

Queensland

Warwick Sheep

Numbers reduced to 940 lambs and 210 grown sheep. It was a very mixed quality offering, with demand again coming from restockers purchasing both ewe and wether Dorper lambs to fatten. Restockers also strong in purchasing Dorper ewes, all the regular buyers attended to what was a mostly cheaper market, with the exception of isolated sales of trade lambs which saw firm trends.

Light lambs back to the paddock saw cheaper trends of \$10 to \$15/head, with quality a factor, some of those lambs registering one score. Trade lambs to the processor saw significant falls, while the store buyers pushed values up for lines of Dorper ewe lambs. Heavy lambs sold to cheaper trends of \$8/head. Extra heavy lambs also experienced cheaper trends, again an isolated sale of Dorper ewes sold to \$213/head. Hoggets registered cheaper trends.

Grown sheep saw a cheaper trend throughout, with a lack of quality and weight a factor.

New South Wales

Tamworth Sheep

There was a sharp increase in lamb supplies to 5,600 head. This being the annual show and sale. Sheep supply increased to 1,900. As to be expected the quality of the lambs on offer was very good with new season lambs showing a high percentage of the overall number. In all probability the heaviest lambs ever presented for sale at this venue were penned, estimated to weight between 50 and 55kg dressed. The usual buyers were in attendance.

Despite the increased supply of young lambs and also a greater number of weight classes, there was very little change in the market trend. Trends through the old lambs also showed little change, most of the change in price was related to weight variations. Once again there was high restocker demand for the ewe portion out of most pens with strong premiums over those to processors.

The majority of the sheep presented in forward to finished condition. The increased supply did little to excite buyers with the market trend slightly cheaper for the most part.

Dubbo Sheep

Following last weeks stronger markets numbers were up by 7,000. It was another very good quality yarding with good numbers of outstanding heavy weight lambs both crossbreds and Merinos. There were only fair numbers of trade lambs along with odd pens of new season lambs. Most of the usual buyers were in attendance and operating.

Trade lambs were firm to \$2 dearer with the old lambs selling from \$121 to \$163/head to average between 630c and 656c/kg cwt. Trade weight new season lambs were \$5 dearer selling from \$134 to \$169, to average between 670c and 730c/kg cwt. Heavy weight lambs were \$10 dearer with the 24 to 30kg lambs selling from \$156 to \$196, while the lambs over 30kg sold from \$198 to \$230/head, to average 630c/kg cwt. Heavy weight new season lambs sold from \$160 to \$182/head. Merino lambs finished firm to \$2 cheaper with the trade weights selling from \$119 to \$160 while the heavier weight Merinos over 24kg sold from \$148 to \$172/head. First cross ewe lambs sold to the restockers from \$230 to \$240 and hoggets sold to \$177/head.

It was a good quality yarding of mutton where most grades were firm to \$4/head cheaper. Merino ewes sold from \$110 to \$175 while crossbred ewes sold from \$119 to \$166/head. Merino wethers sold from \$128 to \$176/head. The bulk of the better sheep ranged from 460c to 540c/kg cwt. The restockers were active paying from \$200 to \$207 for first cross ewes and \$135/head for Merino ewes.

Corowa Sheep

Agents penned reduced numbers with new season lambs dominating the yarding this week. The quality was very good across the lamb yarding with additional new season light lambs on offer. A number of regular buyers were absent due to being turned around at the NSW and VIC border, with Covid-19 restrictions making it impossible for some to cross. Lack of competition across most lines resulted in prices softening across most of the market.

Trade weight new season lambs were well presented. Light and medium weights were in good supply making from \$130 to \$156/head. A limited number of domestic processors operated on the heavy trade lambs 22 to 24kg selling between \$155 and \$164/head, averaging 667c/kg cwt. Heavy lambs made from \$162 and \$168/head. Heavy export type lambs were in better supply, lambs 26 to 30kg sold from \$166 and \$178, while over 30kg lambs reached \$184/head.

Despite limited competition old lambs sold in a generally firm market. Lambs weighing 22 to 26kg made from \$137 to \$160/head. Over 30kg lambs sold up to \$190/head, or 564c/kg cwt. Merino lambs were firm selling to \$178/head.

Mutton numbers were small and competition was low. Generally mutton was \$5 to \$10 cheaper across all categories. Heavy cross bred ewes made up to \$166 and heavy merinos reached \$165/head. Medium sheep sold between \$138 and \$145/head.

Yass Sheep

Lamb numbers continue to rise and there were 4,500 new season lambs penned. Trade and heavy lambs were best supplied but there were more lighter trades and a few light store lambs penned. There was a small run of good trade Merinos. The market sold to a mostly dearer trend.

Medium and heavy trades were \$3 to \$6 dearer and sold from \$145 to \$159/head, averaging 705c to 740c/kg. Lambs 22kg to 24kg made from \$155 to \$165 or 680c/kg on average. Heavy lambs ranged from \$156 to \$174/head to average 630c/kg. Extra heavy new season lambs were firm \$163 to \$201/head.

