

## AuctionsPlus Market Comment week ending 1 Mar 2013

Cattle numbers recovered this week, up almost 2,000 to 5,349 head, while sheep and lamb numbers dropped slightly to total 40,845 head. We expect a tightening of numbers over the next couple of weeks, with desperately needed rainfall across central and southern NSW this week, which gave a solid price boost late in the week. There was a marked difference between Tuesday's and Thursday's sheep sales, with several lots of wether lambs well exceeding their reserves on Thursday.

Merino ewe prices firmed on last week. Young unjoined ewes in NSW ranged from \$45 to a top price of \$88 for Merryville blood ewes at Cowra; and joined Concordia blood two year olds out of Wagga sold for \$91. Aged ewes also attracted interest, with most lots selling for over \$50. In Tasmania, young merino ewes made to \$70.50. The Kelso Merino On-Farm Production sale saw 18 month old ewes sell to \$94, with online bidders purchasing the entire run of this drop.

With mutton prices on the way up, processors were focussed more on older sheep than lambs this week, and were most active on mutton approaching export weights. A few heavy wethers came out of the woodwork, and sold for 238c/kg – 244c/kg carcass weight including skin value, with around an inch and a half on their backs. Restocker Merino wethers and lamb prices were steady on last week, with lambs selling from \$36 to \$45, and hoggets \$40 - \$48.

Store lamb prices continued to climb this week, and even with less processor competition some excellent prices were achieved. In southern QLD, 47kg Coolalee cross Aug/Sep drop lambs sold for \$82; and at Boorowa, 6 month old first cross lambs weighing 29kg made \$65.50, and in SA, 42kg 9 month old first crosses sold for \$80.50.

Cattle offered out of the south today also felt the benefits of some moisture; in particular steers, of which more and more are creeping above the 200c/kg mark. Starting in the north, Brahman cross steers at Julia Creek weighing 282kg made 185c, and at Ilfracombe 328kg crossbred steers sold for 186c. In NW NSW Te Mania blood Angus weaners weighing 310kg made 218c, and in the Central West black weaner steers sold from 222c-234c, and 379kg yearling Santa steers made 194c. In Victoria, a large offering of Angus and Angus cross weaners averaged 189c for the heavier steers weighing over 350kg, with the lighter end a little under 300kg making 195c-215c.

Females continued to sell solidly this week, with cows and calves making to \$1130 for Angus cows with Limousin cross calves at foot. In QLD, older Composite cows at Jericho with Charolais cross calves made \$765. Joined females topped at \$1010 for six and seven year old Angus cows at Coonamble in calf to Angus, and at Cumnock Yamburgan blood Shorthorn cows in calf to Shorthorn and Charolais sold for \$800.

In feature sales today, the Online Seedstock saw top prices of \$15,500 for bulls and \$2,500 for females. The Limousin Muscle Alliance sale topped at \$20,000 for a cow and calf unit, bulls made to \$5,200, and genetics packages sold to \$1,500.

