

Callowie's successful return

For Richard and Jacquie Halliday and family, their August 25th Poll Merino ram sale was a long and enduring relief after their well-documented saga of dealing with a Johnes incident on their property. That has taken a huge emotional and economical toll, so it was good to see the support of friends, clients and some fellow stud breeders at their first ram auction back in the industry.

Only 30 rams were offered in their main auction, plus 18 others available in a mini auction, or for private selection if needed. In their break, Callowie has also adopted Merino Select measurements and these were presented on all sale rams.

"We had no great expectations before the sale, or any misapprehension that it isn't going to be hard to work our way back into the market place," Richard Halliday said.

"In that respect, the result was on par with what we thought it might have been," he added.

The result was that 25 rams sold to a top of \$2800 and averaged \$988. There were 11 successful bidders and pleasingly for the Hallidays, these included two new ones.

The rams were wonderfully presented and as Richard Halliday explained pre-sale, they represented what the stud had been breeding previously. They were AI produced from their two leading sires from 2011, out of ewes purchased in on the same bloodlines as previously run, and carried the same 'bale filling' 19-21 micron wools for which Callowie was well recognised.

Four buyers dominated the result; three loyal past clients and one new one. Stuart Kyle, Kyle Livestock represented Cove Station, just over the SA/Vic border at Dinyarrak, and supported David Jaensch in purchasing three rams. These included the \$2800 sale topper. Sired by Pugsley, this 120kg ram had wonderful 20.7 micron wool with a yearling clean fleece weight ASBV of +3.51 and was also positive for eye muscle. Kyle Livestock also purchased for Steve Hobbs, Yarrock Farms, Yarrock and their tally was four rams, paying from \$800 to \$1100 in great value buying.

Long term clients, Pitlochry Station, through PPH & S Naracoorte were back again and also purchased four rams from \$600 to \$800 at even better value buying.

However it was a long term supporter who travelled the furthest who was the biggest volume buyer. Keith Nutt, AK & AH Nutt, through Landmark Orroroo purchased five rams, all sons of Callowie Orange3, paying from \$600 to the sale's second top price of \$1900.

Sale Summary

Offered: 30 Sold: 25 Top: \$2800 Average: \$988

Agents: Landmark Bordertown Auctioneer: Malcolm Scroop