

AuctionsPlus weekly sheep & lamb summary – w/e 26 March 2021

In the wake of the very wet conditions, total lamb and sheep exclusively offered through AuctionsPlus this week contracted 21%, to 85,803 head. With the sharp contraction in supplies, prices were largely higher for all categories, especially assessed joined ewes, with the refreshed seasonal conditions adding further impetus to the rebuilding intentions.

With the 21% drop in overall offerings this week, the supply of SIL Merino ewes slipped back 4%, with the average price for the past week increasing \$10, to \$265/head, with the 79% clearance rate also well above last weeks tally. The average price for SIL first cross ewes also increased on last week, up \$3, to \$303/head – with the clearance rate for the week well up on last week at 60%.

For the other main sheep lines, NSM Merino ewes increased \$14 on last week, at \$215/head, with an 89% clearance rate for the 4,716 head offered. NSM Merino ewe hoggets was one of the few categories to decline for the week, back \$28, to average \$217/head, with only a 31% clearance rate.

On the lamb front, the sharp contraction in supplies contributed to some renewed upwards momentum into prices, with average clearance rates for all categories exceeding 80%. Crossbred lamb supplies declined 34% on last week, to only 10,473 head, with returns rising \$12, to average \$176/head – with an 84% clearance rate. Similarly, the supply of Merino wether lambs declined 39% on last week, to 10,543 head, with the average price up \$10, to \$147/head – at an 88% clearance rate.

Contributing to the very high clearance rate for the lamb categories this week was the very deliberate reserve levels set by online sellers – with many reportedly very keen to lock in sales and have lambs off farm prior to the approaching holiday disrupted Easter weeks.

One of the highlight sales for the week was the transaction of 30 Australian White future breeder ewe lambs, out of Oberon NSW, at \$563/head – the second highest lamb price on record for AuctionPlus. The August 2020 drop lambs, with Tattykeel bloodlines, averaged 43.2kg liveweight, giving the equivalent of 2,365.6c/kg dressed.

NOTE: Prices are as at 5pm Thursday, 25th March 2021.

For more categories, please go to:

[National AuctionsPlus Store Report - Sheep and Lamb](#)
[Sheep Averages 23/03/2021](#)

Classification	Offered	Low	High	Average	Change	Clearance	Low	High	Average	Change
\$/head							actual €/kg lwt			
Lambs										
Crossbreds	10,473	143	253	176	12	84%	362	558	446	-6
Merino wethers	10,543	116	176	147	10	88%	345	473	389	12
first cross ewe	6,158	135	302	229	-31	83%	341	727	516	-16
Merino ewe	2,596	180	251	216	27	-	381	962	671	205
Shedding breeds	3,649	157	563	302	23	81%	420	1303	697	44
Composite/other breeds	8,894	138	305	196	46	92%	281	568	450	-9
Sheep										
Merino wethers	2,633	99	177	140	1	53%	271	339	305	17
Joined Ewes										
SIL Merino ewes	16,842	126	330	265	10	79%	194	613	403	16
SM Merino ewes	3,936	220	278	238	39	53%	307	542	394	-17
SIL first cross ewe	5,836	250	371	303	3	60%	324	635	436	-2
SM first cross ewe	2,196	350	352	350	85	99%	575	578	575	187
Non Station Mated (NSM)										
Merino hogget ewes	2,478	113	320	217	-28	31%	330	613	448	-7
Merino ewes	4,716	114	319	215	14	89%	259	594	398	43
first cross ewe	63	190	190	190	-99	100%	337	337	337	-93
composite/other breeds	2,535	280	363	309	7	71%	339	501	405	-28
shedding breed ewes	1,006	220	403	331	86	73%	375	644	542	92

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