

Inaugural Tasmanian Dohne Ram Sale

Campbell Town Showground was the venue for Tasmania's first multi-vendor dohne ram sale on Wednesday 17th February. Registered studs from Tasmania, Victoria and NSW offered a well presented line up of pure-bred dohne rams.

Rams sold to \$2,100 and averaged a healthy \$1,145.

The top price ram was sold by the Macquarie Stud, Warren NSW to Woodlock Stud Canowindra, NSW. The ram had figures of +13.2 body weight, +1.10 for eye muscle, -0.20 for fibre diameter and an index of 122.6.

Macquarie along with daughter stud Havelock Park Stratford, Vic sold the two second top priced rams at \$1800 to AW Singline & Sons, Weldborough and Steve & Debbie Buckland, Winkleigh.

Local stud Breeders Neil & Diane Watson Pine View Stud were the only stud to record a 100% clearance with their top ram selling to AW Singline & Sons for \$1,000.

Glenaroua Stud Kilmore Vic sold a ram to Lochiel Pastoral Ross for \$1,400.

Other buyers included Colin Gibson Epping Forest, AN & KJ Hitchens Sandy Bay, WA & RV Webster Woodbury, GR & S Bull Swansea, JR Nicholson & Sons Campbell Town and Patrick McShane Avoca.

In the breakdown Havelock Park sold 2 from 4 for a \$1,300 average, Macquarie sold 13 from 15 for a \$1,245 average, Glenaroua sold 4 from 16 for a \$950 average and Pine View sold 3 from 3 for an \$866 average.

Selling agents were Roberts Ltd and TP Jones & Co.

Inaugural Macquarie Victorian Stud Ewe Sale

In December 2009 Macquarie held its inaugural Victorian stud ewe sale at Elmore. 140 mixed age stud ewes were offered and 140 sold for a \$349 average. Top price of \$500 per head was paid by Michael and Adrienne Edgar Mithril Dohne Stud, Geelong VIC for a pen of 2006 drop ewes. Overall the Edgar's purchased 36 ewes for a \$397 average.

Grahame and Helen Crawford Goldvale Dohne Stud Kingscote, S.A purchased a pen of 06 drop ewes for \$400 each. Rob Everett, Rokewood Junction VIC paid \$420 per head for a pen of 05 drop ewes and Barnadown Dohne Stud, Epsom paid \$230 per head for a pen of 04 drop ewes. Steve Buckland, Winkleigh Tasmania purchased a pen of 2002 drop ewes for \$140 per head.

Strong demand at Elmore

*** 46 of 46 rams sold to \$7000 * Averaged \$2089**

STRONG demand pushed prices to \$7000 at last month's Elmore Dohne multi-vendor sale.

Buyers swooped on the offering from six studs in Victoria and NSW, with all 46 rams offered sold for a \$2089 average and prices never dipping below \$1000. Bidding shot to a sale high of \$7000 for lot one – a July 2007-drop ram offered by Macquarie stud, Warren, NSW, backed with a set of estimated breeding values that included 14.00 for body weight, 1.00 for eye muscle depth, greasy fleece weight of -8.1 and fleece diameter of – 0.9. The ram was secured by James Lilburne, Australian TopStock, for client Bill Pye, Calga Dohne stud, Coonamble, NSW. Mr Pye rounded off his buying with another stud sire purchase, this time of a Uardry, Hay, NSW, ram for \$3000. Macquarie also sold the second top price ram for \$4500 to Rob McColl and family, Meredith, selected with the assistance of Richard Edgar, Arcadian Woolbrokers, Geelong. “We thought we might have to pay even more for a ram of this quality, so we're very happy,” said Mr McColl, who drove all the way to Warren to inspect him. The Macquarie ram was earmarked by Richard Edgar due to its “lustrous bright wool” and with an 18.8 micron and a 100 per cent comfort factor, the figures certainly backed up those sentiments. Other big earners included a DD Dohnes ram sold for \$4000 to Western Australian buyer, Ewlyamartup Farms, Katanning. Several buyers picked up multiple lots, including: KJ Nunn Pty Ltd, Snake Valley, four lots to \$3500 for an average of \$2650; Warrawee Pastoral, Kyalite, five rams to \$2400, av \$1560 and JR Nicholson and Son, Campbell Town, Tasmania, three rams to \$1800.

SE Dohnes post \$1655 average

***40 of 44 rams sold to \$3200 *Averaged \$1655**

LAST month's South Eastern Breeders multi-vendor Dohne sale at Naracoorte, SA, produced the highest average in the sale's four year history with 40 of the 44 rams selling for a \$1655 average. This year's average represented a more than \$400 jump on the previous year and the high clearance rate reflected the inroads the participating studs have made into the South East and western Victorian areas as sheep breeders look for a dualpurpose income. Vendors included two first-time sellers,

Goldvale at Kingscote, SA and DD Dohnes from Moama, NSW. DD Dohnes - owned by a consortium of Australian and South African breeders – set the bar for prices, selling one of the youngest catalogued rams for the top of \$3200. The September 2008 drop ram had a Dohne \$ index of 120.1 and went to Peter and Tim Hall, Carunna Vale, Jamestown, SA, who have now taken home the sale's top-priced ram for three years in a row. More than 60 per cent of the catalogue were AA rated rams which buyers obviously appreciated because the two studs with the highest averages Havelock Park at Straford and Uardry stud, Hay, NSW had entire drafts of AA rams. Macquarie stud, Warren, NSW, sold the \$2800 second top priced ram to Pilerim Bros, Horsham, which was another high figured ram with a Dohne \$ index of 123.6. The day's volume buyers were TK and PA Brinkworth, Kingston and JE Caulis, Moree, NSW, who each bought five rams for an average of \$1740 and \$1520 respectively.

Macquarie Dohne stud ram sale 300909

Mark Griggs

Photos in cumulus

A total auction clearance of 142 rams averaging \$1946, up \$544 on last year, heralded a spectacular on-property sale for Macquarie Dohne stud, Warren, on Wednesday, September 30.

Co-principals, John Nadin and Greg McCann and families were delighted with the response from Dohne breeders from three states who purchased to a top of \$8000 for stud rams and \$4500 for the graded rams from among the largest offering of Dohnes rams anywhere in eastern Australia.

Walgett based Midgery Dohne stud or David and Annie Berrell, will be where the \$8000 top-priced stud ram will head the sire battery.

“He’s big, long bodied straight ram with very bright stylish wool and excellent EBV’s,” Mr Berrell said of the July’07 drop son of Mt Alma sire ASH050102.

“This will be a new family line for our stud of 150 ewes,” he said.

The Berrells’ also run a commercial flock of 2500 F2 and F3 ewes.

Two stud rams went to Victoria with Robert and Janet Robertson, Havelock Park Dohne stud, Stratford, paying \$7000 for a son of MDO30681, a ram Mr Robertson described as having the body shape and body weight figures.

“He has nice, bright nourished wool and will fit well within our stud,” he said.

The Robertsons’ have another son of “681” for which they paid \$12,000 at the Dohne National, Dubbo, last year.

New Dohne stud breeders, Darren and Fiona Cameron, paid \$6000 for a stud ram which will become one of the foundation sires of their Koonik stud, Goroke, Vic.

The Camerons bought ewes from Macquarie stud last year and see that the style of Dohne would fit well throughout the western areas of the state.

