

AuctionsPlus Market Comment week ending 1 Feb 2013

Numbers of both sheep and cattle tightened again this week, following the trend in the physical markets. Cattle were more affected, with numbers dipping to 1,479 head, the lowest figure in a long time, even considering the interrupted trading week; sheep and lamb numbers dropped 6,000 to total 16,528 head. The good news is that tightened numbers and rainfall events saw increased restocker interest on both sheep and cattle.

Merino ewes firmed slightly on recent weeks, with young ewes making from \$45 to top at \$73.50 for Greenfields blood 18 month olds out of SA. First cross ewes were hard to find, with only one sale for the week; lambs out of Narromine will be heading to SA after making \$65.50.

Lamb prices were mixed this week, with many sales being outside the realm of the traditional first and second crosses. The top price of \$70 was for 49kg White Suffolk/SAMM crosses out of SA, and 43kg Dohne wether lambs sold for \$61.50. The lighter end of lambs sold this week saw 36kg second crosses out of Armidale sell for \$56.

With rainfall in QLD disrupting stock movements, there was demand for those available, with only heifers remaining hard to sell. Yearling Charolais cross steers made to \$705 or 171c out of Emerald, and further south mixed age Hereford cross cows with Charolais & Simmental calves at foot made to \$955.

Young cattle prices improved this week as rain in the north gave restockers some hope of better yields for summer crops and a more positive outlook for autumn. Steer numbers in the south dropped off, which also increased competition on northern offerings. In Tamworth unweaned Angus/Limousin steers weighing 241kg made 249c or \$600, well above their reserve price. At Uralla, 198kg Angus and Black Baldy steers sold for 245c while their 192kg sisters made 188c. In a better week for heifers, 292kg Angus weaners out of Braidwood sold for 171c.

| Cattle | | |
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| State | Town | Details |
| QLD | Dirranbandi | 40 HerX C&C, 1-8 yrs, 516kg, Jnd Char & Simm, 40 Char & Simm CAF, \$955; 40 Her & HerX C&C, 1-7 yrs, 434kg, Jnd Char & Simm, 40 Char & Simm CAF, \$940 |
| QLD | Emerald | 84 CharX Strs, 14-18 mths, 412kg, 171c/\$705; 56 CharX Strs, 14-18 mths, 353kg, 178c/\$628 |
| NSW | Finley | 8 Ang C&C, 3yrs, 601kg, Unjnd, 8 Lim CAF, passed \$845; 12 SH & SH/DM C&C, 3 yrs, 445kg, Unjnd, 12 Lim CAF, passed \$665 |
| NSW | Tenterfield | 51 Ang & AngX Strs, 15-18 mths, 322kg, 191c/\$615; 33 Ang & AngX Strs, 18-20 mths, 373kg, 182c/\$680 |
| NSW | Uralla | 40 Ang & HerX Strs, 5-7 mths, 198kg, 245c/\$485; 51 Ang & Her Hfrs, 5-7 mths, 192kg, 188c/\$360 |
| NSW | Tamworth | 80 Ang/Lim Strs, 7-8 mths, 241kg, 249c/\$600 |

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| NSW | Narromine | 106 Brah Hfrs, 18-28 mths, 253kg, Jnd Brah, passed \$335; 100 BrahX Hfrs, 18-28 mths, 262kg, Jnd Brah, passed \$335 |
| NSW | Molong | 27 Ang & Ang/SH Hfrs, 15-17 mths, 241kg, Unjnd, passed 148c/\$505; 17 SH & DMX Hfrs, 14-17 mths, 342kg, Unjnd, passed 145c/\$495; 13 SH & DMX Strs, 14-17 mths, 338kg, passed 151c/\$510 |
| NSW | Braidwood | 42 Ang Strs, 7-9 mths, 317kg, 186c/\$590; 37 Ang Hfrs, 7-9 mths, 292kg, 171c/\$500 |
| VIC | Casterton | 31 Ang/Her & Ang C&C, 7-11 yrs, 548kg, 31 CAF avg 85kg, \$800 |
| WA | Boyup Brook | 36 LimX m/s Vlrs, 7-8 mths, 216.5 kgdw, 348c/\$746; 10 Her/MG m/s Vlrs, 8-9 mths, 374kg, 170c/\$636; 8 Sth Dev Strs, 7-8 mths, 335kg, 184c/\$618; 10 Sth Dev Hfrs, 7-8 mths, 314kg, 165c/\$518 |
| WA | Northcliffe | 24 Ang & Gelb/Ang Strs, 9-11 mths, 378kg, 183c/\$692; 6 Gelb/Ang Hfrs, 8-9 mths, 352kg, 162c/\$568; 10 Ang Hfrs, 8-9 mths, 345kg, 191c/\$658 |
| WA | Manjimup | 18 Ang/Her m/s Ylgs, 16-18mths, 301.9 kgdw, passed 298c/\$900 |

