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## **AuctionsPlus Market Comments: Week Ending 18/3/16**

**By: Anna Adams**

A jump in cattle numbers offered this week with already big numbers in the Eastern States sales boosted by a Bid the Grid slaughter cattle sale as well as two physical sales interfacing with AuctionsPlus – including live audio streaming for online bidders. Numbers across all sales totalled 13,401 head with 9,079 in Eastern States sales.

Most categories of young cattle eased by 5c-7c this week with continuing large numbers available, young breeders sold well while older cows were harder to shift.

Steer prices by weight:

- Steers under 250kg made 354c-384c to average 364c
- Steers 250kg-300kg sold from 329c to 359c averaging 344c
- Steers 300c-350c made 301c to 350c to average 327c
- Steers over 350kg sold from 280c-370c to average 313c

Heifer prices by weight:

- Heifers under 250kg made 258c to 362c to average 313c
- Heifers 250kg-300kg sold from 208c to 348c to average 297c
- Heifers 300c-350c made 294c to 320c averaging 306c
- Heifers over 350kg made 299c to 308c averaging 303c

Not included in the above breakdown were lightweight calves in western QLD, weighing just over 100kg, with the steer portion selling for 419c and the heifers making 361c. Highlights included 6-14 month old Santa steers at Cunnamulla weighing 250kg selling for 354c or \$885, Angus heifers at Walcha weighing 232kg selling for 347c or \$805, 293kg Red Angus/Simmental steers in central NSW making 337c or \$990 and the 287kg heifer portion selling for 348c or \$1000, 347kg Angus steers from Walcha making 350c or \$1215, Santa heifers from Parkes at 344kg making 320c or \$1100 and 355kg Brangus steers from Emerald selling for a massive 370c or \$1316.

Jeogla Station held the second of their annual Production Sales on Wednesday, with online bidders adding plenty of activity to the sale purchasing four lots for a total of \$118,000. In an AuctionsPlus first, a multi-vendor feature Weaner sale held at Tenterfield saleyards allowed online bidders to compete against physical bidders with 51 registered bidders accessing the sale online, purchasing six pens for a total of \$71,000 and pushing up prices on many additional lots.

Plenty of PTIC heifers were on offer today with strong buyer interest, with prices ranging from \$1150 to \$1900 to average \$1437, with the top price paid for Angus heifers at Condobolin, NSW. Young cows on their 2nd-4th calf sold from \$1105 to \$1620, older cows from \$1150 to \$1650. Mixed age lines made \$990 to \$1550. Cows with calves at foot continue to also sell well with first-calf heifers making \$1700 to a top of \$2340 for Angus heifers and calves in southern NSW. Older cows made \$2000 to \$2410, topping the sale with three to seven year old Angus cows from Victoria with Angus calves. Mixed age cows with calves sold from \$1090 to \$1700.



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