Cattle		
State	Town	Details

QLD	Julia Creek	136 BrahX Strs, 7-14 mths, 282kg, 185c/\$520; 136 Brah Strs, 7-14 mths, 257kg, 167c/\$430
QLD	Richmond	186 Braf & DM Strs, 8-15 mths, 285kg, 172c/\$490
QLD	Ilfracombe	64 BrahX Strs, 10-14 mths, 328kg, 186c/\$610; 170 CharX Hfrs, 10-14 mths, 311kg, 174c/\$540; 150 CharX Strs, 10-14 mths, 336kg, passed 193c/\$650
QLD	Barcaldine	160 Brah & BrahX Strs, 12-16 mths, 230kg, 154c/\$354
QLD	Jericho	49 Comp C&C, 9-12 yrs, 451kg, 49 Char CAF avg 130kg, \$765
QLD	Bungunya	19 AngX C&C, 3-8 yrs, 441kg, Jnd SH, 19 SH CAF avg 156kg, passed \$830
NSW	Walcha	52 SHX C&C, 2-7 yrs, 391kg, Jnd Ang, 52 Ang CAF avg 104kg, passed \$640
NSW	Yetman	38 CharX Hfrs, 13-15 mths, 331kg, Unjnd, 183c/\$605
NSW	Carinda	29 Ang/Char Hfrs, 17-19 mths, 397kg, PTIC Ang, \$750; 101 Ang Strs, 9-10 mths, 310 kg, Te Mania bld, 218c/\$676; 103 Ang Hfrs, 9-10 mths, 294kg, Te Mania bld, 210c/\$619
NSW	Coonamble	40 Ang Cows, 7 yrs, 600kg, PTIC Ang, \$985; 69 Ang Cows, 6 yrs, 632kg, PTIC Ang, \$1010
NSW	Bourke	57 AngX Hfrs, 15-18 mths, 396kg, Unjnd, 189c/\$750
NSW	Warren	113 DM & Brang C&C, 3-6 yrs, 488kg, Jnd Ang, 113 Ang CAF, \$975
NSW	Mendooran	60 Ang Hfrs, 17-19 mths, 418kg, Unjnd, passed 164c/\$690
NSW	Coolah	27 Ang/Her C&C, 4-10 yrs, 409kg, PTIC Ang, 27 CAF, \$915
NSW	Tullamore	56 Her & Ang/Her Hfrs, 5-7 mths, 207kg, 196c/\$405; 40 Her & Ang/Her Strs, 5-7 mths, 207kg, 239c/\$495
NSW	Yeoval	55 Santa Strs, 15-18 mths, 379kg, 194c/\$735
NSW	Cumnock	13 SH Hfrs, 28-31 mths, 437kg, PTIC SH & Charb, \$755; 19 SH Cows, 8-10 yrs, 569kg, PTIC SH & Char, Yamburgan bld, \$800
NSW	Bathurst	57 Ang & AngX Strs, 6-8 mths, 218kg, 222c/\$485; 20 Ang & AngX C&C, 5-7 yrs, 585kg, Jnd Lim, 20 Lim CAF avg 195kg, \$1130
NSW	Blayney	31 Ang strs, 7-8 mths, 287kg, 225c/\$645; 35 Ang Strs, 7-8 mths, 239 kg, 234c/\$560; 38 Ang Strs, 7-8 mths, 234kg, 231c/\$540; 27 Ang Hfrs, 7-8 mths, 227kg, 205c/\$465; 40 Ang Hfrs, 7-8 mths, 284kg, 203c/\$575; 25 Ang Hfrs, 7-8 mths, 231kg, 201c/\$465
NSW	Cowra	54 SH Hfrs, 15-18 mths, 291kg, Unjnd, Yamburgan bld, 173c/\$505
NSW	Harden	47 Ang Cows, 8 yrs, 694kg, PTIC Ang, Hazeldean bld, \$875
NSW	Cootamundra	51 Ang & AngX Strs, 6-7 mths, 262kg, Bongongo bld, 233c/\$610
NSW	Coolac	22 Ang Hfrs, 18-24 mths, 357kg, PTIC Ang, Bongongo bld, \$775
NSW	Crookwell	51 Santa & SantaX C&C, 5-8 yrs, 466kg, Jnd, 51 Char & Ang CAF, \$800

NSW	Braidwood	46 Ang Hfrs, 16-18 mths, 420kg, PTIC Ang, \$755
NSW	Yass	30 Ang Hfs, 8-11 mths, 281kg, 182c/\$510; 48 Ang Strs, 8-11 mths, 298kg, 207c/\$615
NSW	Mortlake	69 Ang Strs, 10-11 mths, 377kg, 191c/\$720; 64 Ang Strs, 10-11 mths, 330kg, 196c/\$647; 52 Ang Strs, 10-11 mths, 296kg, 215c/\$635; 37 AngX Strs, 10-11 mths, 375kg, 183c/\$685; 43 AngX Strs, 10-11 mths, 331kg, 201c/\$665; 13 AngX Strs, 10-11 mths, 293kg, 195c/\$570; 19 Ang & AngX Strs, 10-11 mths, 268kg, 196c/\$525; 66 Ang Strs, 10-11 mth, 375kg, 193c/\$725; 90 Ang Strs, 10-11 mths, 336kg, 197c/\$660; 50 Ang Strs, 9-10 mths, 296kg, 204/\$605; 14 Ang/Her Strs, 10-11 mths, 367kg, 179c/\$655; 13 Ang/Her Strs, 10-11 mths, 319kg, 193c/\$615
NSW	Woolsthorpe	23 Ang Hfrs, 16-17 mths, 378kg, 158c/\$599
NSW	Glen Innes	43 Brang & Char & DM Strs, 12-16 mths, 363kg, 191c/\$695
NSW	Armidale	16 XB Strs, 11-18 mths, 362kg, passed 193c/\$700; 38 XB Strs, 14-16 mths, 309kg, 206c/\$635; 24 LimX Hfrs, 14-17 mths, 304kg, Unjnd, 186c/\$565; 14 AngX Hfrs, 12-15 mths, 296kg, Unjnd, passed 191c/\$565

