

Weekly Sheep & Lamb Comments - 04.02.22

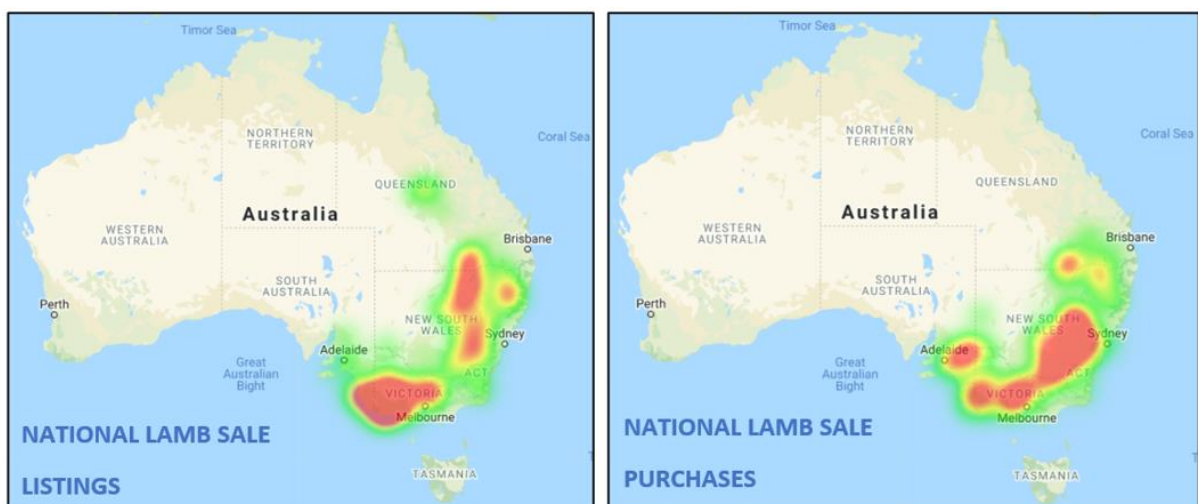
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By AuctionsPlus

AuctionsPlus commercial lamb and sheep offerings continue to gradually increase as 2022 gets back into routine, with offerings for the past week up 8%, to 100,368 head. With the higher supplies came a decline across most categories, with all lamb segments back on last week, as clearance rates remained patchy.

With a rare decline across all the six main lamb reporting categories, the largest fall was attributed to the shedding lines, which lost all of last week gains, as a reduction in the feature lines offered impacted top-end prices for the category. After last weeks \$88 gain, shedding lambs averaged \$106 lower, at \$284/head, with a 67% clearance rate for the 3,029 head offered.

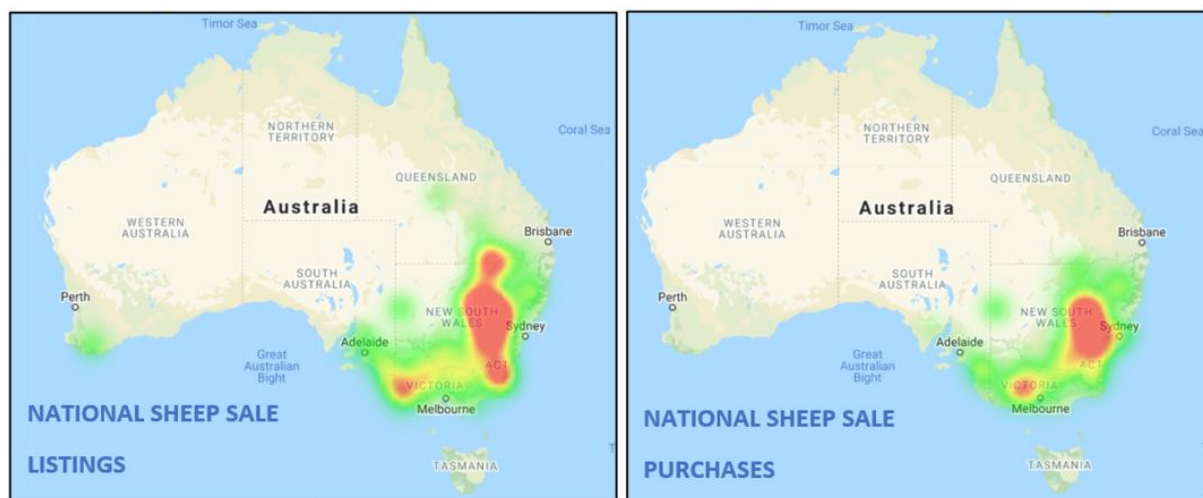


Across the two largest lamb categories, crossbred and Merino wethers, prices for the week eased back, albeit with higher clearance rates than last week, as

vendors eased reserve levels into the final month of summer. Merino wethers, with 18,013 head offered sold to an 86% clearance rate, up from 83% last week, with the average price slipping \$8, to \$133/head. Similarly, crossbred lambs registered a higher clearance rate on last week, at 89% for the 17,256 head offered, as prices averaged \$4 lower, at \$156/head.