A single purchase at \$4500 secured an AA grade ram for Don Mills, “Kardinia”, Corowa. Leading the multi-lot purchases was Michael O’Brien, “The Brigalows”, Carinda, who secured 17 rams for an average \$2212 while paying up to \$3200 for his top.

Mr O’Brien has been breeding Dohnes since the breed’s inception in Australia and his next drop will place his flock in the F4 category.

Likewise, his brother, Dennis, who paid an average \$1888 for his 16 ram purchases for his Dohne flock at “Cryon”, Walgett.

Stephen Rae secured 12 rams averaging \$2167 for Merri Merri Pty Ltd, “Emby”, Gulargambone, while Robert Woodward and Company, Swan Hill, Vic, paid an average \$1307 for his 15 purchases.

The sale was conducted by Elders and Landmark with Paul Dooley selling for Elders and John Settree for Landmark, Dubbo.

Australian Sheep and Wool Show Fleece Competition 2009

Kardinia, Roseville Park and Macquarie studs exhibited 13 fleeces at the 2009 Australian Sheep and Wool Show Landmark fleece competition in Bendigo.

The quality of the fleeces was exceptional with only 7.85 points separating 1st to last.

In their first showing in the competition John Nadin and Greg McCann's Macquarie Dohne Stud, Warren NSW took out the champion, reserve champion and the most valuable commercial fleece (dual-purpose breeds section).

The champion fleece was off a stud ewe with figures of 18 micron, 99.6 Comfort Factor (CF), 5.0kg Greasy Fleece Weight (GFW skirted), Yield of 71.2% and 111mm staple length. The fleece scored 82.85 points and was valued at 1028c clean or \$37.01.

The reserve champion fleece, also off a Macquarie stud ewe, had the figures of 20.6 micron, 99.2 CV, 5.3 GFW, yield of 69.8% and staple length of 103mm. The fleece scored 80 points and was valued at \$27.82.

Third place was a fleece from Don and Karen Mill's Kardinia Dohne Stud, Corowa. The fleece had a micron of 20.6, 98.2 CV, 5.7 GFW, yield of 64.7% and staple length of 111mm. The fleece scored 79.80 points and was valued at \$27.31.



Macquarie's Clean Sweep at the 9th Australian Fleece Competition

- *Champion Dohne Exhibit*
- *Reserve Champion Fleece*
- *Most Valuable Commercial Fleece (Dual-purpose)*

Macquarie Dohne stud, Autumn Production Sale

By Brad Wilson

Phone bids rang as hot as the 43 degree temperature, as Dohne ewes and rams found new homes in every state except the Northern Territory, at the Macquarie Dohne stud's Autumn production sale, last Friday (6th February).

In the largest offering of stud Dohne ewes in Australia to date, Dohne assessors, buyer representatives and agents were kept busy as interstate buyers tuned into the sale conducting phone bids, competing against eager buyers on the ground.

A complete clearance of 443 stud Dohne ewes ranging from 2007 to 02/01 drop, saw stud ewes top \$300, to average \$155, while 33 from 53 flock rams sold to \$1300 three times, averaging \$933.

Co principal John Nadin said Macquarie Dohne stud is currently running 2000 stud ewes and the production sale was to reduce the stud ewe numbers".

Bruce Barnes-Webb, Dowell Dohne stud, Katanning, Western Australia withstood strong phone bidding competition to secure 45, 06 and 05 drop ewes, including 25, 05 drop stud ewes, paying \$300 per head, averaging \$233.

Dwalganup Pastoral Company, Hamilton, Victoria purchased the \$1300 equal top priced AA, 07 drop ram, displaying a 122.2 index.

Dwalganup Pastoral Co, purchased four rams to average \$950 and 154 mixed aged stud ewes, to average \$154.

Purchasers of the other two \$1300 top priced rams were Brian Taylor, Epsom, Vic and TP Jones and Co "Esk Vale", Tasmania, who averaged \$1043 for their seven rams.

Shayne White, Lucky Downs Dohne stud, Bathurst averaged \$140 for 68, 07 drop stud ewes.

Mr White said it was a rare opportunity to secure good genetics and increase stud ewe numbers.

Other ewe buyers included Wellington Park Estate, Seacombe, Vic who averaged \$131 for their draft of seventy ewes, while Alistair Greenshields, "Mountview" Glenaroua, Vic took home 59 ewes, averaging \$139.

Mr Greenshields said he was chasing the 4 to 5 year old proven breeders; it is a great opportunity to get some more stud ewes, if you consider the cost of embryo and artificial insemination costs.

Volume ram buyers were Robert Everett, Rockwood Junction, Vic, who purchased ten rams to average \$960, while the Stirton family, Queensland averaged \$800 for their draft of ten rams.

The sale was conducted by Landmark with Mark Barton and Adam Chudleigh as the auctioneers.

Macquarie Dohne stud sale report 2008 Brad Wilson

Macquarie Dohne stud, Warren, sold rams to \$2600 twice, to average \$1402, in the sixty seven per cent clearance of 150 rams, the largest line up of Dohne rams in Eastern Australia, last week (Monday October 13).

Continued support from established clients saw rams travel to Walgett, Yeoval, Collarenebri, Gulargambone, Dubbo, Garah and to the Queensland pastoral areas of Cunnamulla and Bollon. Greg McCann Co Principal, Macquarie Dohne stud said "the aim of the stud is to breed high reproductive, performing sheep, with rapid growth rates, while maintaining the wool quality of the 19 – 20 micron clip".

Chris Carrigan, "Welbon", Garah, purchased four rams, including one of the \$2600 sale top price, AA, 133.9 indexing ram rams, to average \$1900.

"Mr Carrigan, who has purchased at the sale since it commenced five years ago, said "he was breeding towards a pure Dohne flock".

"The quality ram has good wool and figures, on a big frame, and the Macquarie Dohne stud provides a good client relationship", Mr Carrigan said.

Mark and Sam Evans, "Martindale", Walgett, took home seven rams, paying to \$2600 the equal top priced ram, to average \$1743.

Sam Evans described the ram as displaying "good length, size and muscle pattern, accompanied by good figures and wool quality".

Volume buyers included Dennis O'Brien, "Cryon Station", Walgett, who averaged \$1666 for his draft of fifteen rams, five more than last year, while Dave Hawker, Westlea Pastoral Company, Cunnamulla Queensland, took home ten rams, to average \$1400.

Mr Hawker, who is breeding towards a pure Dohne flock, has just recently purchased Calga Dohne Studs, F1 flock ewes, said "he was happy with the selection of rams, the size, structure and body weight on offer".

Micheal O'Brien, Brigalows Pastoral Company, Walgett, purchased six rams, paying to \$2400, to average \$2233, while the Winning family, Bollon, QLD took nine rams across the border, averaging \$1444.

The sale was conducted by Elders and Landmark, with Paul Dooley and John Setttee as the auctioneers.

Dubbo Dohne National Sale & Expo 2008 Mark Griggs

The Dohne momentum continues with breeders from the five mainland states pushing up ram values another \$512 a head on average at Dubbo last week.

Of the 40 rams offered by 10 studs at the Eighth Annual National Dohne Ram Sale at Dubbo showground on Friday, August 15, 38 sold to \$12,200, grossed \$96,050 and averaged \$2528, effecting a 95 per cent auction clearance.

The result compares most favourably to last year when 37 rams topped at \$10,250, grossed \$74,600 to average \$2016.

