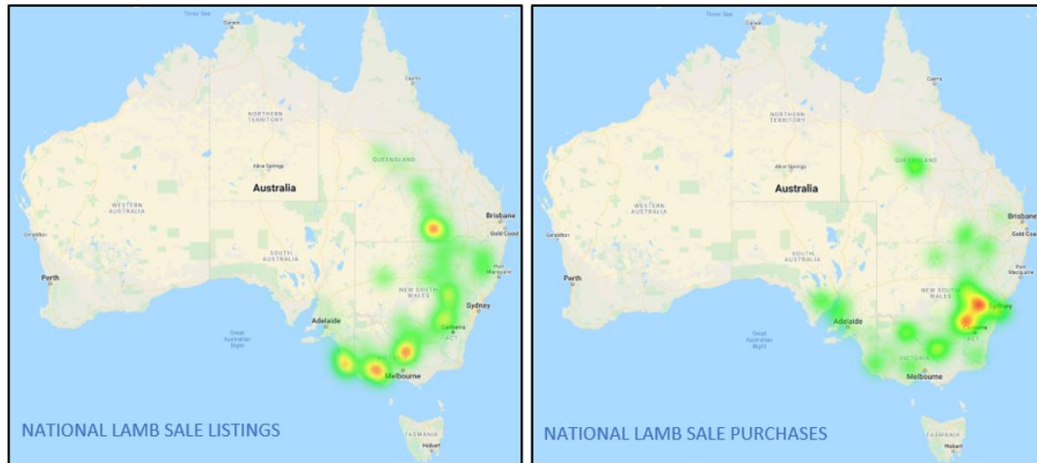


By AuctionsPlus

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Sheep and lamb numbers increased again this week, jumping 18% to total 134,274 head - the largest weekly commercial offering since December 2021. The increased supply of both joined and unjoined grown ewes was matched with sustained restocker demand, while lamb categories experienced an overall dip in clearance rates.

Lamb numbers totaled 71,303 head this week, with mixed results, as three of the six key categories averaged higher week-on-week. Notable reductions in clearance rates were registered for the two largest categories, with crossbred and Merino wether lambs reaching final clearance rates of 57% and 59%, respectively. Lambs grown to heavier weights were prominent across the offering this week, with most listings coming from Western Queensland, Central Western NSW and Southwest Victoria.



Crossbred lamb numbers recorded a large rise in offerings this week - up 72% to total 23,778 head. Prices for the category slipped \$7 from last week, to average \$154/head, with the increased offering sparking a drop in clearance rates. Hailing from Weerite, Victoria, two large runs of Cashmore Poll Dorset/Composite mixed sex suckers totaling 1,800 head returned \$149/head, with the lambs aged 6-7 months weighing 32.6kg liveweight.

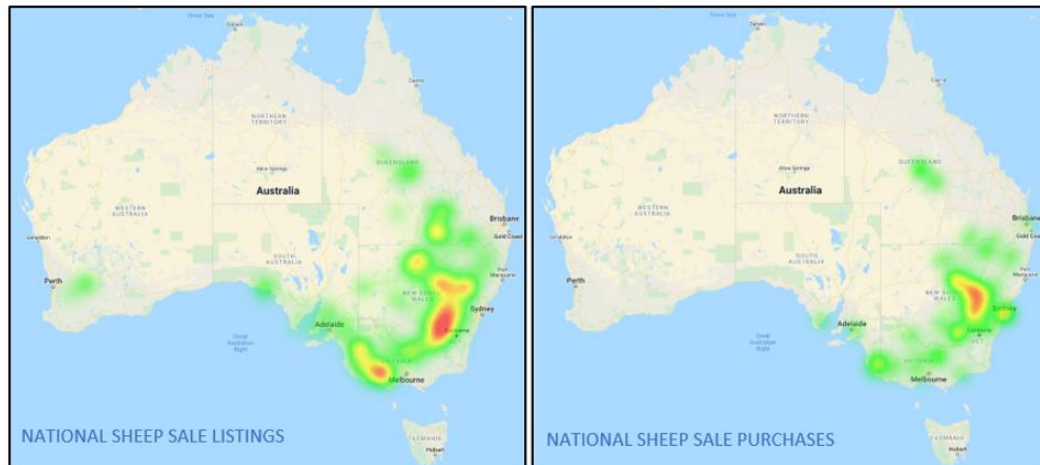
Merino wether lamb numbers also rose week-on-week, with a total of 22,469 head listed. While clearance rates were subdued, prices remained robust to average \$136/head - up \$4. Merino ewe lamb numbers held firm on last week, with a total of 2,181 head. Prices for the category increased \$26 to average \$289/head, with high demand pushing clearance rates to 90%. Topping the Merino ewe category was a line of 135 May/Jun '21 Poll Merino lambs from Wirrabara, SA, which averaged 40kg liveweight and returned \$220/head

First cross ewe lambs totaled 9,003 head, with the offering averaging \$257/head - up \$28 with clearance levels remaining low at 39%.

