



## **Livestock Market Report**

### **Roma Store Cattle**

Yarded 6282 down 1865 head

Cattle numbers eased by 1,865 head to 6,282 at the Roma Store Sale. Cattle were drawn from a wide supply area, and steers continued to dominate the yarding. There was a notable absence of large single vendor lines. A good panel of buyers was present and operating with the continued presence of interstate operators. The overall quality of the yarding was more varied than past weeks as the dry season continues.

Feedlot and restocker competition remained firm for quality lines but prices fell for the lesser quality lines. Light weight yearling steers under 280kg eased from 4c to 16c/kg. Light weight yearling steers under 330kg were from 7c to 32c/kg cheaper. Medium weight yearling steers under 400kg eased from 6c to 21c/kg. Heavy weight yearling steers over 400kg were from 5c to 23c/kg cheaper. The largest sample of light weight yearling heifers under 280kg improved by 1c, while medium weight yearling heifers under 330kg eased from 10c to 20c/kg. The majority of heavy weight yearling heifers eased from 7c to 49c, with the medium weight 2 score cows increased by 3c while the medium weight 3 scores eased 16c/kg. Heavy weight 3 score cows eased by 16c, with the heavy weight 4 score cows selling for 19c/kg cheaper.

Light weight yearling steers under 280kg to restockers made to 318c, averaging 294c, while the light weight yearling steers under 330kg to restockers sold to 309c, to average 292c/kg. Medium weight yearling steers under 400kg to feeders sold to 304c, averaging 285c, while the heavy weight yearling steers over 400kg to feed made to 326c, to average 303c/kg. Light weight yearling heifers under 280kg to restockers sold to a top of 268c, averaging 235c, with the largest sample of medium weight yearling heifers under 330kg to restockers selling to 256c, to average 246c/kg. Medium weight yearling heifers under 400kg to feed sold to 270c, averaging 252c/kg.

The largest sample of grown steers made to 278c, to average 254c, while a fair sample of grown heifers made to 239c, averaging 222c/kg. Medium weight 2 score cows sold to 203c, to average 184c, while the medium weight 3 score cows made to 219c, averaging 209c/kg. Heavy weight 3 score cows made to 232c, to average 214c, while the limited numbers of heavy weight 4 score cows sold to 225c to average 220c/kg. The best of the medium weight bulls made to a top of 272c, to average 259c/kg.

### **Gunnedah Prime Cattle**

Yarded 2890 up 580 head

There was an increase in the overall numbers with large supplies of cows and yearlings. All other categories were represented but to a lesser extent. The quality of the offering was generally good, while the condition varied dependant of feed type. There was strong evidence of both crop and supplementary finishing, while the plain condition cattle mostly came off grass paddocks. The usual buyers were in attendance and there was a new southern order operating on cows to both feed and process.

The limited supply of vealers sold on a firm to cheaper market trend to restockers, while odd sales to the trade were dearer. There were varying trends through the yearling steers to restock and feed, light weights to restock mostly cheaper, however there were isolated breed related dearer sales. Medium weight feeder steers sold to a dearer trend, up to 11c/kg in places. The heavy weight feeder steers sold to a cheaper trend, down 9c/kg with both breed and quality contributing.

Yearling heifers to restock and feed also met with varying trends, light weights to restockers were firm to cheaper. The better quality and more forward condition medium weight heifers sold to a dearer trend of 5c/kg on average. The secondary quality and lessor sought after breeds of heifer struggled at times to attract much competition.

Demand was weaker for well finished heavy steers and heifers with the market trend cheaper, and significantly so. The cow market showed some variation. The plainest condition light weights attracted strong local restocker competition to be dearer. There were odd dearer sales in the medium weight cows, reserved for the higher yielding lots. The balance were up to 8c/kg cheaper. Despite the extra competition the well finished cows sold to a cheaper trend of 8c/kg and more in places. Heavy bulls sold to a dearer trend with an improvement in quality.

**Dubbo Sheep & Lambs**      Lambs 14180 down 5620 Mutton 8280 down 2420.

Following the previous sales cheaper market numbers were back by 8,000 head. It was a plainer quality yarding with a limited selection of both trade and heavy weight lambs throughout. There were only a few pens of well finished new season lambs yarded. A large percentage of the yarding consisted of light weight lambs lacking finish.