This year's gross increased on last year by \$21,450 while the average jumped by \$512 and is \$844 a head better than the 2006 average.

An innovative introduction to the sale this year was the offering of specially selected rams following the special stud catalogue.

The special stud ram section resulted in 27 of the 29 head selling to gross \$78,750 and average \$2917, while the 11 specially selected all sold to a top of \$2000 (twice), grossed \$17,300 to average \$1573.

The sale was the culmination of the two-day ANZ National Dohne Expo which also featured the Fletcher International Dohne Carcase Competition and the Chad Wool Dohne Fleece Competition.

Chairman of the Eastern States committee of the Australian Dohne Breeders Association, John Nadin said the result reflected the confidence continually building in the Dohne breed, especially towards its lamb and wool production qualities.

“The mulesing issue is another aspect,” Mr Nadin said, “most enquiries we field now are concerning the bare breach attributes of Dohnes.”

Liking the body shape and wool type of Lot One, Craig Robertson of Havelock Park Dohnes, Fernbank, near Stratford, Victoria, fought off a bidding duel to win the Macquarie Dohne stud ram for the top price of \$12,200.

MD064492 is an ET son of the \$20,000 sire MD030681 of the Olympus family, which sold to Bill Pye’s Calga Dohnes enterprise at Coonamble at this fixture in 2004, and was described by Macquarie Dohne stud co-principal, Greg McCann as structurally, an extremely correct ram.

“His sire left extremely consistent stock in the years that we’ve used him,” Mr McCann said.

“We have used 4492 in our stud and have retained semen,” he said.

“However his progeny are too young at this stage to be assessed, but we believe they will continue the top breeding cycle.”

Mr Robertson said he liked the carcass shape and wool qualities of the ram, plus his family and performance background.

“He has a great carcass shape and produces bright fine/medium wool,” Mr Robertson said.

The ram will be joined to selected stud ewes in November, selected from the 500 stud ewe flock.

The Havelock Park flock also runs 2200 F1 and F2 ewes.

Second top money at \$12,000 was paid by a syndicate of studs, one from South Australia and two from Western Australia, for a lone entry from Justin and Nicole Tombs’ Harewood stud, Armidale.

Each stud has already used the ram through AI and have progeny on the ground, so decided to secure him for their individual marketing programs.

Syndicate members from Western Australia are Far Valley Dohnes, Arthur River, Wagin and Chirninup Dohnes of Nyabing, with Babirra Dohnes of Stansbury, South Australia.

Speaking on behalf of the buyers, Robert Farrow of Babirra stud said the ram, HW060368, belongs to a family that has the ability to breed true to type.

“He has excellent carcass qualities, is smooth right through the loin to the rump, just where meat returns come from,” Mr Farrow said.

“Above all, he has soft stylish wool that would grow in all types of country.”

Macquarie Dohne stud also gained \$6000 for a ram from the same Olympus family, being a grandson of “681”, sire of the top-priced ram.

He was purchased by Jamie Pilon for his Narriah Dohne enterprise on “Mountain View”, Tallimba.

Macquarie Dohne sale report – 8/10/2007

Macquarie Dohne rams averaged \$1600, up \$112 on last years sale average, Dohne rams went to Victoria, Queensland and to local clients for Vendors John Nadin and Greg McCann, Mumblebone West, Warren last week.

Macquarie Dohne stud sold 111 of the 117 rams offered, selling to \$2800, equaling last years top sale price.

Co principal John Nadin said “He was surprised by the strength of the sale considering the continuing dry, the strength of the sale gives the Dohne breed the creditability it deserves”.

A lot of our clients are fifth and sixth generation sheep producers, what it comes down to is the return per hectare and the Dohne is rite up their, Mr Nadin said.

Mr Nadin said “Macquarie Dohne clients have average \$100 for the complete drop of wether lambs and some clients Dohne wool has consistently out sold and tested finer then their merino clip”.

Dennis O’Brien “Cryon Station” Walgett, purchased the top price AA ram, for \$2800, the ram displayed a 113.3 index and was sired by 2006 National Dohne Sale top priced ram MD 041792, who sold for \$8000.

Mr O’Brien purchased 10 rams, paying \$2800 for the sale top price and \$2000 three times in his draft of ten rams, which averaged \$1888.

Last year the O’Brien family purchased 16 rams with an average of \$1875.

“I was first attracted to Macquarie Dohne rams at the National Dohne sale four years ago, John and Greg run a good operation, there is a real science behind the breeding of their sheep”, Mr O’Brien said.

Properties in the Walgett district will be home for a large number of Macquarie rams including Mr O'Brien's purchasers.

Sam Evans "Martindale" Walgett paid to \$2000 for his draft of ten rams to average \$1740, while the Currey family "Aberfoyle", Walgett averaged \$1657, for seven rams.

The Evans family join 5500 Dohne; F2 and F1 ewes on their property, aiming to turn lambs off over the hook in December.

I like the quality of wool and the dual purpose markets that Dohne sheep offer, Mr Evans Said.

Bill Yates, "Amondale", Garah, averaged \$1400 for 11 rams, while the Winning family "Mona Station", Bollon, averaged \$1644 for nine rams.

Gulargambone clients, Steve and Tracey Rae, "Emby", paid to \$1800 for eight rams, with an average of \$1475.

Local client O'Brien Brigalows Pastoral Company, Carinda, bought five rams, paying to \$2200 for an AA, 115.8 index ram, while averaging \$1800.

Chris Carrigan, Welbon Grazing Company, Garah, purchased six rams, grossing \$9800, to average \$1633.

The sale was conducted by Elders in conjunction with landmark, with Paul Dooley and Andrew Wishart as the auctioneers.

National Dohne Ram sale – Dubbo 17/08/2007

Mark Griggs

Topping off two days of intense breed promotion, 37 Dohne stud rams topped at \$10,250 and averaged \$2016 at Dubbo last week.

The 7th annual National Dohne Ram Sale, which grossed \$74,600 for an 84 per cent auction clearance of the 44 head offering, was the topping on the promotional cake for the Dohne breed's inaugural ANZ Dohne Expo at Dubbo showground, attracting many hundreds of sheep breeders, whether meat or wool orientated.

Buyers came from four States and bid with spirit for the offering of top quality sires from 12 NSW studs.

Last year 48 rams sold to \$8000 and averaged \$1684.

Dohne breeders for the past six years, Judy and Stan Ellis of West Wail Dohnes, Pimpinio via Horsham, Victoria paid the \$10,250 top money for a 122.4 index embryo transfer son of the South African bred Wynand du Tort sire JG020106 from a Lowlands Estate dam, offered by the DD Dohne stud, Moama.

DD Dohne stud manager, Bruce Barnes-Webb said the Wynand du Tort stud is based in the winter rainfall Bredarsdorp district near Capetown while Lowlands Estate is conducted by Hugh Collett at Cradock, on the Fish River Irrigation Scheme in the summer rainfall region.

DD Dohne's six rams sold to gross \$15,250 and average \$2542.

Mr Barnes-Webb said DD Dohnes is owned by a consortium of Australian and South African interests who will continue to bring into Australia, genetics from selected South African studs on an annual basis.

"This we be facilitated by our embryo station on the Moama property," he said.

"We want to be the source of out-crosses and are blending South African genetics that we think will stand up to the weather conditions in Australia.

DD stud was established in 2004 and now runs 300 stud ewes on ground.

