Sheep and lamb numbers finished at 26,605 head, marginally down on last week's numbers.

Trading remains a little erratic with older lambs meeting some processor resistance as the new season lambs increase in numbers and the changeover point is closer.

It is not all doom and gloom in this sector and in the past week we witnessed some very good individual prices.

Cattle numbers tightened and fell to 3,033 head on offer but thankfully the market looked to be fully firm. Clearances were generally good following useful rain throughout Victoria and most of NSW during the last week.

While falls were generally around the 20-30 mm mark, cereal crops will all receive a boost and I am sure it will be a similar result in farmer/grazier confidence.

The sheep and lamb market has been softer all week, but interestingly, just when everybody said there were no wethers left, out they came this week. 1550 Merino wethers at Hughenden, 4 years (where have they been hiding) bare shorn, weighing 54kg, sold for \$80.50 to a Victorian restocker, while 810 BL/Merino m/s lambs at Narrabri, 3-4 months, weighing 23kg, sold for \$102 to western Victoria. Mutton prices looked firm with 354 Merino wethers, estimated 30.3kg dressed weight, ½" skin sold for 392.7c/\$119.

Scanned 2nd cross Lambpro ewes, 11 months, 62.5kg, to lamb to Poll Dorset rams, sold for \$185.50.

While passed in rates have fallen during the last month, they are still well up on the same period last year.

The wool market appeared to follow the share market this week with a drop of 50/60 cents on the first day back from the winter recess. The market then improved over the next two days to finish 30 cents down. It will be interesting to monitor the supply of fresh wool received over the coming months.

Today's cattle market was again solid without being spectacular and prices were on par with the previous weeks, assisted by lower numbers and some rain. There was also an increase in buyers logging into the sale. Starting in the north at Blackall, 192 SantaX heifers, 14 to 19 months, 337 kg, EU and Organic certified, NSM, sold to good southern NSW and Victorian competition for \$650. While at Quirindi 112 Poll Hereford steer weaners weighing 268 kgs sold for \$650/243c/kg. Further south at Condobolin, 102 quality Angus/Shorthorn heifers, 11/13 months, weighing 364 kg, NSM, really heated up during the dying stages of the sale to finish at \$805. Again it is disappointing to see the passed in rate not improving week by week but buyers are very selective and as can be seen by the prices quoted, prepared to pay for stock that suit.

WooltradePlus, our little brother, launches next Tuesday. While the market is a little subdued, it is anticipated that wool brokers and buyers will support this initiative to provide woolgrowers with an additional selling option. The system is similar to our current auction and is open to all brokers throughout Australia to sell their wool. We would be very pleased if our current users discussed this option with their broker.

CATTLE

State	Town	Details
QLD	Winton	120 CharbX Strs, 14-20 mths, 365kg, 183c/\$668 ; 156 Charb Strs, 18-28 mths, 435kg, passed 173c/\$753
QLD	Blackall	192 Santa Hfrs, 14-19 mths, 337kg, Unjnd, \$655
QLD	Dirranbandi	100 Brah m/s Ylgs, 5-8 mths, 156kg, 221c/\$345 ; 80 Ang SantaX m/s Ylgs, 6-9 mths, 208kg, 216c/\$450
QLD	Goondiwindi	62 Ang & AngX Hfrs, 9-12 mths, 307kg, Unjnd, 195c/\$600
QLD	Killarney	40 AngX Strs, 8-10 mths, 198kg, 230c/\$455
NSW	Ebor	14 Ang Hfrs, 22-24 mths, 607kg, PTIC Ang, \$1305 ; 24 Ang Cows, 3-10 yrs, 637kg, PTIC Ang, \$1270 ; 24 SH Cows, 3-10 yrs, 618kg, PTIC SH, \$870
NSW	Guyra	34 Ang Her Hfrs, 20-24 mths, 261kg, Unjnd, passed \$465
NSW	Walcha	60 Ang Strs, 11-12 mths, 325kg, 223c/\$725
NSW	Quirindi	112 Her Strs, 11-2 mths, 268kg, 243c/\$650 ; 69 Her Strs, 9-11 mths, 289kg, 223c/\$645
NSW	Baradine	45 Ang Strs, 9-11 mths, 303kg, 211c/\$640
NSW	Coonabarabran	45 SantaX m/s Wnrs, 8-10 mths, 272kg, passed 200c/\$545 ; 36 Ang Cows, 8-12 yrs, 490kg, PTIC Ang, \$725
NSW	Dunedoo	67 BrahX & Santa X Cows, 4-9 yrs, 455kg, PTIC Comp, passed \$705 ; 37 SH Ang HerX Cows, 3-9 yrs, 479kg, PTIC Comp, \$720
NSW	Condobolin	102 Ang Strs, 11-12 mths, 318kg, passed 219c/\$695 ; 104 SH Ang Hfrs, 11-13 mths, 364kg, Unjnd, 221c/\$805
NSW	Yeoval	63 Her Hfrs, 13-14 mths, 376kg, Unjnd, \$740
NSW	Cowra	29 SH Strs, 8-12 mths, 234kg, 229c/\$535 ; 12 Char SH Strs, 14-20 mths, 413kg, passed \$725
NSW	Boorowa	35 Ang Strs, 11-12 mths, 395kg, 195c/\$770
NSW	Marulan	54 Ang Hfrs, 10-11 mths, 302kg, Unjnd, 217c/\$655
NSW	Yass	38 Ang Hfrs, 10-11 mths, 288kg, Unjnd, 215c/\$620
NSW	Broken Hill	68 SHX Hfrs, 18-32 mths, 315kg, Jnd Ang, passed \$550
NSW	Mungindi	74 DMSTRX BrahX and CharX Hfrs, 18-28 mths, 367kg, PTIC Ang, passed \$750 ; 82 Ang C/C, 8-10 yrs, 507kg, \$965 ; 65 Ang Hfrs, 6-9 yrs, 540kg, Unjnd, \$920 ; 62 Ang Her Cows, 8-10 yrs, 453 kg, PTIC Ang, \$705
NSW	Bingara	51 AngX Hfrs, 13-14 mths, 303kg, Unjnd, 183c/\$555
NSW	Inverell	49 Ang Hfrs, 18-20 mths, 387kg, PTIC Ang, \$895 ; 11 Ang C/C, 2.5-3 yrs, 366kg, 11 CAF Avg 176kg, Unjnd, \$1235 ; 176 AngX Strs, 8-10 mths, 357kg, 218c/\$781 ; 51 AngX Strs, 11-12 mths, 382kg, 212c/\$807
VIC	Macarthur	42 Char Ang Strs, 15-16 mths, 392kg, passed \$835