<b>Sheep</b>		
<b>State</b>	<b>Town</b>	<b>Details</b>
QLD	Winton	385 Cool/Mer m/s lambs, 8-12 mths, 10.8 kgdw, 1.75" skin, \$23 ; 445 Mer Ewes, 4-9 yrs, 15.1 kgdw, 1/4" skin, Unjnd, \$16.50
QLD	Ilfracombe	750 Mer Ewes, 2 yrs, 12.9 kgdw, 1/2" skin, Unjnd, Coreens bld, \$40 ; 650 Mer Ewes, 3-7 yrs, 17.3 kgdw, 1/2" skin, Jnd Mer, Coreena bld, \$16.75
QLD	St George	680 Cool/Mer m/s lambs, 4-5 mths, 9.3 kgdw, 1.5" skin, \$39
QLD	Dirranbandi	580 2ndX Cool m/s lambs, 5.5-6.5 mths, 20.9 kgdw, 2" skin, \$82 ; 1440 Mer Wths, 2.5 yrs, 21.3 kgdw, 1/4" skin, Bullamon Plains bld, \$35.50
NSW	Burren Junction	100 Mer Ewes, 17-18 mths, 18.1 kgdw, 2.75" skin, Unjnd, Wilgunyah bld, \$64
NSW	Wee Waa	320 Mer Ewes, 6 yrs, 20.1 kgdw, 1/2" skin, SIL BL, \$63.50
NSW	Narrabri	60 F4-F5 Dorp Ewe lambs, 5-6 mths, 14 kgdw, 2" skin, passed \$59.50
NSW	Guyra	201 BL/Mer Wth lambs, 5 ths, 16.3 kgdw, 1.5" skin, \$64
NSW	Walcha	350 Dohne/Mer Ewes, 2.5-6.5 yrs, 23.8 kgdw, 2" skin, Unjnd, passed \$39 ; 355 Mer Wths, 17 mths, 15.5 kgdw, 1" skin, Glenburnie bld, \$39.50
NSW	Broken Hill	950 Mer Ewes, 6 yrs, 24.8 kgdw, 1/2" skin, Jnd Mer, Moorundle bld, \$58
NSW	Nyngan	450 DohneX Wth lambs, 7-8 mths, 11 kgdw, 1.75" skin, \$43.50