Mr and Mrs Ellis started an AI program with 400 Merino ewes as a base, six years ago.

Today they run 50 purebred, 100 F3, 400 F2 and 110 F1 ewes.

"The price is double what we wanted to pay, but if you want the wool, you've got to pay for it," Mr Ellis said of their purchase.

They earlier paid \$3000 for a 126.3 index ram from Donald Mills' Kardinia stud, Corowa.

Second top money at \$5750 was paid by two Victorian studs for the top of Uardry Dohne stud's draft of five rams which averaged \$2900.

The Langlea stud of Edenhope and Sutton Grange stud of Nhill bought an 118.8 index son of UD040377, one of three rams by this sire selling on the day.

Uardry also gained \$4000 for another ram when purchased by the Leach family's Glenlea Dohne Stud, Kataning, Western Australia.

Coonamble based Martin Kahler of Calga Dohnes, paid \$5000 third top price for the Macquarie Dohnes draft topper, an 120.4 index son of MD030912.

Macquarie stud sold five rams to average \$2750.

The Arnold family of "Currawalla", Coonamble spent \$6500 on four rams, one each from Alfoxton, Macquarie, Hyland and Roseville Park studs.

Five rams at \$1000 each were purchased by Coonong stud, Urana, all from DD Dohnes.

The sale was conducted by Landmark (Warwick Barrett auctioneer) and Elders (Paul Jameson auctioneer).

Dohne sell-out to \$5400

INTERSTATE BUYER: Mount Alma stud principal Ivan Ashby with Suidplaas partner Wynand Du Toit and top-price buyer John Nadin, Warren, New South Wales.

Sale summary 2006

Mount Alma

Rams offered 28

Sold 28

Top price \$5400

Average \$2603

Babirra

Rams offered 17

Sold 17

Top price \$3400

Average \$1900

BY AIMEE PEDLER

ALL THE rams were snapped up at the first Adelaide Dohne Merino Ram Sale on October 3 – a combined sale by Mount Alma and Babirra studs.

Principals Ivan Ashby and Robert Farrow said the hardy Dohnes had a good future, and the sale interest echoed this, with seven Dohne stud breeders from South Australia, Victoria and New South Wales buying rams.

Mt Alma, which is in partnership with Suidplaas in South Africa, recorded a top of \$5400, paid by John Nadin, MacQuarie Stud, Warren, New South Wales.

The ram had a comfort factor of 99.7 per cent, 20 microns, and CV 14.

The stud, based at Inman Valley and Coonalpyn, had an average of \$2603, with several rams going for more than \$3000.

Babirra, Stansbury, recorded a slightly lower top price and average.

Keith and Judy Peach, Lucernbrae Merino Stud, Callington, bought the top-price ram for \$3400.

Mr Ashby hopes to have more than 100 rams for sale next year.

Other buyers were Para Ranges Estates, Cavan, three each at \$2400; DW Taylor, Mount Pleasant, three

to \$2500 (av \$2100); Petaren Farm, Coonalpyn, three to \$2400 (av \$2200); RJ Elvey, Karoonda, four to \$2400.

All of the 28 paddock-reared rams sold by the Ashby family will take a lifetime reproductive rate of 170 per cent to their new homes.

With 27 buyers for 45 rams, it was difficult to find a volume buyer. However, RJ Elvey, Sherlock, was successful in taking home four rams to a top of \$3000 (av \$2350).

Dohne National averages \$1684 – 9/10/06

The 6th National Dohne sale at Dubbo saw a clearance of only 48 from the 97 rams offered and sold to a top of \$8000 to average \$1684.

The sale was affected by the worsening drought conditions which precluded many breeders from buying, rather they were looking at surviving the coming summer conditions with a lack of feed and ground water.

However, the buyers who did secure rams, both stud and flock buyers were complimentary of the rams on offer, particularly their performance figures and wool quality.

The wool quality was an important point for many sheepmen as the Dohne would give them a quality fleece along with a great carcass.

Top price of \$8000 was paid by Bill Mildren, Elders Breeding Services, Albury on behalf of the Mitchell family, "Murragamba", Goonure via Bairnsdale, Vic., for a Macquarie stud ram with an index of 125.6 and eye muscle depth (EMD) of 0.65

A share in the ram was also purchased by Don Mills, Kardinia Dohne stud, Corowa.

Mr Mildren had earlier purchased son F1 and F2 Dohne ewes from Uardry stud, hay at \$70.00/head and described the ewes and ram as having the scale and meat volume combined with very attractive wool.

West Australian Dohne stud breeder, Alex Leach, Glenlea stud, Katanning paid the second top price of \$6500 for a stud ram from the Uardry stud. The ram, only 15 months old had an index of 122.3.

Mr Leach said the ram had a great overall balance, walked out very well and was structurally correct with great bone and frame and was in short " a very good Dohne" who will complement his stud which comprises more than 400 ewes which supplies rams for use in his 6000 flock ewes.

Mr Leach also outlaid \$3200 for a stud ram from the DD Dohne stud of Bruce Barnes-Webb, Moama.

This ram was the result of an ET program in South Africa, he had an index of 122.0, the bloodlines and overall quality of the ram appealed to Mr Leach.

Derek Lotz and family, "Caringal", Narrandera paid \$3000 for a ram from the Gullendah stud of Peter and Margot Hughes, Baldry.

Other interstate support came from Queensland and South Australia.

Volume buyer was Gladys Downs Grazing Co., Augathella, Qld., with the purchase of eight rams at an average of \$1050 with a top price of \$1200.

The Winning family, "Mona Station", Bollon, Qld., took home six rams to a top of \$1600, three times to average \$1200.

Peter and Tim Hall, Jamestown, SA secured six rams at an average of \$2017 after paying to a top of \$2300 for a ram from the DD stud.

Ian Osborn, "Euralah", Walgett purchased five rams at an average of \$1310 after paying to a top of \$1600 for a ram from the Macquarie stud.

Selling agents were Elders and Landmark with auctioneers Paul Dooley and Andrew Wishart.
Ends ends

Demand for Dohne flock rams remains buoyant – 25/10/06

Dual purpose meat and wool breed Dohne rams sold to a top of \$1400 and averaged \$981 with a 92% clearance at the inaugural Eastern Breeders Dohne ram sale held at Naracoorte Showgrounds on the 25th October.

Participating studs were Macquarie, Uardry and Kardinia.

Spokesman for the group John Nadin, Macquarie, was delighted with the sale considering the extremely dry conditions in the South East. 'The idea of holding the sale in the South East was to service an existing clientele along with the enquiry we have all had from the area. We decided to go ahead with the sale regardless of the seasonal conditions. The Dohne has a lot to offer sheep producers having been performance bred since the 1970's focusing on 70% meat and 30% wool production. The Dohne offers traditional woolgrowers the opportunity to diversify into a meat-producing sheep breed without having to compromise the wool quality of their flock. The Dohne is a self-replacing, highly fertile meat merino producing early maturing lambs with a carcass equal to traditional crossbreds and carrying a quality 19-21 micron merino fleece. We look forward to holding another sale in October 2007'.

Top sale price of \$1400 was paid by Paul Schultz, Warialda Trust Sandilands via Ardrossan for a Macquarie ram with an index of 114.2, an EBV for body weight of +12.51 and an EBV for eye muscle of +1.32. The Schulz family finished with 3 Macquarie rams for an \$1800 average.