SHEEP

State	Town	Details
QLD	Winton	1550 Mer Wths, 4 yrs, 20.8 kgdw, bare shn, 387c/\$80.50 ; 875 Mer Ewes, 2-6

		yrs, 19.5 kgdw, 0.25" skin, Unjnd, \$86.50 ;
QLD	Surat	36 Mer Wths, 1-2 yrs, 22.3 kgdw, 0.25" skin, \$60 ; 190 Mer Ewes, 2-5 yrs, 21.1 kgdw, 0.25" skin, Unjnd, \$60
QLD	Bungunya	340 1stX WD Mer Ewe lambs, 10-11 mths, 17.4 kgdw, 1" skin, Unjnd, passed \$100.50
NSW	Narrabri	1620 BL Mer m/s lambs, 3-4 mths, 9.4 kgdw, 2" skin, \$102 ; 550 BL Mer m/s lambs, 3 mths, 6.5 kgdw, \$75
NSW	Coonamble	455 Mer Wth lambs, 11-12 mths, 12.7 kgdw, 1" skin, Lone Pine bld, 606c/\$77
NSW	Warren	360 Mer Wths, 2 yrs, 15 kgdw, 1/2" skin, Egelabra bld, passed 503c/\$75.50 ; 1200 Mer Ewes, 5-7 yrs, 20.8 kgdw, 1.5" skin, SIL BL, \$132
NSW	Trangie	480 BL Mer Ewe lambs, 11-12 mths, 20.2 kgdw, bare shn, Pooginook bld, \$177.50
NSW	Wellington	124 WD Ewe lambs, 4-5 mths, 13.5 kgdw, 3/4" skin, \$98
NSW	Cudal	240 Mer Wth lambs, 12 mths, 15.6 kgdw, 1/2" skin, 516c/\$80.50 ; 245 Mer Ewe lambs, 12 mths, 14.6 kgdw, 1/2" skin, Yalgoo bld, Unjnd, \$120
NSW	Cowra	460 Mer Ewes, 6-7 yrs, 16.9 kgdw, 1/2" skin, Unjnd, \$59
NSW	Young	420 BL Mer Wth lambs, 10-11 mths, 26.5 kgdw, 2.5" skin, 511c/\$135.50 ; 354 Mer Wths, 3 yrs, 30.3 kgdw, 1/2" skin, 393c/\$119 ; 290 2ndX WD m/s lambs, 3-4 mths, 11.6 kgdw, 1.5" skin, \$83
NSW	West Wyalong	340 Mer Ewes, 5-6 yrs, 19 kgdw, bare shn, NSM, passed \$86
NSW	Harden	440 Mer Wth lambs, 12 mths, 19.7 kgdw, 1.75" skin, Bundilla bld, 536c/\$105.50
NSW	Yass	300 Mer Wth lambs, 11-12 mths, 10.4 kgdw, 1" skin, Merryville bld, \$69.50
NSW	Gunning	120 Mer Wth lambs, 11-12 mths, 13.9 kgdw, 1/2" skin, Clarkville bld, passed \$70.50 ; 240 Mer Wths, 2-3 yrs, 21 kgdw, bare shn, Merryville bld, 471c/\$99
NSW	Crookwell	405 Mer Wth lambs, 11-12 mths, 11.7 kgdw, 1" skin, Nerstane & Stockton bld, \$82.50
NSW	Goulburn	460 Mer Wth lambs, 12 mths, 19.6 kgdw, 1.25" skin, \$100 ; 580 Mer Wth lambs, 10-11 mths, 10.8 kgdw, 1.25" skin, \$76.50 ; 215 Mer Wth lambs, 10-11 mths, 9.1 kgdw, 1.25" skin, \$73
NSW	Tumbarumba	387 F3 Lambpro Ewe lambs, 11 mths, 30 kgdw, 2.5" skin, \$185.50
NSW	Holbrook	390 Lambpro Mer Ewe lambs, 3-4 mths, 9 kgdw, 1.25" skin, \$103.50
NSW	Murrami	240 F3 & F4 WD Ewes, 15-17 mths, 22.5 kgdw, 3/4" skin, Jilakin bld, SIL WD, \$189 ; 200 F2 - F4 WD Ewes, 2-4 yrs, 27.4 kgdw, 3/4" skin, Jilakin bld, SIL WD, \$191
NSW	Tilpa	800 Mer Ewes, 6 yrs, 23.7 kgdw, 1/4" skin, Jnd Mer, \$121.50 ; 200 Mer Ewes, 6 yrs, 21.9 kgdw, 1/4" skin, Jnd Mer, passed \$75.50
NSW	Wentworth	270 Mer Ewe lambs, 9-10 mths, 14.1 kgdw, 1.5" skin, Tara Downs bld \$123.50 ; 107 2ndX Samm Ewe lambs, 9-10 mths, 18.3 kgdw, 1.5" skin, Tara Downs bld \$130
NSW	Mungindi	280 Mer Ewes, 7 yrs, 17.9 kgdw, 1/2" skin, Unjnd, \$60
NSW	Ashford	592 Mer Ewes, 5 & 6 yrs, 15.7 kgdw, 2.5" skin, Jnd Mer, passed \$129.50 ; 225 Mer Ewes, 3 yrs, 13 kgdw, 2.5" skin, Jnd Mer, \$140 ; 230 Mer Ewes, CFA, 14.3 kgdw, 2.25" skin, Jnd Mer, passed \$96
NSW	Tamworth	280 Mer Ewes, 6.5 yrs, 14 kgdw, 2.25" skin, Unjnd, passed \$70
NSW	Walgett	330 BL Mer Ewe lambs, 12 mths, 13.3 kgdw, bare shn, \$128
NSW	Carinda	448 Mer Wth lambs, 10 mths, 11.3 kgdw, 2.25" skin, 673c/\$76
VIC	Euroa	270 WS Mer Ewes, 12-13 mths, 20.4 kgdw, 1.75" skin, Peppin bld, SIL WS, \$163.50

