

MEDIA RELEASE

Consistent Allendale quality rewarded

A 5½ hour marathon was required to complete the Allendale sheep sale at Bordertown last Friday, but it was all smiles afterwards. Purchasers were able to secure outstanding quality sheep at value from all 3 prime lamb industry breeds (Suffolks, White Suffolks and Poll Dorsets) at the Day family's 35th annual on-property sale, while the vendors saw a big improvement in results in nearly every category from last year's drought affected sale results.

With stud ram, stud ewe and flock ram drafts on offer from each of the 3 breeds, some 380 head were put through the sale ring. Buyers from 3 states came and went as each section of the sale flowed, providing solid competition. At the end of the day, 336 (88%) sold at auction to a top of \$8,500 with an average price of \$810.71 being achieved. The clearance was well up on last year, as was the gross and average price. In 2006 the sale coincided with 'producer panic', as reality hit that a good spring was not going to happen. This year has been far from perfect, but the immediate area and south are now looking a lot better than the 2006 prospects.

The highlight of the day was undoubtedly the results in the Suffolk section. The 30 stud Suffolk ewes in particular were so strongly sought after that the average of \$661.66 was well above last year's top of \$600 and \$290 up on the 2006 average.

Alan Gum, Lameroo paid to \$800 in purchasing 5 Suffolk ewes, while Ian Kyle, Bairnsdale was the biggest volume buyer, purchasing 7 Suffolk ewes in total from \$550 to \$650. Top price of \$850 was paid by DS & CJ Ferguson, Anna Villa, Weetulta, while purchasing 4 ewes in a move to resurrect their Suffolk stud.

This demand flowed through to the ram sections, with the stud rams being particularly strong. Bill and Sandy Harbison, One Tree Hill were pushed by Alan Gum on the top ram (lot 2), before winning the battle at \$8,500. This is the second highest price ever for a Suffolk at Allendale, surpassed only by the \$10,750 record priced ram, also purchased by the Harbisons in 1997.

Alan Gum then went to \$7,000 to get lot 3. Both these rams were winners of 6 first prizes at Adelaide, Melbourne and Hamilton shows leading up to the sale.

KC McCallum & Co, Melrose paid \$4,500 while Rachel Chirgwin, Curlew Valley stud, Kangaroo Island purchased 2 top rams @ \$2,500 and \$2,000 in great value buying. The 11 Suffolk stud rams averaged \$3,523; approximately \$800 above last year's average.

The Suffolk flock ram section saw a total clearance of the 28 rams offered. The top of \$900 was paid by Munga Developments, Frances for one of 11 they bought through PPH & S to also be the biggest volume buyer of Suffolk flock rams.

Roley Day, AC Day & Sons, Western Flat, purchased 5 to \$700 to also be a strong buyer, later adding 6 Poll Dorsets and 4 White Suffolk flock rams to secure 15 rams on the day.

Coolana Rural, Chatworth, Vic also purchased 5 Suffolk flock rams to \$600 to be solid contributors to the overall average of \$686, up \$8 on last year.

The highest stud ewe price of the day at \$900 came in the offering of 38 White Suffolk stud ewes. This was paid by Leigh Williams, Karnak, Vic for one of 2 top ewes he bought for his 'Lake View' stud. Volume buying in this section was provided by Heather Shaw, buying through Rodwells, Mansfield. She picked up 13 ewes in total from \$200 to \$250. Allendale regulars, John and Colleen Bellis, Mudgee, NSW were also strong bidders, successfully purchasing 8 ewes from \$200 to \$400 while Ian Nunan, Bundy Park, via Lucindale and

buying through Denis Manhood Livestock purchased 5 White Suffolk ewes to \$300. He later added 4 Poll Dorset ewes including one at the equal top price of \$400 in that section of the sale.

White Suffolk stud rams topped at \$5,000 twice, double last year's top, while averaging \$2,125; \$350 more than in 2006.

Anthony Smith, Belladonna stud, Horsham, Vic and buying through Brian Simmons Livestock went to that figure for Allendale B292, a son of the \$35,000 DG 'Fair Dinkum'. Leigh Williams, who earlier bought the top White Suffolk ewe at \$900 combined with fellow Karnak breeders, Tony and Gwenda Gilpin to purchase the impressive Allendale B116, also for \$5,000.

