

SALE SUMMARY

	2018	2017
Offered	66	49
Sold	36	43
Top	\$2400 (x2)	\$3500
Av	\$1442	\$1195

BUYERS were spoilt for choice at Callowie Poll Merino stud's annual on-property auction at Bordertown on Monday with a top line-up of large-framed, medium wool, heavy-cutting rams.

The average was up nearly \$250 on 2017 but still represented some of the 2018 Merino ram selling season's best value buying.

Richard and Jacquie Halliday sold 36 of 66 May/June 2017-drop rams for a \$1442 average but a lack of competition in the second half of the catalogue saw 11 rams knocked down at the \$800 base price.

Ricky Miles and Ben Dunstall, Cove Station, Kaniva, Vic, were the major buyers with nine rams averaging \$1533.

Their draft included the first of the \$2400 equal top price rams at lot 5, a 21.2 micron upstanding ram with wool tests including 3.5 standard deviation, 15.8 coefficient of variation and a 98.8 per cent comfort factor.

The ram, sired by Callowie 140009, had a MerinoSelect Dual Production index of 131.

"We have been on them for a fairly long time for their robustness and wool-cutting ability and fertility," Mr Miles said.

Keith Nutt, Cactus Creek, Orroroo, also went to the same money to secure lot 13, a 17.8M son of AI sire Towalba 021525. It was among five rams Mr Nutt bought averaging \$1980.

Mr Halliday was pleased to see a couple of new buyers among the 11 registered bidders from across SA and western Vic.

‘We lost a volume buyer this year which had an impact but it was to the advantage of our clients who got value for money,’ he said.

He said it had been pleasing to receive good feedback on their genetics, including a client with ewes cutting 6.5 kilograms of wool.

Landmark stud stock’s Richard Miller said the sale offered great value for money and commended the stud on its even offering.

Catherine Miller – Stock Journal