| Sheep | | |
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| State | Town | Details |
| QLD | Hughenden | 440 Mer Ewes, 4-9 yrs, 13.3 kgdw, 1.25" skin, Jnd Mer, Lansdowne bld, passed \$11.50 |
| NSW | Yass | 150 Mer Wth lambs, 4 mths, 7.9 kgdw, 1.25" skin, passed \$18 |
| NSW | Delegate | 295 2ndX PD m/s lambs, 3-4 mths, 14.2 kgdw, 1.5" skin, passed \$46 |
| NSW | Deliniquin | 100 F3-F4 Dorp Ewes, 6 yrs, 25.9 kgdw, 2" skin, SIL Dorp, passed \$53 |
| NSW | Wagga Wagga | 240 Mer Ewes, 1-2 yrs, 14.6kgdw, 1/2" skin, Unjnd, \$45 |
| NSW | Bourke | 650 WD Ewe lambs, 4 mths, 9.3 kgdw, 3/4" skin, passed \$27.50; 520 WD Wth lambs, 4 mths, 8.8 kgdw, 1/2" skin, \$25.50; 470 Mer Wth lambs, 5-6 mths, 8.3 kgdw, 1.75" skin, Egelabra bld, passed \$23.50; 620 Mer Wth lambs, 6-7 mths, 12.7 kgdw, 2.25" skin, Egelabra bld, \$39 ; |
| NSW | Walgett | 300 BL/Mer m/s lambs, 4-5 mths, 16.4 kgdw, 1.75" skin, \$50; 74 Mer Ewes, 2-3 yrs, Wilgunya & Boorooma bld, \$53.50; 325 Mer Ewes, 4- 6 yrs, 20.7 kgdw, 1/4"skin, Unjnd, passed \$52.50 |
| NSW | Guyra | 660 BL/Mer m/s lambs, 4 mths, 15.6 kgdw, 1.75" skin, passed \$53 |
| NSW | Armidale | 260 2ndX WS m/s lambs, 6 mths, 15.1 kgdw, 2" skin, \$56 |
| NSW | Tamworth | 575 WD E&L, 1-6 yrs, 20.8 kgdw, 3/4" skin, Jnd WD, 314 LAF, \$40 |
| NSW | Narromine | 550 Dors/Mer m/s lambs, 6-7 mths, 16.4 kgdw, 1.75" skin, \$60; 800 Mer Ewe lambs, 5-6 mths, 14 kgdw, 1.75" skin, Rettalack bld, \$65.50; 800 Mer Wth lambs, 5-6 mths, 15.4 kgdw, |

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| | | 1.75" skin, Rettalack bld, \$48.50 |
| NSW | Cowra | 650 Mer Ewes, 5-6 yrs, 23.3 kgdw, 3/4" skin, Jnd BL, Kerin Poll bld, passed \$56 |
| SA | Clare | 400 Mer Ewes, 17-18 mths, 18.1 kgdw, 1.25" skin, Greenfields bld, \$73.50 |
| SA | Penneshaw | 366 Dohne Wth lambs, 7 mths, 16.4 kgdw, 3/4" skin, \$61.50 |
| SA | Kingscote | 260 SAMMX Wth lambs, 7-8 mths, 18.3 kgdw, 1/4" skin, \$64 |
| SA | Port Lincoln | 190 WS/SAMM m/s lambs, 5-6 mths, 21 kgdw, 2" skin, \$70; 110 WS/SAMM m/s lambs, 5-6 mths, 17 kgdw, 1.75" skin, \$70 |
| TAS | Hamilton | 226 Dohne Ewes, 2-5 yrs, 21.7 kgdw, 1.75" skin, \$48 |