

Queensland

Warwick Sheep

There was a increase in numbers to 1,393 at Warwick with 1,053 lambs and 340 grown sheep. Buyer attendance was good with all the regular processors, wholesalers and butchers present and operating. Feeder operators were very active, however restockers were selective on the increased numbers of young lambs and score 2 light weight lambs. Overall quality of the yarding was good and all trade lambs sold to firm prices, to slightly easier than the previous weeks sale.

New season light weight lambs sold to restockers for \$144, and to the trade at \$130/head. Light weight trade lambs sold to trade buyers for \$198, and to feeder operators for \$191, to average \$176/head. Medium and heavy weight lambs sold to processors at a top of \$216 with restockers paying \$202/head for the ewe portion. Ram lambs in larger numbers sold to the trade at \$201, to average \$164, and to restockers for \$144/head.

Hoggets eased in price to the trade to sell to a top of \$178, to average \$144, with restockers paying \$192 /head for the ewes. Young score 3 wethers sold to processors at \$160, and young ewes sold for \$115/head. Heavy weight score 3 ewes sold to processors for a top of \$196, to average \$142/head. Restockers paid \$200/head. Ewes and lambs sold for \$250/unit.

New South Wales

Tamworth Sheep

Once again it was a very mixed quality penning of lambs at 1,050 head, while sheep numbered 500. There were limited supplies of well finished lambs to suit the local trade and processor orders. There were several pens of light weight young lambs suitable to restockers.

Processors battled to secure requirements of well finished lambs, both young and old. This lack of supply saw competition strong, resulting in dearer trends throughout. With the low numbers there were some significant price improvements. The plainer condition and light weight lambs attracted good restocker competition. Any Ewes in the pens also attracted restocker premiums.

The limited supply of sheep also met strong processor competition with market trends firm to dearer. Restockers were again active on breeding age ewes regardless of breed.

Forbes Sheep

Lamb numbers eased and there were only 1,750 new season lambs offered with most now shorn. Trade and heavy lambs made up the bulk with store lambs in very short supply. Merino lambs were also limited to 950 head. Competition was strong on the smaller offering with all buyers operating and price trends were mixed with the new season woolly lambs back \$1 to \$3/head and the shorn lambs firm.

Shorn new season trade lambs made from \$152 to \$175/head and averaged from 780c to 800c/kg cwt. Heavy weights sold from \$169 to \$209/head or 780c/kg cwt on average. Extra heavy weights made from \$203 to a top of \$245/head. Merino trades sold from \$150 to \$175/head to remain firm. The few new season trade lambs sold from \$160 to \$177/head or to average 785c/kg cwt. Heavy weights made from \$170 to \$205/head or 750c to 770c/kg cwt on average. Extra heavy lambs sold from \$193 to \$238/head.

Mutton numbers lifted and the quality remained good. Ewes were best supplied and prices dearer on the light sheep and firm on heavy crossbreds. Medium weight ewes sold from \$140 to \$162/head. Heavy crossbred ewes made from \$228 to \$252 and Merinos sold from \$218 to \$223/head.

Carcoar Sheep

It was another good quality yarding with a good supply of well finished trade and heavy weight new season lambs along with some nicely finished shorn lambs. There were also some very well finished Merino lambs penned. The usual field of buyers were in attendance and operating.

Trade weight new season lambs were firm to \$4 cheaper selling from \$152 to \$205 to average from 800c to 815c/kg cwt. Trade weight old lambs were dearer on quality with the neat shorn lambs selling from \$170 to \$200/head. Heavy weight lambs were \$3 to \$6 cheaper with the new season lambs over 24kg selling from \$186 to \$238/head to average 765c/kg cwt. Heavy weight old lambs sold from \$176 to \$250/head. Merino lambs were dearer with the better quality a factor. Trade weights sold from \$140 to \$166 while heavy weight Merino lambs sold to \$200/head. Restocker lambs were around firm selling from \$134 to \$178/head. Hoggets sold to \$225/head.

It was a very good quality yarding of sheep where most grades were firm to \$4/head dearer. Merino ewes sold from \$120 to \$194 while crossbred ewes made from \$164 to \$240/head. Merino wethers sold from \$117 to \$200/head. Carcase prices for most made from 635c to 675c/kg cwt.

Yass Sheep

Lamb numbers jumped and there were 18,300 new season lambs penned. The quality was good but there was a percentage of lambs starting to dry off in the skin. Trade and heavy lambs were well supplied and there was an increase in light store lamb numbers. Old lambs were limited and Merino lambs were in short supply. The market sold to a mixed trend.

Light restocking lambs sold from \$122 to \$164/head. Heavier weights to be shorn and fed reached \$184/head. Medium and heavy trade weights were \$4 dearer and sold from \$156 to \$175/head averaging 780c to 800c/kg cwt. Heavy new season lambs sold from \$164 to \$186 or 710c to 730c/kg cwt on average to slip by \$4 to \$6/head. Extra heavy weights reached \$243/head. The few old trade lambs made from \$158 to \$178/head averaging 760c/kg cwt. Heavy and extra heavy weights sold from \$195 to \$238/head. Merino trade lambs made from \$110 to \$174/head.

