

AuctionsPlus Weekly Sheep & Lamb Summary – w/e Friday, May 21, 2021

It was another mixed week for AuctionsPlus sheep and lamb markets, as quality continues to play an increasing factor into buyer demand heading into winter. The total online offering this week was back 7% on last week, to 60,548 head, with a sharp fall in the number of SIL Merino ewes more than offsetting a jump in composite/other breed lambs.

It was two up, four down for the lamb categories this week, with the two Merino categories finishing the week higher. Merino ewe lambs, with a 72% clearance rate for the 4,915 head offered, averaged \$38 higher on last week, at \$235/head, while Merino wethers edged up \$7, to \$148/head - with an impressive 84% clearance rate for the 13,324 head offered. First cross ewe lambs registered the largest decline, dropping \$46 on last week, to average \$198/head, while the composite/other category withstood a significant jump in supplies to only decline \$1, averaging \$178/head.

The largest supply contraction this week was for SIL Merino ewes, with offerings back 57% on last week, to only 5,652 head. Illustrating the back-and-forth market movements of recent weeks, despite the 57% less offered, the price slipped \$17/head lower this week, to average \$245, which completely wiped-out last weeks \$17 gain. However, with the lower offering, the clearance rates this week jumped to 80%, up from 70% last week - signaling that many of the sellers operating this week were keen to lock in a sale and offload before the winter conditions set in.

Prices this week also contracted for both SIL and SM first cross ewes. With 5,074 head offered, SIL first cross ewes averaged \$35 lower, at \$303/head, with a clearance rate slightly up on last week, at 59%. Similarly, SM first cross ewes averaged \$67 lower, at \$233/head.

After several weeks of subdued clearance rates, demand bounced for ewes with LAF this week, with a 93% clearance rate for the 1,181 head offered driving a \$31 increase on last week, to average \$296/head. An indicative line of 247 Merino ewes with 250 LAF, out of Lalbert, N.W Victoria, sold to \$280/unit – with the ewes averaging 55.8kg liveweight.

NOTE: Prices as at 5pm Thursday, May 20, 2021.

For more categories, please go to:

[Sheep Averages 18/05/2021](#)

Classification	Offered	Low	High	Average			Clearance	Low	High	Average	
				\$/head						actual €/kg lwt	
Lambs											
Crossbreds	3,081	124	191	162	-4	70%	329	457	407	-21	
Merino wethers	13,324	110	186	148	7	84%	313	458	378	5	
first cross ewe	4,403	124	270	198	-46	59%	342	656	498	-167	
Merino ewe	4,915	130	321	235	38	72%	362	601	494	47	
Shedding breeds	2,992	115	331	220	-19	77%	408	698	582	-59	
Composite/other breeds	7,816	112	361	178	-1	91%	337	698	472	36	
Sheep											
Merino Ewes and Lambs	1,181	226	371	296	31	93%	405	510	455	48	
Merino Wethers	1,353	113	133	123	-13	53%	272	302	289	7	
Joined Ewes											
SIL Merino ewes	5,652	170	334	245	-17	80%	333	602	424	-26	
SM Merino ewes	906	155	224	193	2	45%	344	465	395	98	
SIL first cross ewe	5,074	196	370	303	-35	59%	320	605	478	-7	
SM first cross ewes	1,068	190	275	233	-67	44%	307	572	439	-87	
Non Station Mated (NSM)											
Merino hogget ewes	1,015	108	260	181	-84	64%	278	562	368	-162	
Merino ewes	1,876	133	286	189	15	62%	235	473	340	17	
first cross ewe	160	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
composite/other breeds	3,168	210	332	260	8	41%	210	526	358	-46	
shedding breed ewes	1,551	205	577	329	52	91%	315	986	615	101	

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