

Weekly Sheep & Lamb Comments - Week ending Friday 18th Feb 2022

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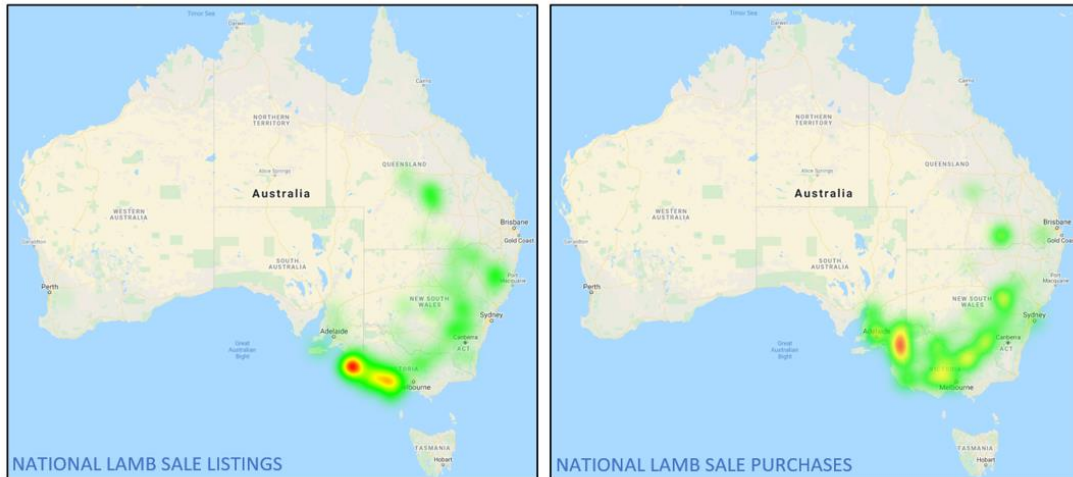
By AuctionsPlus

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AuctionsPlus commercial sheep and lamb numbers lifted by 24% this week, to 113,835 head.

The run of dry and warm conditions has continued to assist finishing programs, while clearance rates across categories remains mixed, as many buyers exercise price caution heading towards autumn.

New season lambs accounted for 58% of the offering this week, with 60,363 head offered. Four of the six lamb categories returned higher prices this week, while Merino ewe and wether lamb prices both experienced a softening. A total of 13,850 head of crossbred lambs were offered this week, with the category returning an 83% clearance rate. Prices ranged from \$120-182, to average \$161/head - up \$2 from last week.

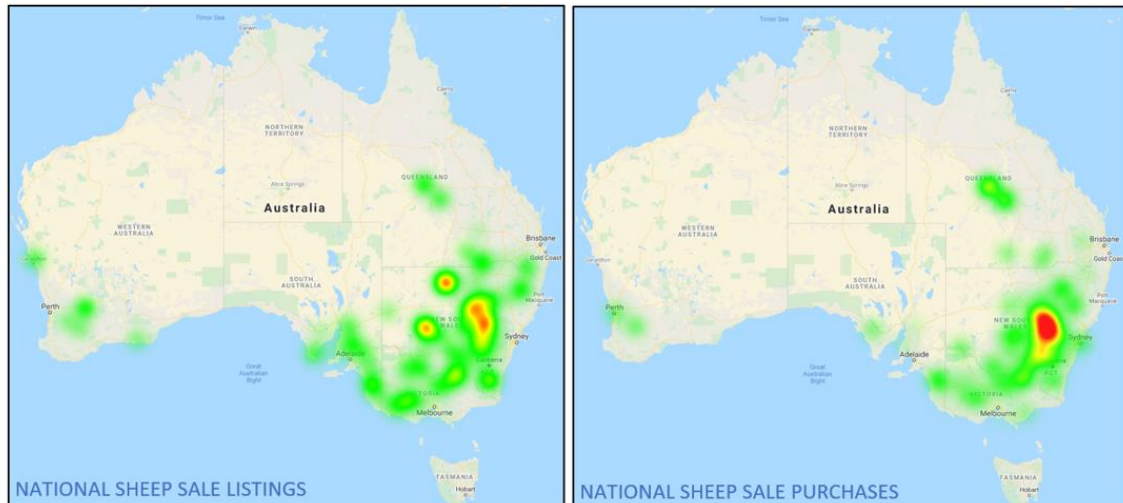


Merino wether lambs were the largest lamb category this week, accounting for 16% of total listings with 18,613 head offered. Clearance rates reached 74% - dipping slightly on last week, while prices also softened for the category, averaging \$132/head – back \$10 from last week. From Tambo, Queensland, two lines of Apr/May '21 drop Merino wether lambs, totaling 1,770 head and averaging 39kg, returned \$145/head.

Shedding breed lambs had a total offering of 8,146 head this week, which returned the highest clearance rate among the lamb categories, at 84%. Prices for the category averaged \$345/head – up \$71 from last week. A highlight included two even lines of Australian White ewe lambs from Gulargambone NSW, aged 8-9 months and weighing 48kg liveweight, which returned \$560/head.

Joined ewe listings accounted for 18% of the weekly supplies, with the 24,609 head offered receiving mixed results across the categories.