Old lambs followed a similar trend with trade weights \$134 to \$157 and heavy old lambs \$156 to \$174/head, averaging 660c/kg. Extra heavy weights reached at top of \$218/head. Merino lambs to 26kg sold from \$139 to \$152/head.

Mutton numbers lifted and there were plenty of heavy and extra heavy sheep penned. Merino wethers were better supplied along with crossbred ewes. Prices were firm on the light and medium weights and heavy sheep were back up to \$20/head. Medium weight ewes sold from \$108 to \$135/head. Heavy crossbreds \$144 to \$170 and Merinos reached \$167/head. Medium weight wethers \$108 to \$135 and heavy weights reached \$167/head.

Victoria

Ballarat Sheep

Lamb supply was up this week to 6,890, the quality was plain to very good, not all the usual buying group attended but more competition from export and domestic buyers seen price increase from \$10 to \$15/head, which reflected in the weight and quality offered across the yarding. Heavy old lambs sold to a top of \$226, a few more suckers yarded to sell to \$182/head.

Sheep Livestock Market Report

10 September 2020



Suckers sold back to the paddock from \$58 to \$160/head. Suckers to the trade 18 to 22kg sold from \$138 to \$168, while 22 to 24kg sold from \$166 to \$179, the 24kg and over sold to \$182/head, to average 725c/kg cwt. Old lambs back to the paddock, sold to \$95/head. Trade lambs 18 to 22kg, sold from \$125 to \$152/head. Lambs 22 to 24kg, sold from \$144 to \$168, lambs 24 to 26kg, sold from \$161 to \$181, most lambs made from 613c to 725c, to average 680c/kg cwt. Export score 4 lambs, 26 to 30kg sold from \$172 to \$195 and lambs 30kg and over sold from \$192 to \$226/head. Merino lambs 16kg and over, sold from \$86 to \$157 and Merino Lambs back to the paddock sold from \$76 to \$96/head.

Sheep numbers also increased to 7,390 yarded the quality was plain to excellent, with a lot more weight offered this week, not all buyers were active, up to \$15/head back on last week's levels. Heavy Merino ewes 18kg and over sold from \$99 to \$183/head, to average around 530c/kg cwt. Heavy crossbred ewes sold from \$128 to \$180/head, to average 505c/kg cwt. Heavy Merino wethers sold from \$128 to \$195/head, to average 535c/kg cwt. Rams sold to \$110 for Merino's and \$50/head for crossbred's.

Western Australia

Muchea Sheep

Muchea sheep and lamb sale penned 5,990 head, with an overall reduced quality yarding. The reduction in quality generally eased the market by \$5 to \$10/head across most types. Today's market toppers were heavy lambs selling to \$160, hoggets made to \$165, wethers topped at \$160 and heavy ewes sold to \$158/head.

In the lamb section, the best new seasons sold from \$129 to \$150, or 630c/kg cwt, down \$15/head. In the old season lamb section, that contained the majority of today's overall penning, the light 13 to 17kg, made from \$78 to \$117 down \$5, lambs 18 to 20kg to processors sold from \$110 to \$124 firm. The very few trade weight 22kg lambs made from \$120 to \$146 down \$5/head, to make 600c/kg cwt. Heavier lambs sold from \$145 to \$160 and were the best on offer today, selling nearer 620c/kg cwt, but were down \$20/head. Store light weight Merino lambs, to graziers and restockers remained firm with ewes selling from \$60 to \$111 and wethers made from \$78 to \$124/head.

Best heavy hoggets to the trade made from \$120 to \$165, down \$10/head at near 500c/kg cwt. The few best heavy older wethers sold from \$150 to \$160, down \$10/head. In the ewe mutton market, light weight boners up to 18kg sold from \$55 to \$83, down \$10, medium weight boners 19 to 24kg made from \$87 to \$120/head firm at near 470c/kg cwt. The 25 to 30kg trade weights sold from \$125 to \$150, back \$5 to make 480c/kg cwt, with the much reduced yarding of heavier ewes made from \$154 to \$158, up \$8/head, to make 430c/kg cwt.

National Sheep Prices

Price Stock Category	Weekly Avg.	Change	High	Low	Clearance	Avg Weight (Kgs)
Merino Wether Lambs	\$124	+\$6	\$139	\$91	97%	38
Merino Wethers	\$131	+\$1	\$134	\$121	62%	50
Merino Ewe Lambs	\$223	+\$43	\$267	\$136	62%	43
NSM Merino Ewe Hoggets	\$223	-\$22	\$301	\$156	65%	50
NSM Merino Ewes	\$182	-\$7	\$260	\$104	88%	60
Border Leicester/Merino Ewe Lambs	\$266	-\$24	\$325	\$202	60%	42
NSM Border Leicester/Merino Ewe Hoggets	\$316	-	\$346	\$270	100%	60
Ewes with Lambs at Foot	\$305	-\$4	\$371	\$253	73%	64
Crossbred Lambs (c/kg)	387	-6	483	308	89%	36
Multi-Purpose Lambs (c/kg)	334	-	362	300	84%	41

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