KC McCallum, Melrose paid \$3,000 for a White Suffolk stud ram to add to their earlier Suffolk purchase. Kent and Rose Martin would be close to being the longest and strongest supporters of Allendale stud genetics in all 3 breeds, this year being no exception. They purchased the 2nd top priced White Suffolk ram @ \$4,500 (1st in the pairs in Melbourne) and also added another White Suffolk at \$1,250; a Suffolk at \$2,000 and a Poll Dorset at \$1,000.

White Suffolk flock rams topped at \$1,000 (up \$150 on 2006) and averaged a solid \$639.37 (up \$97) in an improved clearance as well, with 83 of 87 finding buyers.

First time buyers at Allendale, T & MA Fatchen, buying through Landmark Bordertown were determined to start with the best. They paid the \$1,000 top (x 2), plus one at \$850 in securing their 3 rams. Competition for the White Suffolk flock rams was very even and solid, with 23 bidders successful in purchasing rams. The strongest were RAC Knowling through Elders, Bordertown; CH Weise, Bordertown and J & D Western, through Landmark, Leongatha, Vic who all purchased 6 rams in the \$450 to \$700 range.

AG Laundry through Elders Leongatha and CL Kilsby & Co through O & G Mt Gambier were not far behind, picking up 5 rams each in a similar price range.

Poll Dorset rams met a vastly improved clearance from the 2006 result. This year the 16 stud rams topped at \$7,500 (up \$3,500) and averaged \$2,125 (up \$225). The flock rams achieved an even bigger improvement though. While the top was the same at \$1,300, and the average on what was sold was actually down \$20, this year 101 of 105 cleared, whereas only 62 sold at auction in 2006.

Neville Hutchesson, Margate stud, Millicent, regularly purchases top Allendale Poll Dorset stud rams and this year he paid the \$7,500 top for lot 31, Allendale 22, an upstanding, alert and active son of A452/04 that also had exceptional Lambplan ASBVs.

Gary Long, Buangor, Vic went to \$5,000 to secure A103, a high performance son of Valma Y52/03, to be the 2nd top priced Poll Dorset stud ram.

A highlight leading up to the sale was the offering of A252, the Adelaide All-breeds Supreme Champion ram. Although not as high as the above 2 rams in Lambplan figures, this beautifully balanced ram (in both structure and performance) was an absolute surprise 'gift' for Lachlan Grundy, Naracoorte, when he was able to purchase him for only \$3,000; a classic case of being in the right place at the right time!

Cameron Grundy, Naracoorte paid the 3rd top of \$4,500 for a Rannoch Z288 son.

CP & EM Wurst, through Elders Bordertown went to the \$1,300 top in the flock ram section while purchasing 5 rams. V & L Munro (Elders Naracoorte) were also strong at the top end, paying \$1,000 three times and averaging \$914 in successfully purchasing 7 Poll Dorset rams. Biggest volume buyer on the day was Tallageira Pastoral, Wrattenbully and buying through Landmark Naracoorte. They purchased 16 Poll Dorset rams from \$500 to \$600 and also added 3 White Suffolks to pick up 19 in total on the day.

Also very strong in the volume stakes in Poll Dorset flock rams were S Windsor (through O & G Mt Gambier) purchasing 14 rams from \$400 to \$600 and Graetz Family Trust (Elders Bordertown) with 10 rams @ \$400 each.