Uardry's top price of \$1200 was paid by AD & EH Gordon for a ram with an index of 115.9, an EBV for body weight of +6.48 and an EBV for eye muscle of +0.67.

Kardinia's top price of \$1200 was paid by Corovale Partnership for a ram with an index of 111.4 and an EBV for body weight of +2.91.

Volume buyer was Grantley Filmer Heathwell Holdings Tintinara buying 7 rams for a \$900 average.

In the break up Macquarie sold 19 from 22 for a \$1005 average, Uardry sold 19 from 20 for a \$957 average and Kardinia sold 6 from 6 for a \$983 average.

The sale comes off the back of strong on-property sales the previous week with Macquarie selling 113 rams to a top of \$2800 averaging \$1488 with a 93% clearance and Uardry selling 95 rams to a top of \$5000 averaging \$1206 with a 95% clearance.

The sale was conducted by Elders and Landmark. Auctioneers were Leigh Allen and Malcolm Scroop.

Riverina rams reach \$3200 – 20/10/06

By Nikki Allen

Dual-purpose rams sold to a top of \$3200 at the second Eastern Riverina Dohne Ram Sale at the Wagga Wagga Showgrounds last Friday.

The multi-vendor sale averaged \$1348 in a 66 per cent auction clearance.

Rams with good figures made the best prices under auctioneer Kevin Norris, Landmark Albury.

The Uardry stud, Hay sold the top money ram with an index of 118.5 to Vicki and Brian Hewitt, Pineside Dohne stud, Aria Park.

Volume buyer, "West Plains" Forbes bought three rams from Uardry to a top of \$1400.

Larundel Limited, "Larundel" Walla Walla, paid \$1600 for another Uardry ram, and Peter Tischler, Edenhope, Victoria, paid \$1000 each for his Uardry picks.

Don Mills, Kardinia Dohne Stud, Corowa, sold rams to a top of \$2200.

The \$2200 ram was bought by Cressy Park Pastoral Company, Mangoplah.

John Nadin and Greg McCann, Macquarie Dohne Stud, Warren, sold a ram with an index of 112.7 to Tom Low, "Back Creek", Wyalong, for \$1600.

The same buyer secured a second ram from Macquarie Dohne Stud for \$1400.

Hopewood Pastoral Company, Coolac, bought two rams from Kardinia for \$1600 and \$1000.

The Callaway family, "Araluen" Gilmore via Tumut, paid \$1600 for a ram from Kardinia.

MACQUARIE DOHNE – 16/10/06 – with pic in cumulus

MACQUARIE DOHNES AVE., \$1488

Dohne rams sold to \$2800 and 113 averaged \$1488 in a 93% clearance in the strongest sale in eastern Australia this season for Greg McCann's and John Nadin's Macquarie Dohnes at "Mumblebone West", Warren.

Last year 133 rams sold to \$3800 and averaged \$2068.

John Nadin was delighted with the sale which with other strong spring sales at Uardry and Gullendah reflected the strong Dohne commercial base and the resulting strong demand and prices for flock rams.

Top sale price of \$2800 was paid by Michael O'Brien, "Brigalows", Carinda, for a 118.0 index AA ram by the \$20,000 sire Olympus MD 03-0681 which stood out for his conformation, figures and 16.89 body weight rating.

Michael O'Brien, who also bought other rams at \$2200 twice and \$2000 and averaged \$2067 for six rams, favours Dohne's on his pastoral country for their ability to produce more meat, more quickly.

"They are a true dual purpose meat and wool breed which produce the biggest possible lamb at the youngest age which can be sold as a store, feeder or prime lamb," he said.

"My spring 05 drop Dohne lambs averaged 28kg dead at 10 months, yielded 53% and sold for \$95 to Country Fresh," he said.

Michael O'Brien is grading up his commercial flock to purebred Dohnes.

Also on the same track are Dennis, Trish and Tim O'Brien, Cryon Station, Walgett, who bought 16 rams to \$2400 twice at an average of \$1875 including other lots for \$2200 and \$2000 six times.

Their \$2400 rams were a 120.7 index A grade and a 114.9 index A grade both by the \$9000 MD 03-0912.

Dennis O'Brien is delighted how his Dohnes have performed in the drought with F1 ewes producing 93.5% lambs and autumn drop five months-old F1 lambs spring sold for \$40 to a feedlot.

I.H. and D.J. Berrell, "Midgery", Walgett, paid \$2400 for a AA 119.8 index son of the \$12,000 IH 02-0409.

Taroona Pastoral Co., Wirrinya, paid \$2200 for a AA 110.8 index, M.D. and M.J. Winning, Bollon, Qld, \$2200 for AA 112.9 index and AA 118.0 index rams and Best Best Partnership, "Baroone", Gulargambone, \$2200 for A 110.1 index and A 113.6 index rams.

Other major buyers were W.G. Yates & Co., "Amondale", Garah, 15 rams to \$1800, ave., \$1360, Gerard and Sue Glover, "Toorang", Brewarrina, 10 ave., \$1000, Geoff Hunter, "Welbondongah", Garah, eight to \$2000, ave., \$1625, Pentdale Proprietors, "Nomoneer", Coonamble, eight to \$1400, ave., \$1100, Welbon Grazing, Garah, seven to \$1800, ave., \$1457, G.W. and A.M. Currey, "Aberfoyle", Walgett, six to \$1600, ave., \$1567 and Jim Brennan, "Dunmore", Warren, five to \$1800, ave. \$1480.

The sale was conducted by Elders and Landmark with auctioneers Paul Dooley and Kevin Norris.

FULL SALE DETAILS

Jim Brennan, "Dunmore", Warren, \$1800, \$1400 (2), \$1600, \$1200; M.D. and M.J. Winning, Bollon, Qld, \$2200 (2), \$1600 (2); Geoff Hunter, "Welbondonagh", Garah, \$1400, \$1800 (3), \$1000, \$1600 (2), \$2000; Jim McLaughlin, "Merryanbone North", Warren, \$1400, \$1800; O.F. and R.J. Wagstaff, "Currawong", Singleton, \$1600, I.H. and D.J. Berrell, "Midgery", Walgett, \$2400; Richard Hicks, "Andarra", Dubbo, \$1200, \$1000, N.A. and N. Fox, "Yerlnam", Coonabarabran; Welbon Grazing, Garah, \$1200 (2), \$1800, \$1600 (2), \$1400 (2); G.W. and A.M. Currey, "Aberfoyle", Walgett, \$2000, \$1600 (3), \$1400, \$1200; Taroona Pastoral Co., Wirrinya, \$2200, \$2000; M.H. and K. Carter, "Birimby", Nyngan, \$1000; D.P. O'Brien Family Trust, Cryon Station, Walgett, \$2400 (2), \$2000 (6), \$2200, \$1000, \$1800 (2), \$1600 (4); Best Partnership, "Baroone", Gulargambone, \$2200 (2); Michael O'Brien, "Brigalows", Carinya, \$1800, \$2200 (2), \$2800, \$2000, \$1400; R.T. and S.B. Low, "Back Creek", Wyalong, \$1000; J.R. and S.E. Forbes, "Mount Nombi", Mullaley, \$1200 (2), \$2000; Fisher Gular Grazing, "Athlone", Gulargambone, \$1000, \$1200; Steven Rae, "Emby", Gulargambone, \$1000, \$1400 (2), \$1200; W.M. and L. Culverson, "Heatherdale", Dubbo, \$1600, \$1500; M.J. and G.M. Court, "Kookaburra", Dunedoo, \$1000 (2), \$1200; Gerard and Sue Glover, "Toorang", Brewarrina, \$1000 (10); Pentdale Proprietors, "Nomoneer", Coonamble, \$1000 (5), \$1200 (2), \$1400; W.G. Yates and Co., "Amondale", Garah, \$1600 (4), \$1400 (2), \$1800 (2), \$1200 (3), \$1000 (4).