SIL first cross ewes had a total offering of 1,651 head this week, with the category returning a 43% clearance, as buyers took preference over younger and heavier lines of quality ewe offerings. Prices for the category averaged \$350/head this week – up \$83 from last week. A line of SIL Border Leicester/Merino ewes from Barnawartha Victoria, aged 3.5 years and weighing 62kg liveweight, sold \$150 over their reserve, finishing at \$405/head.

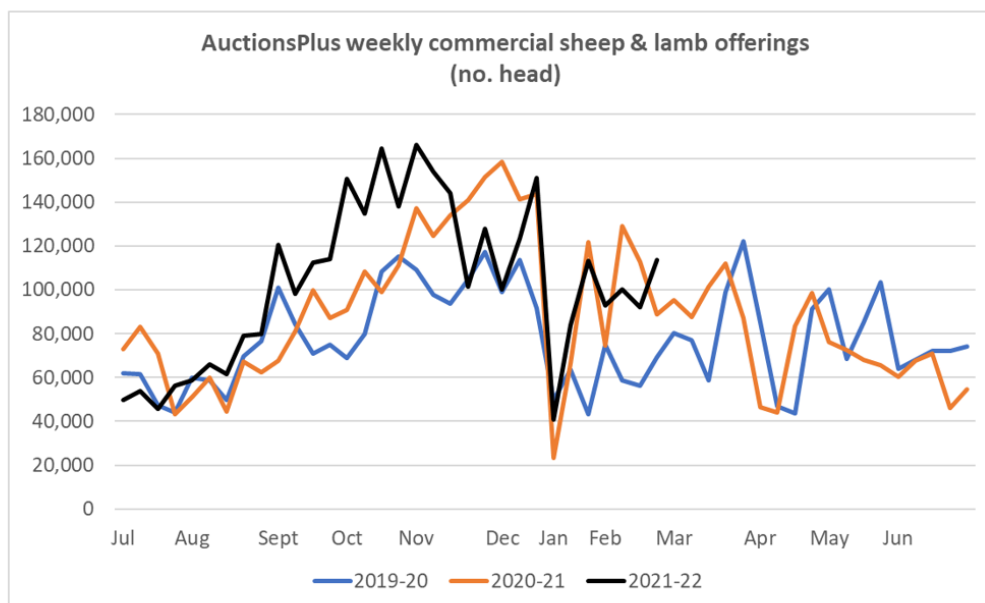


SIL Merino ewes accounted for 12% of the total offering this week, with 12,992 head offered which returned a 58% clearance. Prices ranged from \$155-\$373, to average \$277/head - up \$13 from last week. From Walla Walla, Riverina NSW, a line of 3-year-old SIL Poll Merino ewes weighing 67kg liveweight returned \$373/head.

The unjoined ewe categories had a total of 22,839 head listed this week, with four of the five categories seeing a reduction in price averages from last week.

NSM Merino hoggets had a total of 9,544 head offered online this week, which returned a clearance of 76%. Prices for the category averaged \$240/head – back \$12 from last week. A total of 2,000 1.5-year-old NSM Merino hoggets, weighing 55kg, with Kerin Poll bloodlines were offered from Bourke, NSW. Offered across five even lots, the ewes returned between \$388-390/head, to return the top price for the category and were all purchased by one buyer.

NOTE: Prices as at 5pm, Thursday 17th February 2022



Classification	Offered	Low	High	Average \$/head	Change	Clearance	Low	High	Average actual €/kg lwt	Change
Lambs										
Crossbreds	13,850	120	182	161	2	83%	360	526	419	-24
Merino Wethers	18,613	65	176	132	-10	74%	288	541	373	-18
First X Ewes	7,951	169	281	229	6	42%	397	609	514	19
Merino Ewes	2,494	100	251	163	-30	47%	382	725	528	-9
Shedding Breeds	8,146	137	560	345	71	84%	382	1,498	807	126
Composite/Other Breeds	9,309	103	641	229	69	78%	370	1,880	619	172
Sheep										
Merino Ewes & Lambs	680	185	240	213	-86	57%	366	436	401	18
Ewes & Lambs (Mixed)	420	354	354	354	88	57%	545	545	545	88
Merino Wethers	3,463	159	163	161	26	23%	330	377	353	71
Joined Ewes										
SIL Merino Ewes	12,992	155	373	277	13	58%	265	567	434	28
SM Merino Ewes	1,767	115	221	157	-86	78%	256	406	302	-125
SIL First X Ewes	1,651	320	405	350	83	43%	419	657	530	170
SM First X Ewes	478	183	220	202	-39	25%	284	384	334	16
SIL Shedding Breed Ewes	1,923	208	732	438	-33	100%	344	1,005	646	19
SM Shedding Breed Ewes	4,391	161	350	255	-68	63%	281	852	473	-167
SIL Composite/Other Breed Ewes	933	341	341	341	116	18%	412	412	412	119
SM Composite/Other Breed Ewes	474	215	215	215	2	24%	239	239	239	-151
Non Station Mated (NSM)										
Merino Ewe Hoggets	9,544	123	390	240	-12	76%	321	709	478	-5
Merino Ewes	9,907	98	270	182	-85	63%	227	475	328	-137
First X Ewes	1,964	165	220	198	-55	51%	248	384	297	-90
Shedding Breed Ewes	450	221	490	356	-101	64%	365	944	654	57
Composite/Other Breed Ewes	974	236	356	275	16	49%	288	522	370	-95