

Weekly Sheep & Lamb Comments - 28.01.22

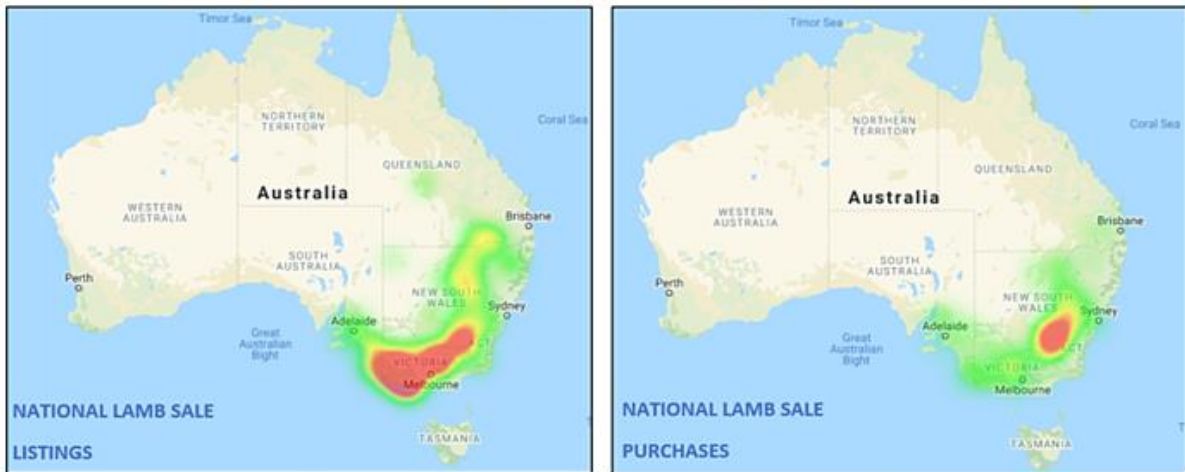
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By AuctionsPlus

Following three consecutive weeks of increased listings, the final week of January had AuctionsPlus sheep and lamb numbers back 18%, at 92,955 head. Total sheep and lamb listings for the month equated to 331,008 head – 16% higher year-on-year. Joined ewe listings held firm on last week, with just over 12,000 head, which returned mixed results.

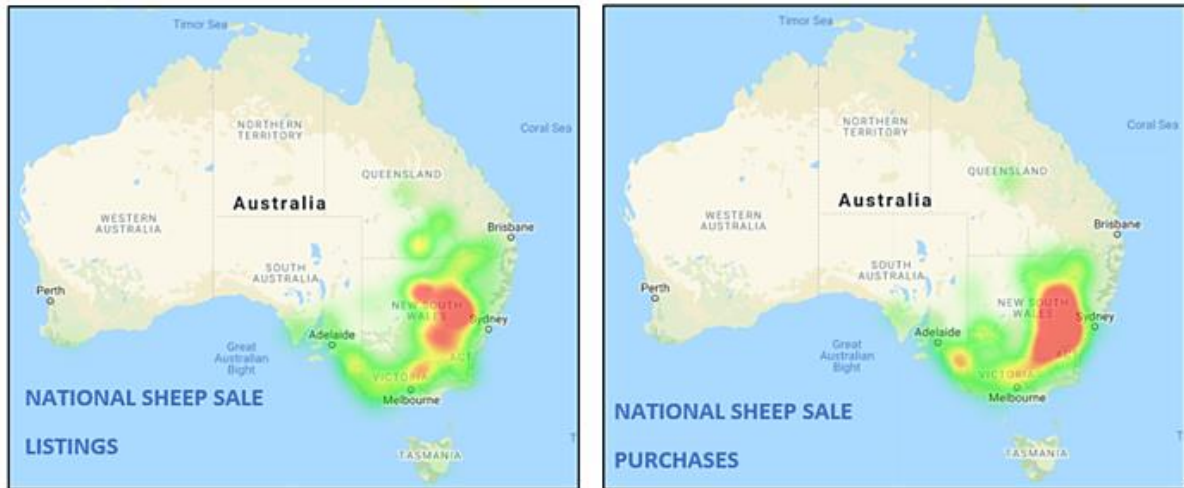
New season lambs accounted for 58% of listings this week, with three of the six lamb categories recording price rises from last week. Despite widely publicized supply chain disruptions and reported hesitance from both buyers and sellers, prices for key lamb categories remained firm throughout January – underpinned by the overall quality of lambs coming onto the market. Merino wether and crossbred lamb categories have faced robust demand, with price averages across the month ranging from \$134-147/head and \$155-160/head, respectively, across the four National lamb sales held in January.



Crossbred lambs accounted for 27% of the offering this week, with a majority of listings flowing out of southwest Victoria, as the category averaged \$160/head and returned a 76% clearance. An indicative run of two even lines totaling 1,700 head of Poll Dorset/Composite mixed sex store lambs from Port Campbell, Victoria, weighing 36.1kg liveweight, returned \$168/head.

Ewe lamb categories returned mixed results this week, with both Merino and first cross ewe lamb categories registering reduced clearance rates, at 35% and 41%, respectively. First cross ewe lambs accounted for 9% of the offering this week, with 8,535 head listed online. Prices ranged from \$150-390/head to average \$254 – back \$16 on last week. Merino ewe lamb numbers held firm on last week, with 1,749 head offered, as the category averaged \$167/head – up \$42 on last week.