CAPTION

Vendors Greg McCann and John Nadin flank agent Chris Clemson, Clemson Hiscox, Walgett and major buyers Dennis O'Brien, Cryon Station, Cryon and Michael O'Brien, "Brigalows", Carinda at the Macquarie Dohne sale at "Mumblebone West", Warren.

ENDS

MACQUARIE DOHNES – 16/10/05

MACQUARIE DOHNE'S AVE., \$2068

Dohne rams sold to \$3800 and 133 averaged \$2068 at the Macquarie Dohnes second annual on-property sale at "Mumblebone West", Warren.

Last year 58 rams sold to \$4000 (twice) and averaged \$2953.

This year the 49 AA rams sold to \$3800, average \$2329 and 84 A rams to \$2600, six times and averaged \$1917.

There was also clear evidence that the money was following the rams with higher indexes and top of the range body weight, clean fleece weight and finer micron EBV's.

Top price of \$3800 was paid by Triggervale Pty Ltd, Lockhart, for a AA son of the \$20,000 Macquarie Olympus, with a 13.41 body weight (BDW) and + 1.23 clean fleece weight (CFW) EBV's and a 120.4 index.

Another AA Olympus son, with a 7.93 BDW EBV and a 120.4 index, sold for equal second top price of \$3200 to Lachie MacSmith, "Corroboree", Cudal.

Mark and Sue Evans, "Martindale", Walgett, also paid \$3200 for 12.33BDW, 0.34CFW, 126.8 index AA ram and bought 11 rams at an average of \$2464.

Bill Gibbs, "Timaru", Armidale, paid \$3000 for an 8.6 BDW, 1.64CFW, 119.8 index AA and Alex Druce, "Paringa", Warren, \$3000 for a 9.41BDW, 6.43CFW, 118.6 index AA ram.

Other bulk buyers were Michael O'Brien, "Brigalows", Carinda, 12 rams at an average of \$2433, Wally and Rosemary Wilson, "Burdekin", Collarenebri, 10 at \$1890, Phillip Clarke, "Pabra", Cunnamulla, Qld, 10 at \$1780, Dennis O'Brien, Cryon Station, Walgett, eight at \$2375, Geoff Hunter, "Welbonoongah", Garah, seven at \$2143, S. and J. Rolfe, "Kenilworth", Dalgety, seven at \$1500, Ian Best, "Barone", Gulargambone, six at \$2100, Chris Carrigan, "Welbon", Garah, six at \$2017 and John Schonrock, "Moondale", Tara, Qld, six at \$1617.

Mark and Sue Evans, who will have F2 Dohne lambs on the ground in autumn next year, have sold their five-month-old F1 Dohne wether lambs for \$50 and join their surplus Dohne cross ewes to Border Leicesters and Poll Dorsets.

"We are encouraged to build-up our Dohne/Merino cross ewe numbers by a 25% weight for age benefit over our Merinos," he said.

"We need more numbers of Dohne cross sale sheep to change the traditional sheep breeding mentality and educate restocker and trade buyers," Mark Evans said.

Dennis O'Brien, along with other family members, bought 44 Dohne rams at auction in 2004 to reduce the reliance on wool income and replace Merinos as the joining sires on their north-western NSW properties.

"We saw little future in wool and a profitable future with Dohnes for wool and meat production," he said.

"Our Dohne/Merino cross lambs are bigger and plainer and cut more 19 to 20 micron wool than our Merinos," he said.

He said the Dohnes were preferred for doing ability, ease of care and fertility with wether lambs weaned at five months and sold for \$68 in 2004 and \$49.50 this year and a \$60 to \$80 market for joined surplus ewes.

The sale was conducted by Elders and Landmark with auctioneers Peter Dooley and Andrew Wishart.

CAPTION

Walgett bulk buyers Mark Evans, "Martindale" and Dennis O'Brien, Cryon Station, with their agent Chris Clemson of Clemson Hiscox and vendors Greg McCann and John Nadin at the 2nd annual Macquarie Dohne ram sale at "Mumblebone West". Warren.

Five States buy at NSW Dohne ram sales
Monday, 24 October 2005

Dohne rams sold for a top of \$7000 at the annual National Dohne Sale at Dubbo, and also reached

\$5000 at the Hay, NSW, sale.

At Dubbo, there were 197 Dohne rams offered at the national sale, of which 126 were sold, with prices ranging from a top of \$7000, to \$1500.

The rams - offered by 27 vendors from NSW, Western Australia and Victoria - averaged \$2134.

Last year, 152 rams averaged \$3304.

The top-priced ram was sold by Greg McCann and John Nadin, Macquarie Dohnes, Warren, NSW, to David and Annie Berrell, Midgery stud, Walgett, NSW.

At Hay, NSW, strong demand for Riverina-based Dohnes from buyers across five states pushed the sale of 143 of 151 Dohne rams to a top of \$5000.

In a strong display 143, rams sold for an average \$2014, even though Dohnes have become more readily available during the past four years.

Competition was spread from Queensland to South Australia to Tasmania.

Uardry sold all of 111 rams to a top of \$5000, to average \$2102.

SOURCE: Extract from report in *The Land*, NSW, October 20

Rams reach \$20,000

Macquarie sire tops National sale 8/10/04

By Phoebe Kerin

From an offering of 158 AA and A grade Dohne rams 152 sold to an impressive \$20,000 peak and averaged \$3304 at the fourth annual National Dohne sale at Dubbo Showgrounds, Dubbo, on October 18.

The average price for the sale dropped by \$1203 on last year, when 137 rams averaged \$4507 topped at \$15,000.

After the sale Macquarie Dohne Stud co-principal, Greg McCann, Warren, said while stud sire prospects sold for top money, commercial bidders had put a solid floor in the market.

"Next year, with higher ram numbers for the sale, we hope to see a further reduction in prices and allow more commercial people into the market," he said.

Mr McCann and partner, John Nadin offered 15 AA Dohne rams to average \$4533 and nine A grade rams for a \$2972 average from the Warren property, "Mumblebone West".

They also sold the sale topper at \$20,000 to Bill Pye, Calga Dohne stud Connamble.

Nicholas Bolam, Marraboola Dohnes, "Battabanya", Tullamore, paid the second-highest price \$6500 for ram with index of 126.4 per cent from Chris Clonan, Alfoxton Dohne stud, Armidale.

Lanoc Wool, Dubbo, paid \$6000 for a sire offered by Mr Pye's Calga Dohne stud.

Peter Alston, Uabra Dohne Merinos, Uabba Station, Lake Cargelligo, bought the first sire offered for \$5000 from John Allbut's New England Dohnes, Armidale, to get the sale off to a good start.

Strong South Australian competition came from Peter and Tim Hall, P.J Hall and Company, Jamestown, who paid \$5000 for a 12month old ram from Peter and Karen Hyland's Nubingerie Dohne stud, Geurie.

