



Livestock Market Report

Wagga Wagga Prime Cattle

Yarded 2015 down 1185 head.

Decent rains across the supply area contributed to a big decrease in supply. Rain has put weaner cattle prices back on track, and while the weather will dictate the market, restockers were inspired, lifting secondary weaner heifer prices significantly over light weight categories. Quality once again was mainly plain, with the bulk of the cattle under 500kg. Trade cattle were in short supply, although there were a few excellent pens of supplementary fed steers and heifers, along with some young cattle finished off crops weighing under 400kg. Feedlot buyers were present and operating over all categories. Heavy steer and bullock numbers traditionally contract mid-winter, with only a few pens offered. Cow numbers declined notably, which strengthened prices significantly.

Prices were up for domestic processor cattle, amid reports processors are experiencing difficulty sourcing well finished stock. The good quality selection of vealers resulted in bidding pushing prices over 340c to average 339c/kg. Trade steers sold to solid demand for the limited number to average 321c/kg. Trade heifers benefited from the excellent supplementary fed portion, resulting in a dearer trend of 26c, the bulk making from 276c to 350c/kg. There were only limited lines of well-bred light weight weaner steers which resulted in restockers, commission buyers and agents buying with caution. Weaner steer weighing 200-280kg sold 6c to 13c cheaper, making from 240c to 320c/kg. The lighter weight heifer sold 29c dearer to average 238c/kg. The usual buying group operated in the feeder steer market. The bulk of the medium steers were unchanged, averaging 310c/kg. There was significantly stronger demand for feed steers weighing 330-400kg. The well-bred portion lifted 8c, making from 282c to 328c/kg. Light weight feed heifers attracted a large field of buyers who were all eager for a market share. Prices were pushed 9c higher to average 288c/kg.

Grown steers were in short supply. The C3 steers sold from 270c to 328c/kg. The cow market increased sharply driven by a shortage of stock. Heavy cows gained 12c to average 242c/kg. The D2 and D3 cows sold to spirited bidding from the commencement of the sale, making from 167c to 254c/kg.

Gunnedah Prime Cattle

Yarded 2100 up 415 head

There was an increase in supply, with some EOFY holdover. There was a good supply of high quality heavy weight cows, while young cattle were plentiful. Limited supplies of well finished grown steers and heifers. Overall, the quality and condition of the offering was very mixed. The cattle were drawn from a large area, some with access to supplementary feed, while others came from very dry areas. The usual buyers attended, along with extra processor and feedlot competition.

Demand varied through the young cattle. Restockers were keen to purchase light weight steers, with the vealer portion selling to a dearer trend, up to 17c/kg. Heifer vealers attracted less demand and sold to a cheaper trend of 20c/kg, more in places where quality was also a factor. Well finished trade vealers remained close to firm. There were large numbers of light weight yearling steers penned. These attracted strong demand and sold to a dearer trend of as much as 20c/kg. Medium weight yearling steers to feed sold on a firm to dearer market trend. There was little change on the better quality and specialist breeds, with the improvement coming in the next tier down. Heavy feeders were cheaper, with most of the price change related to breed. Medium weight yearling heifers to feed sold to slightly dearer market trends.

There was a small number of well finished heavy grown steers, attracting strong processor competition. The well finished grown heifers remained firm. There were dearer trends through the cow market, with strong gains for the medium weight 1 and 2 scores. The best of the heavy weight cows were 5c dearer, while the D muscle cows were as much as 17c/kg dearer under increased competition. Heavy bulls remained firm.

Dubbo Sheep & Lambs Lambs 19500 up 50 Mutton 12340 up 740.

It was a mixed yarding, with some good heavy weight lambs yarded, along with a reasonable selection of trade weights. Although, the heavy weights were not to the standard of previous sales. There was a much larger percentage of light weight lambs mixed throughout. All the regular buyers were operating, including the return of a major supermarket buyer.