VIC	Wangaratta	1 Dorp Ram, 18 mths, 31.9 kgdw, 2" skin, Siren & 3D bld, \$370 ; 1 Dorp Ram, 18 mths, 28.6 kgdw, 2" skin, Siren & 3D bld, \$350 ; 1 Dorp Ram, 18 mths, 26.9 kgdw, 2" skin, Siren & 3D bld, \$300 ; 1 Dorp Ram, 18 mths, 29.4 kgdw, 2" skin, Siren & 3D bld, \$300 ; 1 Dorp Ram, 18 mths, 30.2 kgdw, 2" skin, Siren & 3D bld, \$300 ; 1 Dorp Ram, 18 mths, 30.2 kgdw, 2" skin, Siren & 3D bld, \$300 ; 1 Dorp Ram, 18 mths, 33.2 kgdw, 2" skin, Siren & 3D bld, \$300 ; 1 Dorp Ram, 18 mths, 29.4 kgdw, 2" skin, Siren & 3D bld, \$300 ; 1 Dorp Ram, 18 mths, 30.2 kgdw, 2" skin, Siren & 3D bld, \$300 ; 1 Dorp Ram, 18 mths, 32.8 kgdw, 2" skin, Siren & 3D bld, \$300 ; 1 Dorp Ram, 18 mths, 27.7 kgdw, 2" skin, Siren & 3D bld, \$300
VIC	Skipton	284 Mer E/L, 2 yrs, 16.2 kgdw, 1.75" skin, 210 LAF Avg 22 kglw, \$169.50
VIC	St Arnaud	215 Mer Ewes, 5 yrs, 24.7 kgdw, 1.75" skin, Collinsville bld, Jnd BL, \$135
VIC	Swan Hill	215 Mer E/L, 6 yrs, 25.5 kgdw, 2.25" skin, 242 LAF Avg 26kglw, Unjnd, \$176
SA	Wilmington	350 Mer Wth lambs, 3-4 mths, 17.2 kgdw, 1" skin, East Bungaree bld, \$94.50
SA	Quorn	500 WD Mer m/s lambs, 3-4 mths, 16.1 kgdw, 1" skin, \$95
SA	Tailem Bend	140 Mer Ewes, 4-6 yrs, 27.6 kgdw, 1" skin, Jnd WS, passed \$134
TAS	Longford	181 Hamp Corr m/s lambs, 11 mths, 21.4 kgdw, 3/4" skin, \$112
TAS	Perth	76 Mer Ewes, 3-7 yrs, 22.1 kgdw, 1/4" skin, 434c/\$96
TAS	Kettering	152 Mer Wths, 4-6 yrs, 20.2 kgdw, 1/4" skin, 443c/\$89.50