The Halls finished with seven rams for an average of \$3643.

Another RP000132 son from the Macquarie stud hit \$5000, sold to David Berrell, Midgery Dohnes, Walgett.

Warren graziers, Alex Druce, "Paringa", Warren, secured four for a \$3813 average from the Macquarie stud.

Yanga Station, Balranald, selected eight for a \$2844 average while Coonamble mixed farmer, John Rae, Pentdale Nominees, paid a \$2817 average for 15 rams.

Roger and Sandy Eddy, Glenfern Dohnes, Terip Terip, Victoria, bought the top priced ewe with an index of 125pc and sired by Gb010117 – for \$2500 from George and Sally Falkiner's Haddon Rig Dohne stud, Warren.

The main buyers of Dohne ewes were Ian and Robyn Garner, Jarig Dohnes, near Adelong, who paid to a \$1500 high and averaged \$1038 for eight ewes.

Auctioneers, Paul Dooley, Elders, and Kevin Norris, Landmark, shared the rostrum.

Index clinches Dubbo sale

AN IMPRESSIVE high index of 133.7pc clinched the decision of Coonamble breeder, Bill Pye, Calga Dohne stud, to pay the \$20,000 top price at the Dohne National at Dubbo Showground. Mr Pye bought the 18 month old ram (by RP00 0012 and from RP00 0152) from Macquarie Dohne stud co-principals, John Nadin and Greg McCann, Warren.

The ram was the highest indexing ram on the Dohne sale list and Mr Pye said he expected the purchase would lift the quality of progeny of his sheep.

The Dohne index summarises into one number the performance of an animal over all the measured traits including body weight, carcass traits, fibre diameter, fleece weight and staple strength. "He was a big sheep with good quality wool," he said.

"I've had a lot of success with Macquarie sires and am hoping for similar success with this one." The ram will go into the artificial breeding centre.

Dohne rams av \$2953 – 17/10/04

By Phoebe Kerin

A TOTAL clearance of 58 Dohne rams for a \$2953 average was an outstanding result for the inaugural Macquarie Dohne stud on-property ram sale at "Mumblebone West", Warren, last Friday.

Elders auctioneer, Paul Dooley, sold the line-up of spring 2003 drop A and AA graded rams to a top of \$4000 twice for selling agents Elders and Landmark on behalf of co-principals, John Nadin and Greg McCann.

It capped off an excellent year for the stud, which sold a ram for \$20,000 to top the Dubbo National Sale the previous week.

Solid competition from buyers from central and northern NSW and Queensland buoyed the market.

The first \$4000 ram – AA graded with an index of 109.6 per cent and a clean fleece weight deviating 0.1pc above the average – was knocked down to Bill Yates, "Amondale", Moree, who paid a \$3000 average for five rams.

The other \$4000 ram – also AA grade, with a fibre diameter -0.6pc less than average and indexed at 111.7pc – sold to Kim and Wendy Muffitt, Taroon Pastoral Company, "Taroon", Warrinya, who bought another two rams to finish with a \$3667 average.

Repeat bulk buyer and Dohne supporter since 2000, Mark Winning, "Mona", Bollon, QLD, paid to \$3750 and averaged \$3292 for six rams.

Mr Winning will now join only Dohne rams to his 4000 Merino ewes, after success last year joining 3500 Merino ewes.

Also helping put a good floor in the market, Geoff Hunter, "Welbondonga", Garah, compiled a line of eight rams to average \$2875.

Walgett stock agent Chris Clemson, Clemson Hiscox and Company, bought three rams for a \$3333 average for client Michael O'Brien, "Evandale", Walgett, and James Koster, operated on behalf of Pabra Pastoral Company, "Pabra", Cunnamulla, QLD, selected four at a \$2375 average.

Welbon Grazing Company, Garah, bought three rams at a \$3333 average.

Dohne fetch \$300,200

Wednesday, 15 October 2003

The Great Southern Dohne became one of the top grossing ram sales of the year when 95 rams were sold for \$300,200 at Katanning on Monday.

The sale also set a \$10,200 WA record auction price for the breed and established a precedent for a week of Dohne Merino ram sales that were to follow this week.

The three vendors shared the good times with prices building on last year's values and bolstered by interstate bidders at both a stud and commercial level who dug deeply into the WA genetic pool.

The \$10,200 top went to Ian and Julie Hanna, Koobelup stud, Katanning, and got down to a contest between interstate bidders.

The winner was the NSW syndicate comprising Don Mills, Kardinia stud, Corowa, Keith Sloane, Hendrik stud, Savernake, Uardry stud, Hay, and John Nadin and Greg McCann, Macquarie stud, Warren.

Syndicate spokesman Don Mills said the ram had first come to his notice after he'd read the EBV figures and he was further encouraged by John Nadin who'd seen and liked the ram.

"He had good figures and impressive bodyweight and pedigree," Don said.

"His sire was a NSW ram that was well conformed and there was not much of that bloodline in NSW."

Ian also placed importance on the ewe side of the pedigree saying the dam was a plain-looking ewe that had produced exceptional lambs regardless what sire she had been joined to.

He had expected the ram to make good money but "didn't know where it would stop".

For all three vendors the sale was beyond expectations.

Dohne ram sales reach \$1m this spring

Friday, 15 November 2002

In what has been a notable spring for Dohne sales, including the Western Australian sales, 310 Dohne rams have grossed just under \$1 million dollars.

Rams have averaged more than \$3000, making them a breed of which to stand up and take notice.

The inaugural Riverina Dohne sale, for instance, at Uardry, Hay, resulted in a total clearance of the 85 rams offered and a sale gross of \$303,750 to average \$3574.

The Uardry Dohne stud sold 75 rams to a top of \$12,000 and average of \$3610; Don Mill's Kardinia Dohne stud sold seven rams averaging \$3250; Keith Sloane's Hendrik Dohne stud sold two rams averaging \$3000; and Roseville Park Dohne stud, Dubbo, also sold one ram for \$4250.

Top price on the day was \$12,000 for a young ram graded AA with an index value of 107 percent. He was sold to a syndicate of Dohne studs that included Greg McCann and John Nadin, Macquarie stud, Dubbo; Bill Pye, Calga stud, Coonamble; Robert Barden, Bardo's stud, Cunnamulla; and Tom Holt, Coonong stud, Urana.

Second top priced ram at \$8000 also was from Uardry, selling to Keith Sloane, Hendrik stud, Savernake, and the West Australian Noorla Dohne stud.

Kardina's top price of \$3500 was reached on four occasions, while Keith Sloane's Hendrik Dohne stud sold rams to a top of \$3250.

Producers flock to Dohne field day

By Nikki Allen

Friday, 17 May 2002

Wool producers keen to cash in on the buoyant prime lamb market without sacrificing fleece quality or suffering wool contamination have expressed a huge interest in Dohne Merinos.

The South African dual purpose sheep, which have been in Australia for four years, have a fibre diameter of 18 to 21 microns with a fleece weight of five kilograms.

At a field day conducted by Chris and Beth Bowman, Uardry, Hay, about 80 wool and prime lamb producers gathered to learn about the new option in the sheep industry.

Early sale figures of first cross Dohnes in Australia gave an indication of the worth and versatility of the sheep.

F1 Dohnes with a carcass weight of 25 kilograms and a fat score of three to four returned a total carcass value of \$89.

The wool on these sheep was 19.7 micron, and the seven month wool cut was 3.2kg to return \$18.55, equating to total earnings of \$107.55 per head.

