

AuctionsPlus Weekly Cattle Summary – w/e Friday 21 May, 2021

The number of cattle through AuctionsPlus sales this week contracted 15% on last week, to 17,480 head, with the search for quality, young breeding lines continue to be a feature of the market. For young cattle, quality offerings below 200kg remain very scarce, while mid-weight young heifers continue to be highly sort after, as aware vendors maintain high reserve levels.

Light weight 200-280kg steers averaged \$10 higher this week, at \$1,419/head, with a very competitive 80% clearance rate for the 2,164 head offered. After last week's gains, the two heavier young steer categories fell back, with 330-400kg steers averaging \$102 lower, at \$1,682/head, while 280-330kg lines slipped \$50, to average \$1,639/head.

The young heifer lines registered some patchy clearance rates this week, with the 200-280kg liveweight category the largest for the week, at 2,643 head – with an 86% clearance rate. While the overall price for the week eased \$18, to average \$1,340/head, buyers reportedly fought very hard for several of the top-quality lines offered. For the 1,277 head offered within the 280-330kg liveweight category, prices slipped \$60/head, to average \$1,490/head, while the heavier category increased \$31, to average \$1,659/head for only 593 head.

PTIC heifers and PTIC cows moved in different directions this week, despite overall numbers being close to the previous week. PTIC heifers finished the week averaging \$33 higher, at \$2,306/head, with a 59% clearance rate for the 2,634 head offered. Buyers continue to be very selective through the PTIC lines, with reports of buyers going the extra mile to confirm pedigree and quality. One line of 99 excellent quality PTIC Angus heifers sold to \$2,760/head, or 1,487.6c/kg liveweight – out of Mitchell, in Southern Queensland, the heifers ranged from 16-26 months of age, averaged 404.8kg liveweight and had been joined to Wagyu bulls.

In contrast this week, PTIC cows slipped \$59, to average \$2,144/head – with a 64% clearance rate for the 1,770 head offered. A lot of 84 heavy Santa Gertrudis/Santa cross PTIC cows out of Longreach, Queensland, sold to \$1,970/head – averaging in at 574.8kg liveweight for the 3–11-year-old line.

NOTE: Prices as at 2pm Friday, 21st May, 2021.

Classification	Offered	Low	High	Average			Clearance	Low	High	Average	
				\$/head						actual ¢/kg lwt	
Steers											
<i>less than 200kg</i>	372	600	1,370	1,162	122	42%	404	890	700	114	
<i>200.1 - 280kg</i>	2,164	700	1,730	1,419	10	80%	342	686	577	9	
<i>280.1 - 330kg</i>	1,513	1,410	2,540	1,639	-50	74%	428	859	541	-15	
<i>330.1 - 400kg</i>	1,395	1,392	1,892	1,682	-102	64%	404	530	474	-32	
<i>400.1+kg</i>	192	1,700	2,000	1,801	-60	59%	365	466	405	-6	
Heifers											
<i>less than 200kg</i>	187	830	1,540	1,112	196	52%	437	786	578	35	
<i>200.1 - 280kg</i>	2,643	970	2,180	1,340	-18	86%	379	799	539	-10	
<i>280.1 - 330kg</i>	1,277	1,170	1,960	1,490	-60	52%	383	609	491	-19	
<i>330.1 - 400kg</i>	593	1,380	2,010	1,659	31	88%	406	591	481	25	
<i>400.1+kg</i>	361	1,690	1,970	1,823	11	29%	403	479	431	29	
Breeding Stock											
<i>SM Heifers</i>	245	1,050	1,820	1,543	10	18%	296	432	385	-26	
<i>PTIC Heifers</i>	2,634	1,335	2,900	2,306	33	59%	341	707	531	26	
<i>PTIC Cows</i>	1,770	1,390	3,025	2,144	-59	64%	302	594	418	13	
<i>NSM Heifers and Calves</i>	352	1,450	3,640	2,953	6	45%	508	694	634	347	
<i>NSM Cows and Calves</i>	445	1,940	3,410	2,817	-146	60%	-	-	-	-	
<i>SM Cows and Calves</i>	849	1,250	3,555	2,569	-162	58%	-	-	-	-	

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