Joined ewes totaled 28,926 head this week, accounting for 22% of the total offering. SIL Merino ewes had a total of 11,165 head offered, with the category averaging \$268/head - back \$9 with clearance rates reaching 50%.

Station Mated Merino ewes totaled 5,364 head, with the \$73 increase for the week erasing last week's drop, averaging \$230/head, with clearance rates reaching 77%.

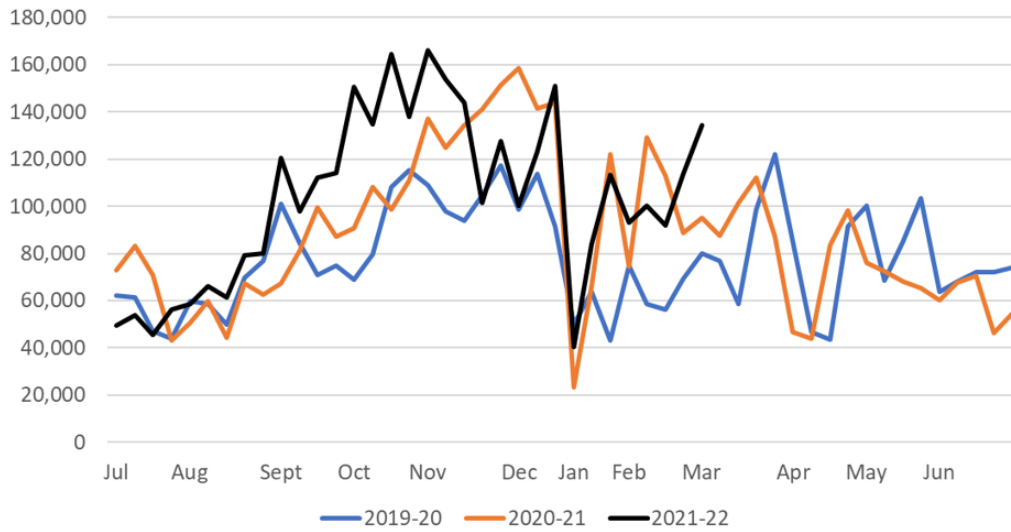
Station Mated Shedding breed ewes had 5,674 head listed, with the category rising \$106 from last week, to average \$361/head. From Morvern, Queensland, a line consisting of 850 SM Dorper ewes aged 12-13 months, averaging 36.7kg returned \$225/head and will travel interstate to Victoria.



Unjoined ewe categories accounted for 23% of the offering this week. NSM Merino ewe numbers rose by 86% from last week, to total 18,418 head. Increased supplies for the category failed to dampen prices, averaging \$199/head - up \$17 from last week, while clearance rates reached 68%. A large run consisting of 990 head of Poll Merino NSM ewes from Bollon, Queensland returned \$178/head, with the 6-year-old ewes weighing 61kg.

NOTE: Prices as at 5pm, Thursday 24th February 2022

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



Classification	Offered	Low	High	Average \$/head	Change	Clearance	Low	High	Average actual €/kg lwt	Change
Lambs										
Crossbreds	23,778	111	179	154	-7	57%	324	473	414	-5
Merino Wethers	22,469	85	172	136	4	59%	309	472	382	9
First X Ewes	9,003	120	351	257	28	39%	367	795	519	5
Merino Ewes	2,181	135	220	189	26	90%	440	550	500	-28
Shedding Breeds	4,473	130	520	251	-94	80%	372	1,087	654	-153
Composite/Other Breeds	9,399	60	222	173	-56	64%	388	548	443	-176
Sheep										
Merino Ewes & Lambs	77	241	241	241	28	100%	555	555	555	154
Merino Wethers	2,675	135	174	155	-6	42%	253	303	287	-66
Joined Ewes										
SIL Merino Ewes	11,165	157	330	268	-9	50%	261	530	395	-39
SM Merino Ewes	5,364	120	325	230	73	77%	247	548	406	104
SIL First X Ewes	2,069	230	406	299	-51	84%	278	491	361	-169
SM First X Ewes	947	165	356	264	62	89%	227	576	400	66
SIL Shedding Breed Ewes	555	232	740	664	226	84%	382	1,160	1,044	398
SM Shedding Breed Ewes	5,674	200	1,026	361	106	79%	308	1,658	615	142
SIL Composite/Other Breed Ewes	1,001	225	290	266	-75	61%	331	578	404	-8
SM Merino Ewes & Lambs	182	149	149	149	-	100%	289	289	289	-
SM Shedding Breed Ewes & Lambs	1,969	196	334	248	-	53%	384	640	486	-
Non Station Mated (NSM)										
Merino Ewe Hoggets	7,986	149	296	233	-7	66%	351	591	472	-6
Merino Ewes	18,418	100	298	199	17	68%	171	568	347	19
First X Ewes	1,289	165	234	200	2	15%	314	480	397	100
Shedding Breed Ewes	369	272	473	386	30	100%	437	876	668	14
Composite/Other Breed Ewes	2,256	132	245	178	-97	72%	227	346	290	-80