

## Big lift at Kamora Park merited

A 21% lift in average price, plus a 16% lift in top price while also clearing 19 more rams was the reward for an outstanding offering of Poll Merino rams at Kamora Park, Sandalwood in the morning of Friday (4<sup>th</sup> August).

The vendors, Colin, Julie, Katelyn and Wade Boughen penned 194 big, plain bodied and soundly structured rams carrying bright, long stapled, free growing and well-nourished wools for competition from 56 registered buyers from five states amongst the large crowd.

The evenness of quality from lot one to the end was a feature and a real credit to the vendors.

Landmark joint auctioneer Gordon Wood said the sheep and wool industries were in great shape and with the overnight rain, plus more forecast, buyers could bid up with confidence. This they duly did, resulting in 191 of 194 rams selling to a \$7200 top and averaged \$2059, well up on the previous year's good results.

With the usual buyers' hesitancy at the beginning of the sale, the top 20 rams that contained most of the stars in the offering were arguably cheap compared with the prices through the balance of the sale. These 20 averaged \$3670, while the next 20 averaged only \$590 less.

The \$7200 top priced ram was KP325 at lot 12, being purchased by Craig and Jed Keller, Keller Partners, Ramsgate stud through Landmark Tintinara. With wool figures of 19.6 mic, 2.6 SD, 13.3 CV and 99.8 CF and YCFW of 26.2, supported by a yearling weight EBV of +6.7 and a Dual Purpose Index of 151, this son of KP333 impressed many. A semen share was taken up by Scott Welke, Wesswood Poll, Cascade, WA through Classings Ltd's Bill Walker. At the ram's six month shearing it cut 6.76kg.

Craig Keller said, "We liked the ram for the all-round package he offered. He has tremendous barrel, lustrous fibre with figures that back up his visual excellence, plus we have confidence in his breeding potential, being sired by the proven fibre/meat ram in KP333."

A big reason for the \$364 lift in average price was the stronger middle ground prices, with more buyers being prepared to go to higher levels. This saw 12 rams sell for \$4000 or better and a further 24 exceed \$3000. However, there was value right through the sale, especially considering the very positive industry outlook, with 27% selling for \$1000 or less.

Regular very strong supporters, John and Paul Wegner, Wegner Bros and buying through Landmark Karoonda were again very prominent, purchasing 23 rams, paying to \$3600 and averaging \$2513. In chasing top rams the stronger middle ground competition saw them pay \$617 more on average than the previous year for the same number of rams.

Operating at the budget end of the catalogue was regular volume buyer Andrew Wall, Wall & Neindorf, Langdoon Station, via Broken Hill. He purchased 14 rams to \$1000 and averaged \$750. Last year he was able to purchase 24 rams in this price range.

*Andrew Wall, purchased another 31 rams after the sale to go with the 14 purchased out of the sale.*

Adam Bradley, Platinum Livestock, Keith and purchasing for Marcollat Pastoral was a very strong bidder and successful in buying 11 rams to \$2700 and at an \$1818 average.

Also hitting double figures was LD & S Stasinowsky & Co, Mantung, via Karoonda with 10 rams to \$1800 and at a \$1290 average; while ND & CM Smith, Loxton (nine rams ave \$889) and GR & FJ Zadow, Karoonda (eight rams ave \$2150) were also prominent in the volume buying stakes.

R & CS Rudiger, Karoonda paid the \$4600 second top price for KP358, another very powerful and strong boned KP333 son, this being their only purchase.

Alastair MacAllan, Red Creek (two to \$4400 and ave \$4200), DA & HMM Shepley, Corny Point (one at \$4400) and Morrels Pastoral Co, Bowhill (three to \$4400 and ave \$3733) were strong at the top end while two sale regulars, Scott Dinham, Tailem Bend (six rams ave \$3117) and Ian Symons, WhyGee Pastoral, Karoonda (five rams ave \$3500) pushed the very top bidders, both paying to \$4200 in their purchases.

MG & PM Blight, Seymour Park stud, Highbury, WA paid \$3800 for another top KP333 son to add a fourth state to the successful buyers. This followed on from 2 top rams they purchased last year for \$5000 and \$4600.

### **Sale Summary**

	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
<b>Offered</b>	194	182
<b>Sold</b>	191	172
<b>Top</b>	\$7200	\$6200
<b>Average</b>	\$2059	\$1695

**Agents:** Landmark Karoonda

**Auctioneers:** Gordon Wood & Richard Miller



*Pictured with the \$7200 top priced ram at the Kamora Park Poll Merino ram sale and held by Kamora Park's Katelyn Boughen are Landmark Karoonda manager Kevin Keller and purchasers Jed and Craig Keller, Ramsgate stud, Tintinara.*



*John & Paul Wegner, Wegner Bros, Karoonda were again very strong buyers, purchasing 23 rams to \$3600 and averaging \$2513.*



*The Landmark selling team, with Gordon Wood and Richard Miller sharing auctioneering duties are pictured in action during the early lots at Kamora Park ram sale.*