Light weight lambs to the processors were \$7 dearer, with the 12-18kg 2 scores making from \$105 to \$156/head. Trade lambs were \$9 to \$12 dearer, with the 18-24kg lambs making from \$160 to \$239/head to average from 870c to 960c/kg cwt. Heavy weight lambs were \$9 to \$13 dearer, with the over 24kg lambs receiving from \$230 to \$324/head to average approximately 955c/kg cwt. Merino lambs were \$8 dearer, with the trade weights making from \$140 to \$199, while a pen of heavy weight Merinos sold for \$218/head. Lambs to the restockers were also dearer, with young first cross ewes receiving from \$120 to \$147/head. Hoggets sold to \$225/head.

There were some outstanding sheep yarded in a good quality penning of mutton where the light weight sheep were \$5 dearer, while the medium and heavy weights were firm to \$7/head dearer. 2 score ewes sold from \$55 to \$120, while the better 3 and 4 scores made from \$108 to \$235 for crossbreds and \$223/head for Merinos. Merino wethers sold to \$205/head. Carcase prices for the better sheep received from 570c to 640c/kg cwt.

Heavy lamb	\$230 - \$324	+9 - 13
Trade lamb	\$160 - \$239	+9 - 12
Light lamb	\$105 - \$156	+7
Merino lamb	\$140 - \$199	+8
Mutton		
Light Mutton	\$ 55 - \$120	+5
Heavy Mutton	\$108 - \$235	+7

Wagga Wagga Sheep & Lambs

Lambs 35900 -2100 Sheep 8430 -3570

Lamb numbers declined moderately. The sell off continues, with farmers taking advantage of the high returns given for trade and heavy lambs. Quality was outstanding with most lambs crop finished or supplementary fed. Trade buying activity ramped up with major domestic processors dominating sales for all well finished types. Heavy and extra heavy lambs numbers lifted and so did the weight. There were reduced supplies of lighter weight lambs with a fair percentage selling to processors. Restocker and feedlot buying activity was erratic with buyers cautious over teeth issues.

The limited availability of quality domestic lambs at other selling centres gave the trade market a boost. Processors stepped up bidding strongly to acquire trade lambs 22kg to 24kg cwt which helped lift prices \$2 to \$8/head. Heavy trade 22kg to 24kg made up the bulk of the offering making \$220 to \$250/head to average 986c/kg cwt. Merino trade lambs sold to a larger group of buyers and all categories sold to stronger competition recording a top price of \$252/head to average 904c/kg cwt. Light lambs to the processors sold to strong southern competition making from \$136 to \$168/head.

There was a full field of export buyers along with some domestic processor competition on lambs weighing 25kg to 26kg cwt. Generally heavy lambs 24kg to 26kg sold \$3 dearer making \$246 to \$265/head. Extra heavy lambs eased a few dollars ranging from \$255 to \$350/head, with the bulk averaging 974c/kg cwt.

It was another good quality yarding of mutton with medium and heavy sheep well supplied. Heavy crossbred ewes sold up to \$232/head, averaging 606c/kg cwt. Heavy wethers were in limited numbers recording a top price of \$198/head to average 637c/kg cwt. Trade sheep were keenly sought by all processors selling at \$105 to \$168/head, averaging 588c to 660c/kg cwt.

Heavy Lamb	\$246- \$265	+3
Trade Lamb		+2 - 8
Light Lamb	\$136 - \$138	
Heavy XBred Ewes	sold to \$232	
Merino wethers made	\$198	
Trade sheep ranged from	\$105 - \$168	

Auctions Plus Sheep & Lambs

M/W/L	\$ 90 - \$142	Firm
M/E/L	\$ 92 - \$160	
Xbred Lambs	\$120 - \$170	Firm

Merino ewes

NSM Ewes	\$130 - \$221
SIL Ewes	\$105 - \$ 249
1 st X Ewes Lmbs	\$131 - \$242
1 st X Ewe SIL	\$183 - \$300

Livestock Wanted

Lines of Merino wethers with teeth up and a start in the skin, up to 2000

Livestock for Sale

2 decks M/W/L to be assessed Thursday for A+

Up to 2000 merino ewes scanned in lamb and scanned not detectable, varies ages, mid next week.

Details:

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