NSW	Dubbo	380 Mer Ewes, 6.5-8.5 yrs, 13.3 kgdw, 1.25" skin, passed \$25.50
NSW	Cowra	478 Mer Ewes, 18 mths, 14.5 kgdw, 1/4" skin, Unjnd, Koonwarra bld, \$44.50 ; 562 Mer Ewes, 2.5-3.5 yrs, 16 kgdw, 1/4" skin, Unjnd, Koonwarra bld, \$59.50 ; 590 Mer Ewes, 4.5-5.5 yrs, 18.4 kgdw, 1/4" skin, Unjnd, koonwarra bld, \$42.50 ; 360 Suff/Mer Ewes, 18 mths, 19.5 kgdw, 1/4" skin, Unjnd, \$45 ; 383 Suff/Mer Ewes, 2.5 yrs, 21.3 kgdw, 1/2" skin, Unjnd, \$46.50 ; 223 Suff/Mer EWes, 3.5 yrs, 23.3 kgdw, 1/4" skin, Unjnd, \$45 ; 420 Mer Wths, 18 mths, 17.1 kgdw, 1/4" skin, Koonwarra bld, \$41.50 ; 600 Mer Ewe lambs, 6-7 mths, 9.4 kgdw, 1.25" skin, Koonwarra bld, \$35 ; 600 Mer Wth lambs, 6-7 mths, 9.4 kgdw, 1/4" skin, Koonwarra bld, \$36
NSW	Boorowa	370 Dors/Mer m/s lambs, 6 mths, 11.8 kgdw, 1/4" skin, \$65.50 ; 760 Mer Ewes, 18 mths, 19.6 kgdw, 2" skin, Unjnd, Merryville bld, \$88 ; 270 Mer Ewes, 18 mths, 17.7 kgdw, 2" skin, Unjnd, Merryville bld, \$81.50 ; 120 Mer Ewes, 2-4 yrs, 19.5 kgdw, 2" skin, Unjd, Merryville bld, \$62.50
NSW	Lake Cargelligo	170 BL/Mer Ewe lambs, 12 mths, 28.3 kgdw, 2" skin, \$120
NSW	Narrandera	160 WDX Ewes, 2.5-5.5 yrs, 22.6 kgdw, 1.5" skin, Jnd WD, \$38
NSW	Goulburn	230 Suff/Mer m/s lambs, 5-6 mths, 13.5 kgdw, 1.5" skin, \$57
NSW	Canberra	460 Mer Wths, 2.5 yrs, 24 kgdw, 1.25" skin, Severn Park & Leachim bld, 238c/\$57
NSW	Gundagai	245 Cool/Mer Ewes, 2.5 yrs, 22.7 lgdw, 2.75" skin, SIL PD, passed \$105
NSW	Wagga Wagga	700 Mer Wths, 18 mths, 16.8 kgdw, 1" skin, Concordia bld, \$47.50 ; 230 Mer Ewes, 2.5 yrs, 19.2 kgdw, 1" skin, Jnd PD, Concordia bld, \$91
NSW	Corowa	350 Mer Wth lambs, 6-7 mths, 13.2 kgdw, 1/2" skin, Pastoria & Borambal bld, \$51
NSW	Mungindi	1140 WS/Mer m/s lambs, 6-7 mths, 11.4 kgdw, 2" skin, passed \$51 ; 700 PD/Mer m/s lambs, 6-7 mths, 13.2 kgdw, 1.75" skin, \$57.50 ; 500 BL/Mer m/s lambs, 5-6 mths, 9.3 kgdw, 2" skin, \$40.50 ; 500 PD/Mer m/s lambs, 5-6 mths, 10.6 kgdw, 1.5" skin, \$51 ; 1000 PD/Mer m/s lambs, 5-6 mths, 12.1 kgdw, 2" skin, \$54.50
NSW	Collarenebri	500 Mer Ewes, 5-6 yrs, 15.3 kgdw, 2" skin, Unjnd, Dune,brel bld, \$50
NSW	Brewarrina	1260 Mer Wth lambs, 6-7 mths, 10 kgdw, 2" skin, Pastora bld, \$45
NSW	Walgett	900 BL/Mer m/s lambs, 7-8.5 mths, 21.7 kgdw, 1/4" skin, \$52
VIC	Cudgewa	345 Mer Wths, 5 yrs, 20.7 kgdw, 1.5" skin, 244c/\$50.50 ; 360 Mer Wths, 5 yrs, 22.8 kgdw, 1.5" skin, 243c/\$55.50
VIC	Kyneton	118 BL/Mer Ewes, 18 mths, 19.5 kgdw, 1.5" skin, Unjnd, \$100
SA	Kingston	148 PD/Mer m/s lambs, 8-9 mths, 17.3 kgdw, 3/4" skin, \$80.50
SA	Cummins	305 F3-F5 Dorp Ewes, 2 yrs, 28.6 kgdw, 1/4" skin, passed \$35.50 ; 300 DorpX Ewes, 2-3 yrs, 31.4 kgdw, 1" skin, passed \$35.50 ; 180 Mer Ewes, 1-5 yrs, 25 kgdw, 1/2" skin, SIL SAMM,

		passed \$50.50
SA	Streaky Bay	153 Mer Ewes, 4 yrs, 30 kgdw, 2" skin, SIL Mer, Mallee Hill bld, \$62.50
TAS	Evandale	70 BL/Mer Wth lambs, 5 mths, 10.9 kgdw, 1.25" skin, \$50
TAS	Swansea	114 Mer Ewes, 18 mths, 13.5 kgdw, 2.25" skin, Merryville bld, \$52.50 ; 297 Mer Ewes, 5.5 yrs, 16.1 kgdw, 2" skin, Merryville bld, \$66
TAS	Oatlands	420 Corr Wths, 18 mths, 18.8 kgdw, 1/2" skin, \$52 ; 420 Corr Wths, 18 mths, 15.9 kgdw, 1/2" skin, \$41 ; 164 Mer Wths, 17-18 mths, 17.4 kgdw, 1/4" skin, \$48
TAS	Port arthur	148 2ndX WS m/s lambs, 7 mths, 21 kgdw, 2" skin, \$89
TAS	Kettering	140 Mer Ewes, 18 mths, 16.9 kgdw, 1/4" skin, Leachim bld, \$70.50