

Amazing Allendale/Days sale

After an amazing sale the sound of the hammer going down on the last of 445 lots at the combined Allendale and Days Whiteface sheep sale at Bordertown was indeed sweet.

After five hours of selling, the auctioneers from the three selling agents, Elders, Landmark and Spence Dix & Co had refereed active bidding from 106 registered buyers competing for the stud and flock rams and stud ewes from the four breeds on offer.

In this combined offering, Alastair and Jayne Day and family, Allendale studs offered 235 Suffolks and Poll Dorsets. In a wonderful overall result there was an 87% clearance and half of the different breed categories had improved results on last year's great sale.

Like a majority of this year's meat sheep stud sales, stud ram demand was generally weaker, which was not reflective of the outstanding quality on offer. The main strength of this sale was provided by commercial producers keen to secure their sire needs in a prime lamb industry that is still strong and has positive signs for the future, while stud ewe buyers were considerably more active than last year.

An 11am start saw the stud ewes go under the hammer first. These sold exceptionally and justifiably well this year. To open the sale, 39 Suffolk ewes all cleared to an \$1100 top price and averaged \$558, up \$127, despite an increase of 12 ewes on last year's offering.

Warra J Suffolks, through TDC Penola paid to the \$1100 top for one of three Suffolk ewes they purchased. A & J Boyer, Nagambie and buying through Spence Dix & Co were the dominant volume buyers purchasing 15 Suffolk ewes, later adding one Poll Dorset ewe and a Suffolk stud ram. Tolmer Rocks Suffolks, also through Spence Dix & Co purchased seven Suffolk ewes and later added a stud ram to also be prominent.

Sixteen Poll Dorset stud ewes received good competition, all selling to \$400 and averaging \$366. The sale's volume buyer, TW & EN MacKereth selected 12 Poll Dorset ewes, including seven at the \$400 top price.

In the stud ram section of the sale, eleven very even and high quality Allendale Poll Dorset stud rams met very limited stud demand. All sold, but only \$2000 was the top price, this being successfully bid six times. Martin Harvey added two of these to make the most of the extreme value of offer. Elders Strathalbyn, A/c Furan Props purchased three of these Poll Dorsets for their commercial lamb enterprise, paying \$2000 and \$1750 (x2).

Suffolk stud rams returned to the top price honours when Allendale 121054 sold for \$5000. With a string of Adelaide and Melbourne Show successes, including reserve champion ram plus being in two interbreed winning groups at Melbourne, this son of the new New Zealand sire Unique F23 was purchased by Kerry Graham and Malcolm Schaefer, Skallemaro Suffolk stud on Kangaroo Island. They later added another $\frac{3}{4}$ NZ blood ram at \$2000, adding to two ewes purchased earlier for \$900 and \$700.

The McCallum family, Gum View stud, Melrose paid \$4500 and the Branson family, Mortlake, Vic paid \$4000 for other stud rams in an outstanding draft of 14; these averaging \$2554.

Following the stud ram offering, the large flock ram drafts came under the hammer; these meeting very good competition. In a slight contradiction, the wonderful Allendale Poll Dorset draft achieved the second highest average price, but also saw 23 passed. From the 100 offered, 77 found new homes, selling to a top of \$1600 and averaging \$982, all up on last year's result.

Bergan Park, through Spence Dix & Co purchased six Poll Dorset rams, including the top priced lot and averaging \$1217. LS Johnson & Son, through Elders Naracoorte also purchased six to \$1250 and at a \$958 average in an even spread of buyers, until orders were filled. The Stoney family, 'Elingerrin' and buying through HF Richardson, Geelong was the strongest flock ram purchaser at this sale, including 13 Poll Dorsets.

The Allendale Suffolk flock ram draft saw an increased offering of 55 rams in response to past strong demand. Buying support also increased, with 48 clearing to \$1500 and averaging \$846, all up on last year. There was a good spread of buyers, with Elders Keith, A/c Kinyerrie Partnership going to the \$1500 top for one of three top Suffolk rams, adding to two White Suffolks purchased earlier.

RJ, SL and JM Wilson, through Spence Dix & Co, with seven Suffolk rams were the biggest volume buyers in this draft, but PPH & S Naracoorte clients DC Brown (six rams) and Mungah Developments (five rams) and the Hann family, Nampara, through Elders Penola (also with five rams) were strong contributors to the very good result.

Sale Summary

Allendale: Poll Dorsets

11 of 11 stud rams sold to \$2000 and averaged \$1818

77 of 100 flock rams sold to \$1600 and averaged \$982

16 of 16 stud ewes sold to \$400 and averaged \$366

Allendale: Suffolks

14 of 14 stud rams sold to \$5000 and averaged \$2554

48 of 55 flock rams sold to \$1500 and averaged \$846

39 of 39 stud ewes sold to \$1100 and averaged \$558

Agents: Landmark, Elders and Spence Dix & Co

Auctioneers: Malcolm Scroop and Gordon Wood (Landmark), Ross Milne (Elders) and Jono Spence (Spence Dix & Co)

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The \$5000 top priced ram in the combined Allendale/Days sale was this Suffolk purchased by Malcolm Schaefer and Kerry Graham, Skallemaro Suffolk stud, Kangaroo Island and held by Allendale principal Alastair Day. They started their stud with ewes from the Burwood dispersal and also added two more ewes and another ram at this sale.



Hamish Branson, Banquet, Mortlake, Vic was absolutely chuffed with this new Suffolk sire his family purchased for \$4000 for Hamish's relatively new Suffolk stud at the combined Allendale/Days Whiteface sheep sale at Bordertown.



The Boyer family, Nagambie was the dominant Suffolk ewe buyer at the combined Allendale/Days Whiteface sale, purchasing 15 Suffolk ewes, plus a Suffolk ram and one Poll Dorset ewe. Pictured are Rebecca, Andrea, Ben, Lachlan and Thomas Boyer after completing their buying.

