

Cattle Livestock Market Report

31 July 2020



Queensland

Warwick Cattle

The wet and cold weather across the supply area in recent days reduced the number of stock down by 263 head to 365 at Warwick. Export buyer attendance was good with the return of all major processors, however not all were operating. The usual feed and trade buyers were present and active plus a few restocker buyers. Overall quality was generally good with the first of the season crop fed bullocks penned. Young cattle to restockers or feed and the trade sold a firm demand for the quality penned. Cows experienced a mixed trend with plain condition lines a few cents dearer pushed on by stronger support from restockers and processors. However good heavy cows to processors sold to a market 4c/kg cheaper.

Light weight yearling steers to restockers made to 434.2c to average 421c/kg. Medium weight yearling steers to feed made to 417.2c to average 396c/kg. Yearling heifers to feed for the domestic market averaged from 365c to 383c and made to 398c/kg. Medium weight yearling heifers to the trade averaged 389c and made to 410c/kg.

Heavy grown steers to export processors averaged 344c, and the bullock portion averaged 345c, with some to the wholesale meat trade reaching 359.2c/kg. Medium weight plain condition cows returning to the paddock averaged 261c, while most to processors averaged 257c/kg. Good heavy cows to processors made to 283.2c to average 279c/kg. Heavy bulls made to 308.2c/kg.

New South Wales

Tamworth Cattle

Weekend rainfalls reduced the offering by half. All categories were represented with quality and condition mostly good. There was a reduced field of processors in attendance. Restocker activity remained high.

Demand for young cattle was strong from both restockers and feedlotter with trends dearer for yearlings. The majority of the lighter weights transitioning from vealer status. This accounted for some very large price change. The quality also showing improvement. Medium and heavy weight feeder steers sold to dearer trends, by up to 11c/kg. The dearer trends carried into the light weight yearling heifers to restockers. The medium weights saw little but quality related price change. Well finished yearlings to the trade saw trends mostly cheaper. Odd heifer sales to local butcher shops showed some improvement.

Well finished grown cattle sold to cheaper trends, affected by the reduced competition. This carried into the cow market with only the best maintaining firm prices.

Dubbo Cattle

It was a good quality yarding with good numbers of prime conditioned cattle in all sections. There were large numbers of cows yarded but there were not the numbers of ideal feeder steers compared to the previous sale. Some export processors were not operating, and a major supermarket operator was absent.

Young cattle to the trade were around firm with the prime vealers selling to 425c/kg. Prime steer yearlings sold from 346c to 394c while the prime heifer yearlings sold from 340c to 419c/kg. Feeder steers were up to 20c cheaper on quality, though the feeder heifers were 10c/kg dearer. The feeder steers sold from 355c to 403c while the feeder heifers sold from 350c to 398c/kg. Limited numbers of young restocker cattle continue to sell well with the steers selling to 438c and the heifers sold to 410c/kg.

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Grown steers and heifers were up to 10c cheaper with the prime grown steers selling from 312c to 385c while the grown heifers sold from 300c to 376c/kg. Secondary cows were up to 10c dearer while the prime heavy weight cows were 5c/kg dearer. 2 and 3 score cows sold from 259c to 292c, while the prime heavy weight cows sold from 280c to 310c to average 297c/kg. Heavy bulls sold to 320c/kg.

Victoria

Pakenham Cattle

There were approximately 500 export and 250 young cattle penned representing a decrease of 150 head week-on-week. The usual buying group was present but not all operating in a generally firm market. Quality was very mixed with some good grain finished lots and fewer vealers. Quality vealers gained a few cents. Yearling trade cattle sold to mixed demand with the steer portion easing a little and the heifers improving. Grown steers and bullocks sold firm. Cows sold firm to 5c/kg dearer. Heavy bulls lifted slightly.

Vealers sold from 364c to 440c/kg. Yearling trade steers made from 380c to 430c/kg. Yearling heifers to the trade sold from 360c to 410c/kg.

Grown steers made from 350c to 385c/kg. Bullocks sold from 347c to 382c/kg. Most light and medium weight cows made from 205c to 295c/kg. Heavy weight cows sold mostly between 238c and 319c after a top of 333c/kg. Heavy bulls made from 274c to 303c/kg.

Wodonga Cattle

Numbers increased slightly. Not all the usual winter buyers were present, and not all operated fully. Quality was quite good with only limited leaner types offered.

The better finished beef cows sold to strong demand gaining 5c to 10c to average 297c/kg. Competition lifted for the D2 and D3 medium weight types resulting in a dearer trend of 22c/kg. Prices ranged from 267c to 298c/kg.

A fair to good quality selection of bulls sold to a smaller group of processors. The better shapes selling from 260c to 304c/kg.