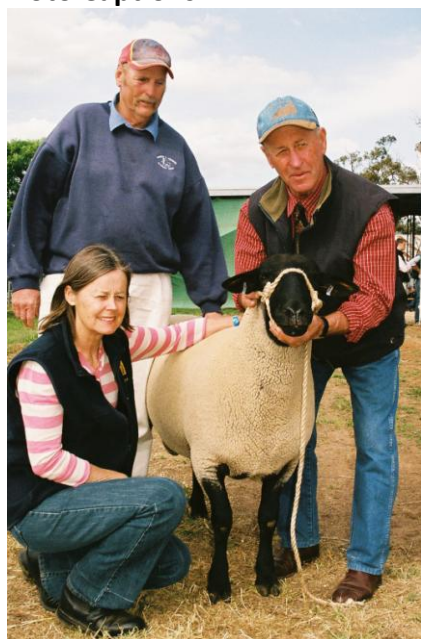
The only slight disappointment in a great sale was the Poll Dorset stud ewe result. The offering of 48 magnificent ewes met limited demand, with only 20 selling at auction to a top of \$400 and averaging \$262.50. Several more sold immediately after the auction and although this was well up on the 2006 result when only 8 sold for a \$219 average, it was still disappointing, especially considering the quality.

Making the most of the buying opportunity though was EC Newell, Naracoorte, picking up 6 to the equal sale top of \$400. PF & AM Nevill, Woodford, Vic and Ian Nunan, Bray, SA purchased 4 each, with Mr Nunan also paying \$400.

Sale Summary

Suffolks	Offered	Sold	Top	Gross	Average
Stud ewes	30	30	\$850	\$9,850	\$661.66
Stud rams	11	11	\$8,500	\$38,750	\$3,523
Flock rams	28	28	\$900	\$19,200	\$685.70
White Suffolks					
Stud ewes	38	33	\$900	\$10,300	\$312.12
Stud rams	17	14	\$5,000	\$30,000	\$2,143
Flock rams	87	83	\$1,000	\$53,000	\$639.76
Poll Dorsets					
Stud ewes	48	20	\$400	\$5,250	\$262.50
Stud rams	16	16	\$7,500	\$34,000	\$2,125
Flock rams	105	101	\$1,300	\$53,100	\$639.76
Overall	380	336	\$8,500	\$272,400	\$810.71
Agents	Landmark & Elders				
Auctioneers	Malcolm Scroop & Gordon Wood (Landmark) Jono Spence & Luke Schrieber (Elders)				

Photo Captions



<< Allendale principal Graham Day holds Allendale 33, the stud's \$8,500 top selling Suffolk ram at their 35th annual sheep sale last week, with happy purchasers Bill & Sandy Harbison, One Tree Hill, SA looking on.

Allendale principal Graham Day holds Allendale 58, the Suffolk ram that sold for \$7,000 at the stud's 35th annual sheep sale last week, with purchasers Alan & Megan Gum, Lameroo looking on. >>



<< These 2 Suffolk rams were shown in pairs and progeny groups at 3 major shows leading up to the Allendale sale and accumulated 6 first prizes each. They sold for \$7,000 and \$8,500 at last week's sale. Pictured with the \$7,000 ram are purchasers, Alan & Megan Gum, Lameroo, while purchasers Bill & Sandy Harbison, One Tree Hill are with the \$8,500 sale topper held by Allendale principal Graham Day.

Neville Hutchesson, Margate Poll Dorset stud, Millicent is with the \$7,500 top selling Poll Dorset ram he purchased at the 35th Allendale on-property sale. The ram is held by Allendale principal Graham Day.

>>





<< These 2 White Suffolk stud rams sold for the equal top price of \$5,000 in that section of the Allendale sale last week. With them are Leigh Williams and Tony Gilpin, both from Karnak, Vic and joint purchasers of the ram (left) held by Allendale principal Graham Day; Brian Simmons, Brian Simmons Livestock Horsham, agent for Anthony Smith, Horsham who purchased the ram he is holding on the right.

Key participants in the stud ewe section of the Allendale sale last week were Ian Kyle, Bairnsdale, Vic (purchased 7 Suffolk and 3 White Suffolk ewes to \$650); Anthony Ferguson, Weetulla, SA (purchased 4 Suffolks to the top of \$850 plus 2 White Suffolks); Doug and Michael Deppeler, Derinallum, Vic (purchased 3 Suffolks @ \$650); Denis Manhood, Denis Manhood Livestock, Millicent, agent for Ian Nunan, Hilton Rural, Bray, SA (purchased 5 White Suffolks & 4 Poll Dorsets to an equal top price of \$400) >>