Light weight lambs to the processors were around firm with the 12-18kg 2 scores selling from \$95 to \$160/head. Trade lambs were firm to \$5 cheaper with the 18-24kg lambs selling from \$143 to \$223/head to average between 820c and 885c/kg cwt. Trade weight new season lambs sold from \$161 to \$224/head. Heavy weight lambs were \$10/head cheaper. The over 24kg 4 score lambs sold from \$195 to \$290/head. Merino lambs were \$6 dearer with the trade weights selling from \$142 to \$195, while heavy weight Merinos sold to \$255/head. Lambs to the restockers and feeders were firm, with the restockers paying from \$72 to \$149, while the feeders paid from \$148 to \$170/head. Hoggets sold to 219/head.

There were some top sheep yarded along with plenty of plainer types in a mixed yarding of mutton where most grades were \$2 to \$5/head dearer. 2 score ewes sold from \$68 to \$130 while the better 3 and 4 scores sold from \$116 to \$203 for crossbreds and \$195/head for Merinos. Merino wethers sold to \$185/head. Carcase prices for the better covered sheep ranged from 560c to 610c/kg cwt. The southern restockers were active, paying from \$52 to \$129 for ewes and \$56 to \$117/head for Merino wethers.

Heavy lamb	\$195 - \$290	- 10
Trade lamb	\$143 - \$223	- 5
Light lamb	\$ 95 - \$160	Firm
Merino lamb	\$142 - \$195	+6
Restockers	\$ 72 - \$149	
Feeders	\$148 - \$170	

Mutton \$2 - \$5 dearer	
2 score ewes	\$ 68 - \$130
3 & 4 score ewes	\$116 - \$203

## **Wagga Wagga Sheep & Lambs**

Lambs 33000 up 9000 Sheep 11000 firm

Numbers improved as producers rushed to offload old lambs, with prices easing at other selling centres. The market for trade lambs strengthened as the market progressed for shorn old lambs, with plenty of long bidding rallies for the correct article. There were 3,000 new season lambs offered and all sold to stronger competition. Restocker activity was almost non-existent, as producers wait for new season lambs to hit the market. There were just over 11,000 Merino lambs penned and prices were quite variable. The usual field of buyers were at the rail however, not all were operating, or buying to capacity.

Competition for trade lambs strengthened over all weight categories. Processors paid premium prices for shorter skinned old lambs increasing notably at times throughout the sale. Heavy trade 22-24kg lambs sold \$5 dearer, making from \$195 to \$237/head, to average 931c/kg cwt. New season lambs quality was outstanding and price increases were recorded for all categories. The trade lambs portion gained \$10, while the heavy portion regained last week's losses, improving \$17/head to average 874c/kg cwt. Merino trade lambs sold to a large group of buyers and most classes sold to dearer trends. Merino trade lambs sold from \$150 to \$224, while light lambs suitable for export made from \$102 to \$160/head.

Despite less buying competition heavy lambs 24-26kg were \$6 dearer, selling from \$215 to \$246/head. Buyers were more cautious when competing for the extra heavy lambs. Lambs 26-30kg cwt sold unchanged to a few dollars dearer, averaging 902c/kg cwt. Lambs weighing over 30kg cwt averaged \$6 cheaper, selling from \$278 to \$307/head.

It was a similar sized yarding of mostly medium and heavy weight sheep. Heavy Merino ewes sold firm to \$4/head cheaper averaging 576c/kg cwt. Wethers were in reduced numbers, averaging from 570c to 613c/kg cwt. Trade sheep prices were mostly unchanged, selling from \$120 to \$148/head, to average 576c/kg cwt.

Xtra Heavy Lamb	\$278 - \$307	- \$6
Heavy Lamb	\$215 - \$246	+ \$6
Trade Lamb	\$195 - \$237	+ \$5
Light Lamb	\$109 - \$168	
Merino ewes	\$113 - \$220	
Merino wethers	\$116 - \$249	
Trade sheep	\$120 - \$148	

## **Auctions Plus Sheep & Lambs**

M/W/L	\$100 - \$148	Ave \$131
M/E/L	\$130 - \$276	Ave \$182
Xbred Lambs	405c - 552c	Ave 475c
Merino ewes		
NSM Ewes	\$113 - \$203	Ave \$162
SIL Ewes	\$133 - \$227	Ave \$198
1 <sup>st</sup> X Ewes SIL	\$182 - \$297	Ave \$246 (NSW)
1 <sup>st</sup> X Ewes Lmbs	\$169 - \$266	Ave \$211

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