Composite/other breed lambs made up 9% of the offering, at 7,744 head, as southwest Victoria and the NSW Riverina regions accounted for the majority of listings. The category returned a robust clearance of 81%, despite prices falling \$109 week-on-week, to average \$198/head.



Grown Merino wethers registered a 180% rise in listings week-on-week, with a total offering of 4,038 head. Prices for the category averaged \$155/head - up \$32, as clearance rates reached 74%.

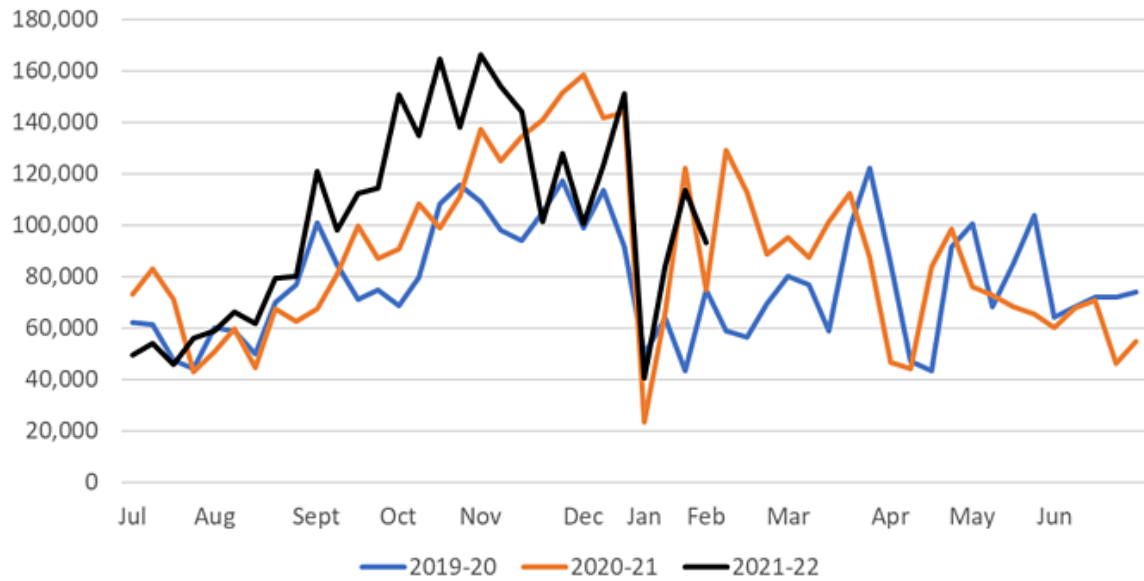
Joined ewe categories saw a considerable rise in SIL Merino ewe listings this week, with 3,647 head offered as the category returned an 87% clearance. Prices for the category rose \$11, to average \$279/head, with a highlight including two lines of 2-6-year-old, totaling 500 head, from Dubbo, NSW, which weighed 66kg liveweight and returned \$306/head.

Station mated shedding breed ewes and lambs remained in high demand this week, as the offering of 1,153 head returned a 100% clearance for the second consecutive week. The category averaged \$384/head - up \$107 from last week.

Unjoined ewe categories accounted for 20% of the catalogue this week, with Merino ewe hoggets and ewe listings totaling 5,910 and 6,953 head, respectively. Following a decline across all categories last week, prices for four of the five categories rose this week, while clearance rates remained firm. Merino ewe hoggets averaged \$246/head – up \$13 from last week, with a 71% clearance, while Merino ewes averaged \$197/head – back \$10, despite a boost in the clearance rate to 85%.

NOTE: Prices as at 5pm, Thursday 27th January 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	24,712	117	216	160	0	76%	350	686	452	0
Merino Wethers	7,640	99	186	141	3	83%	338	474	392	-5
First X Ewes	8,535	150	390	254	-16	41%	396	946	552	22
Merino Ewes	1,749	119	227	167	42	35%	370	610	450	-47
Shedding Breeds	3,367	100	660	390	88	96%	327	1,679	933	124
Composite/Other Breeds	7,744	96	388	198	-109	81%	376	1,898	551	-115
Sheep										
Ewes & Lambs (Mixed)	1,018	265	497	404	-	97%	424	920	696	-
Merino Wethers	4,038	139	201	155	32	74%	289	347	309	44
Joined Ewes										
SIL Merino Ewes	3,647	201	371	279	11	87%	333	576	443	26
SM Merino Ewes	1,392	175	254	213	-49	37%	328	566	439	-19
SIL First X Ewes	1,901	229	455	364	-	65%	290	682	506	-
SM First X Ewes	185	145	280	207	-25	34%	230	478	389	-8
SIL Shedding Breed Ewes	556	265	1,005	451	7	100%	389	1,443	719	62
SM Shedding Breed Ewes	2,320	170	464	309	-18	48%	259	901	567	-125
SM Composite/Other Breed Ewes	677	224	290	265	-49	32%	390	547	484	46
SM Merino Ewes & Lambs	172	193	373	283	-	80%	460	652	556	-
SM Shedding Breed Ewes & Lambs	1,153	213	484	384	107	100%	524	841	701	189
Non Station Mated (NSM)										
Merino Ewe Hoggets	5,910	151	331	246	13	71%	313	599	471	4
Merino Ewes	6,953	124	273	197	-10	85%	249	474	329	-39
First X Ewes	4,761	149	426	287	24	36%	233	845	472	37
Shedding Breed Ewes	1,035	302	367	320	73	100%	520	630	581	149
Composite/Other Breed Ewes	1,214	154	405	236	13	70%	177	609	349	-26