

AuctionsPlus weekly sheep & lamb summary – w/e Friday April 16, 2021

With a full trading week, the supply of lambs and sheep offered exclusively by AuctionsPlus rebounded to 80,588 head this week – with SIL Merino ewes and Merino wether lambs making up the two largest categories. Whilst the sellers increased their activity this week, buyers appeared to be more cautious, with the clearance rate across most of the main categories subdued, especially for selected breeding lines.

Given the limited supplies and disruptions of the past two weeks, any in depth analysis of week-on-week movements in price for April will be distorted. However, comparisons against the most recent full selling week, which was the week ending 26th March, should give a clearer indication of the market sentiment. As such, lamb prices this week are largely weaker on late March, with first cross ewe lambs, Merino ewe lambs and shedding lambs down \$21, \$19 and \$33/head. Similarly, SIL Merino ewes are back \$4/head over the past three weeks, while SM Merino ewes and SM first cross ewes are \$12 and \$62 lower. This week's clearance rates for all lamb categories were also significantly lower than in the final week of March – which was bolstered by robust buyer demand in the wake of the widespread rain in late March.

The main feature of prices this week was a fall in all joined ewe categories, with the 11,202 head of SIL Merino ewes, at a 71% clearance rate, averaging \$4 lower, at \$261/head. Similarly, SIL first cross ewes averaged \$18 lower, at \$325/head – with a 67% clearance rate for the 2,580 head offered. An indicative sale saw 225 SIL Merino ewes out of Gilgandra NSW, averaging 56kg liveweight and 5.5 years old selling for \$271/head – equating to 1011.2c/kg dressed.

For the lamb portion of the market, price trends were mixed, with both first cross ewes lambs and composite/other lamb categories falling \$35 and \$59/head, respectively. The most robust category for the week was Merino wether lambs, which registered an 87% clearance rate for the 19,170 head offered. In what appeared to be a well-balanced auction between buyers and sellers, the Merino wether lamb category averaged \$3/head higher, at \$149/head – and \$2 higher on the final week of March. Right on the average, an indicative sale of 323 Merino wether lambs, out of Nagambie, Victoria – Jun-Jul 2020 drop, averaging 38.6/kg liveweight, sold to \$149/head – or 892c/kg dressed.

For more categories, please go to:

[National AuctionsPlus Store Report - Sheep and Lamb Sheep Averages 13/04/2021](#)

Classification	Offered	Low	High	Average			Clearance	Low	High	Average	
				\$/head						actual €/kg lwt	
Lambs											
Crossbreds	6,695	146	281	189	21	71%	381	554	467	45	
Merino wethers	19,170	107	176.5	149	3	87%	304	492	386	-22	
first cross ewe	5,742	144	299	208	-35	42%	401	755	502	-119	
Merino ewe	3,922	150	231	197	13	44%	409	617	489	4	
Shedding breeds	5,093	154	465	269	1	63%	436	872	624	-51	
Composite/other breeds	5,571	121	309	214	-59	85%	397	609	483	-12	
Sheep											
Merino wethers	5,501	135	180	162	8	93%	278	420	348	31	
Ewes and Lambs	732	364	364	364	-	6%	533	533	533	-	
Joined Ewes											
SIL Merino ewes	11,202	190	312	261	-4	71%	271	564	444	12	
SM Merino ewes	4,018	160	270	226	-81	86%	304	500	370	-117	
SIL first cross ewe	2,580	248	416	325	-18	67%	341	603	447	-19	
SM first cross ewes	2,969	156	350	288	-12	44%	349	590	447	-84	
Non Station Mated (NSM)											
Merino hogget ewes	1,486	160	301	217	9	50%	348	515	405	-14	
Merino ewes	1,824	135	170	150	-14	65%	253	306	278	-48	
composite/other breeds	1,291	240	280	260	2	26%	369	376	372	-2	
shedding breed ewes	1,132	198	350	277	62	69%	388	734	487	114	

AuctionsPlus Pty Ltd ABN 73 072 403 984. The purpose of this publication is for information only and is not intended to be relied upon for commercial purposes. AuctionsPlus does not accept responsibility for the accuracy or completeness of the contents and disclaim all liability, including liability for negligence and for any loss, damage, injury, expense, or cost incurred by any person directly or indirectly as a result of accessing, using or relying on any of the contents of this publication.