Mutton numbers lifted by 2,000 head and the quality was a little mixed. Competition remains strong, although prices eased by \$10/head on the ewes due to increased supply. Medium weight ewes sold from \$138 to \$174/head. Heavy crossbred ewes were making from \$202 to 232 as the Merinos reached a top of \$210/head. Merino wethers lifted by \$5 on the heavy weights to reach a top of \$208/head.

Victoria

Ballarat Sheep

Lamb supply increased again to 37,361 yarded. The quality was good to excellent with more weight offered in all categories, all the usual buying group attended, with extra store buyers present. Buyers operated fully in a firm to slightly softer market, bidding was erratic at times with the market starting softer to firm up as the sale progressed, with increased competition for the better quality lambs across the yarding. Heavy lambs sold to a top of \$265/head. Sheep supply increased to 15,245 head, the quality was plain to excellent, with plenty of weight offered across the yarding. All the usual buyers were present but not all were active, light weights were mostly unchanged, medium and heavy weights sold firm to \$10 softer for the Merino's, whilst the crossbreds eased from \$8 to \$10/head.

Feeders and Restockers were very active on the light weight lambs back to the paddock, under 20kg sold from \$50 to \$164 whilst 20kg and over made from \$158 to \$178/head. Lambs under 18kg suiting MK orders sold from \$137 to \$149/head. Lambs to the trade 18 to 22kg sold from \$147 to \$173, 22 to 24kg made from \$166 to \$192 and 24 to 26kg sold from \$183 to \$201/head to average from 740c to 750c/kg cwt. Export 4 score lambs

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weighing 26 to 30kg, sold from \$200 to \$225 whilst the lines over 30kg made from \$229 to \$265/head to average from 710c to 720c/kg cwt. Merino lambs under 20kg sold from \$137 to \$160 and 20kg and over made from \$161 to \$204/head. Hoggets sold to \$230 for crossbreds and Merino's sold to \$185/head

Heavy Merino wethers over 24kg sold from \$148 to \$252, lighter weights made from \$130 to \$175/head to average from 660c to 690c/kg cwt. Heavy Merino ewes sold from \$155 to \$254/head, averaging from 640c to 650/kg cwt. Heavy crossbred ewes made from \$150 to \$258/head, to average from 630c to 640c/kg cwt. Merino rams sold to a top of \$180/head.

Western Australia

Muchea Sheep

A similar quality yarding where new seasons lambs remained firm at 620c/kg cwt, old season lambs slipped in quality and eased in price from \$5 to \$10/head in comparison to the new season lines. The ram lambs gained \$20 on an improved selection, similarly hoggets gained \$10/head on the better selection and increased demand. In the mutton market values eased a slight \$5/head on prime types and sold around 500c/kg cwt.

In the lamb section, extreme light weight new season lambs up to 12kg sold to graziers from \$55 to \$61/head. The 12 to 16kg lines sold again to graziers from \$70 to \$116/head. The 17 to 18kg airfreight types sold from \$115 to \$121/head or to average 700c/kg cwt. All trade types sold around 620c/kg cwt, with the 19 to 20kg lines selling from \$120 to \$128/head. The 21 to 22kg lambs sold from \$130 to \$145 with the heaviest types making \$150/head. Ram lambs were \$20 dearer on an improved selection and sold from \$124 to \$140/head. Hoggets gained \$10 on increased demand and sold from \$111 to \$160/head or to average 505c/kg cwt.

In the ewe mutton market, light weight boners to 18kg sold at \$75, medium weight boners weighing 19 to 24kg sold from \$93 to \$135/head, with the top of the market holding heavy fleeces remaining firm. The prime 25 to 30kg lines sold from \$125 to \$144 or 500c/kg cwt and eased \$5/head. Heavier sheep sold from \$142 to \$160 down \$5/head. The heavy older wethers to processors eased \$10/head on a very light selection.

National Sheep Prices

Price Stock Category	Weekly Avg.	Change	High	Low	Clearance	Avg Weight (Kgs)
Merino Wether Lambs	\$134	+\$3	\$161	\$102	91%	36
Merino Ewe Lambs	\$186	+\$9	\$265	\$75	82%	40
NSM Merino Ewe Hoggets	\$270	+\$1	\$335	\$163	27%	55
NSM Merino Ewes	\$223	+\$1	\$296	\$161	69%	62
Border Leicester/Merino Ewe Lambs	\$285	-\$7	\$372	\$194	78%	42
NSM Border Leicester/Merino Ewe Hoggets	\$383	+\$16	\$435	\$320	36%	67
NSM Border Leicester/Merino Ewes	\$275	-\$22	\$354	\$246	93%	80
Ewes with Lambs at Foot	\$377	-	\$561	\$256	85%	56
Crossbred Lambs (c/kg)	416	-10	569	325	96%	37

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