Dohne field day's good crowd

By NIKKI ALLEN

Thursday, 16 May 2002

WOOL producers keen to cash in on the buoyant prime lamb market without sacrificing fleece quality or suffering wool contamination have expressed a huge interest in Dohne Merinos.

The South African dual-purpose sheep, which have been in Australia for four years, have a wool micron of 18 to 21 with a fleece weight of five kilograms.

At a field day conducted by Chris and Beth Bowman, "Uardry", Hay, about 80 wool and prime lamb producers gathered to learn about the new option in the sheep industry.

Early sale figures of first cross (F1) Dohnes sold in Australia gave an indication of the worth and versatility of the sheep.

F1 Dohnes with a carcass weight of 25 kilograms returned a price per kilogram of three cents a kilogram with a fat score of three to four, to achieve a total carcass value of \$89.

The wool on these sheep was 19.7 micron and the seven-month wool cut was 3.2kg to return \$18.55, equating to total earnings of \$107.55 per head.

Another line of Australian F1 Dohnes with a carcass weight of 30 kilograms returned 350c/kg with a fat score of three, making a total value of \$106.50.

The sheep cut 5.4kg of 19.7-micron fleece at 12 months to make \$32, bringing the total sheep value to \$138.50.

The Bowmans were keen to expand their wool-sheep operation to encompass a meat-sheep option.

In 2000 they travelled to South Africa to view the Dohne Merinos, which boasted a 70 per cent meat emphasis backed up by 30pc wool.

They were impressed with the Dohne's ability to thrive in the pastoral areas and also cut good quality wool.

The Dohne weaner micron ranges from 18 to 21, and the adult micron is 21 to 23.

In South Africa the lambing percentage in studs is 140, with 104pc in commercial flocks.

Mr Bowman said the objective at "Uardry" was to provide clients with sheep breeding options to assist them to achieve a profitable bottom line.

"We have recognised the recent swing to producing a meat type of sheep to take advantage of the buoyant lamb market, but we also understand that many of our clients are wool producers at heart,"

he said.

While there are many alternative sheep breeds in Australia, Mr Bowman said he had set out to find a meat breed suited to pastoral areas with comparable growth rates and an ability to retain the most profitable wool cut.

NSW Agriculture livestock officer, Ashley White, Cowra, advised field day participants on preparing sheep cost-effectively for market.

He said there had been massive growth in export in recent years, with 35pc of all Australian lambs destined for overseas markets.

Mr White said it was important producers were aware of market specifications and turned sheep off at the correct weights and ages.

Rather than letting lambs' weight gains slip during difficult times, he advised that supplementary feeding was an option.

"There are a lot of grains that can be used: oats, barley and triticale, although triticale is probably not as good due to grain poisoning," he said.

He explained how a feed ration would cost out in a typical prime lamb operation.

If a total feed ration costs \$200 a tonne (20c/kg) and six kilograms of feed were needed to produce one kilogram of live weight, it would cost about \$2.40 to gain one kilogram of actual carcase weight.

Dohne ram sells for \$12,500

Tuesday, 6 November 2001

Rams sold to \$12,500 and averaged \$4950 at the first National Dohne ram sale, held at the Roseville park ram selling complex, Glenwood, Dubbo, recently.

The six vendors cleared all 63 rams on offer, exceeding the \$4500 reserve on all lots.

The top price was for a Roseville Park ram offered by joint breeders Graham and Sally Coddington, and Greg McCann of Macquarie Artificial Breeding Services, Dubbo.

It was purchased by a syndicate including Charles Mills, Uardry Dohne Stud, Hay and three Western Australian studs, Geoff and Helen Beeck, Summerfield Stud, Katanning; Murray Drage, Amuri Creek Stud, Tambellup; and David and Christine Kain, Far Valley Stud, Wagin. The three WA studs were also vendors at the sale.

The top priced ram weighed 99kg, had an eye muscle area of 19.1 square centimetres and was covered with 18.4 micron wool with a co-efficient of variation of 14.7; a standard deviation of 2.7 and a comfort factor of 99.8pc.

Mr Coddington said although preliminary interest had been high, the sale had exceeded expectations.

He said the breed offered higher per head returns than either Merinos or meat sheep, fitting the management systems of traditional Merino producers as well as the existing lamb market.

61 registered bidders from five states attended.

\$12,500 ram tops first Dohne National

By LEANNE SAVAGE

Friday, 2 November 2001

RAMS sold to \$12,500 and averaged \$4950 at the first National Dohne sale, held at the Roseville Park ram selling complex, "Glenwood", Dubbo, on Tuesday, October 23. The six vendors cleared all 63 rams on offer, exceeding the \$2500 reserve on all lots. The top price was for a Roseville Park ram offered by joint breeders, Graham and Sally Coddington, Dubbo, and Greg McCann, of Macquarie Artificial Breeding Services, Dubbo.

It was purchased by a syndicate of Charles Mills, Uardry Dohne stud, Hay, and three West Australian studs, which were also vendors at the sale. The WA parties in the purchase of the one-year-old ram

were Geoff and Helen Beeck, Summerfield stud, Katanning; Murray Drage, Amuri Creek stud, Tambellup, and David and Christine Kain, Far Valley stud, Wagin. The ram weighed 99 kilograms, had an eye muscle area (EMA) of 19.1 square centimetres and was covered with 18.4-micron wool with a co-efficient of variation (CV) of 14.7, a standard deviation (SD) of 2.7 and a comfort factor (CF) of 99.8 per cent. Mr Coddington said although preliminary interest had been high, the sale had exceeded his expectations. "I didn't think I was taking a risk when I saw how successful they were in South Africa," Mr Coddington said. He said the breed offered higher per head returns than either Merinos or meat sheep, fitting the management systems of traditional Merino producers as well as the existing lamb market. The sale attracted a huge amount of interest, with 61 registered bidders from five States among a crowd of more than 150 stud and commercial breeders. Apart from his stake in the top sire, the manager of Uardry Dohne stud, Hay, Chris Bowman, secured a further five rams at a \$6800 average for joining to 1500 Merino ewes. These included the \$10,000 second-top ram, which had the catalogue's highest Dohne Index figure, 116.8. The 92kg ram had the highest EMA at 21.21 sq. cm., and had an elite, deep-crimping, 19.7-micron fleece with a CV of 12.2, an SD of 2.4 and a CF of 100pc. Mr Bowman said the establishment in 1999 of Uardry Dohne stud, to run alongside the two Merino studs bearing the Uardry name, was a bid to offer clients maximum production options. "I think there will be good demand for purebred Dohnes, both in the Western Division and the Table lands, because they are a true-dual purpose sheep with medium-micron Merino wool," he said. A Trundle buyer, J. Dyrssen, "Mareetha", selected four rams at an average of \$3875. Commercial breeders, Bruce and Craig Ward, Mimosa Pastoral Company, Parkes, who already had five Dohne rams, averaged \$4312.50 for four rams at the national sale. The new purchases will be joined to half their 2000 Merino breeders. "We're shifting the emphasis from wool to meat," Bruce Ward said. The Wards aim to maintain a 21.5-micron average and have already tested the market, selling first-cross wether lambs to \$102.80 over-the-hooks. According to vendor, Ian Hanna, Koobelup Dohne Merino stud, Katanning, WA, this ready market acceptance is a major advantage.