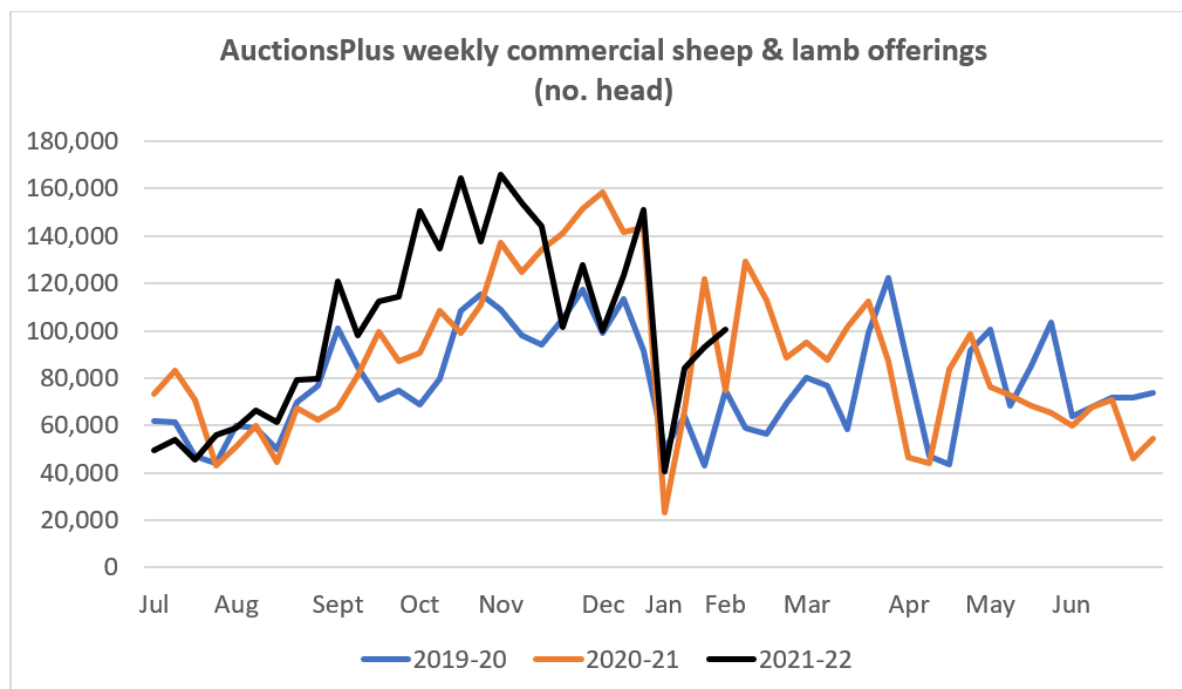
Buyer hesitancy continues to afflict the first cross ewe segment of the market, with another week of lower clearance rates, at 45% for the 8,944 head offered. On the back of last weeks \$16 decline, first cross lambs averaged another \$13 lower, to \$145/head, ranging from a low of \$150, through to \$305/head.

For the proven breeding lines, the largest offering was for SIL Merino ewes, with the 9,112 head selling to 86% clearance rate. With a substantial jump in supply this week, up from only 3,647 head last week, SIL Merino ewe prices only declined \$5, to average \$274/head. With a similar trend, SIL first cross ewes slipped \$8 back on last week, to average \$356/head, again impacted by a significant jump in numbers compared to the previous week.



Going against the largely softer trend this week was higher prices through the NSM Merino ewe hogget and Merino ewe lines. With similar numbers to last week, NSM Merino ewe hoggets averaged \$19 dearer, at \$265/head, with a 98% clearance rate for the 5,693 head offered. NSM Merino ewes jumped \$23 on last week, to average \$220/head, with a 94% clearance rate. In contrast, NSM first cross ewes dropped \$52 on last week, to average \$235/head, with a very subdued 39% clearance rate for the 5,108 head offered.

NOTE: Prices as at 5pm, Thursday 3rd February 2022



Classification	Offered	Low	High	Average	Change	Clearance	Low	High	Average	Change
				\$/head					actual c/kg lwt	
Lambs										
Crossbreds	17,256	95	186	156	-4	89%	365	566	437	-15
Merino Wethers	18,013	73	172	133	-8	86%	295	506	401	9
First X Ewes	8,944	150	305	241	-13	45%	385	758	565	13
Merino Ewes	1,356	73	205	145	-22	70%	317	521	434	-16
Shedding Breeds	3,029	160	451	284	-106	67%	424	1,066	740	-193
Composite/Other Breeds	6,468	133	250	176	-22	91%	353	529	469	-82
Sheep										
Merino Ewes & Lambs	792	226	331	274	-	100%	416	622	507	-
Merino Wethers	3,790	140	171	152	-3	80%	259	372	310	1
Joined Ewes										
SIL Merino Ewes	9,112	193	378	274	-5	86%	349	660	454	11
SM Merino Ewes	2,267	190	231	212	-1	89%	351	470	404	-35
SIL First X Ewes	3,231	271	446	356	-8	70%	363	728	538	32
SIL Shedding Breed Ewes	174	300	1,250	707	256	81%	467	1,531	983	264
SM Shedding Breed Ewes	584	240	375	300	-9	100%	388	930	662	95
SIL Composite/Other Breed Ewes	645	245	295	266	-	100%	328	427	373	-
SM Composite/Other Breed Ewes	460	225	225	225	-	100%	391	391	391	-
SM Merino Ewes & Lambs	34	190	190	190	-	100%	453	453	453	-
SM Shedding Breed Ewes & Lambs	450	186	186	186	-	8%	416	416	416	-
SM First X Ewes & Lambs	117	220	220	220	-	100%	316	316	316	-
Non Station Mated (NSM)										
Merino Ewe Hoggets	5,693	180	336	265	19	98%	408	635	502	31
Merino Ewes	7,684	136	298	220	23	94%	253	550	393	64
First X Ewes	5,108	165	325	235	-52	39%	228	551	379	-93
Shedding Breed Ewes	267	271	276	273	-47	100%	437	473	455	-126
Composite/Other Breed Ewes	2,633	155	155	155	-81	4%	222	222	222	-127