

GREATEST BIG DAY OUT

All roads led to Bordertown last Friday for the combined Allendale/Days Whiteface offering of rams and ewes from four breeds, producing the best ever sale result for the Day families with a magnificent sale gross of \$551,250.

With the stands packed and including 132 registered bidders, combined with the magnificent presentation of the sale sheep, signs were good for a top result. However not many expected it to be so strong throughout. While this was an excellent result, on reflection when considering the hard work and investments made by the Day families over a long period of time, combined with the buoyancy of the sheep industry, the result was where it should have been.

After four and a half hours of selling, auctioneers Jono Spence (Spence Dix & Co), Malcolm Scroop (Landmark) and Ross Milne (Elders) brought the curtain down on a marathon, but grand 39th annual sale staged by the Day families.

With drafts of stud rams, stud ewes and flock rams from each of the established breeds there are invariably highlights in most years, but this year there were many. While the headlines and top prices go to the top stud sales, it was the strength of the flock ram demand that was the biggest highlight this year.

This was demonstrated best by Lachlan & Lou Day and family's offering of 140 Days Whiteface White Suffolk rams. These all sold to a \$2000 top and averaged a wonderful \$1306. The evenness of quality was matched by the bidding, with 75% of these selling within \$200 each side of the average.

Lachlan & Lou Day's inaugural offering of 20 rams from their new maternal composite rams was the only section that did not clear, with a majority of the potential buyers unaware of their existence or not having given thought to their potential. They are aware now, for despite this lack of knowledge, they still sold to \$2000 and averaged \$827 in a 75% clearance. David Jackson, Jackson Livestock, Ararat paid the \$2000 top for one of his two purchases.

Thirty six individual buyers were successful in purchasing from one to 18 rams in the Days Whiteface White Suffolk flock ram offering of 140 rams.

Landmark Lucindale, account TMP Pty Ltd was the largest flock ram buyer on the day with 18 White Suffolk rams from \$1000 to \$1700 and at a \$1367 average. AG Landy Pty Ltd through Elders Leongatha purchased eight from \$1100 to \$1300, CN & JA Paltridge through Elders Lucindale purchased eight from \$1100 to \$1400, MB & SC Obst, through Elders Bordertown purchased eight rams from \$1200 to \$1300, while Tara Park Partnership through Landmark Warrnambool purchased five at an \$1820 average including the \$2000 top priced ram in this draft.

JA Malone through Landmark Naracoorte purchased 10 rams; five from the Days White Suffolk draft to \$1500, plus five from the Allendale Poll Dorset draft to also be a major contributor to the sale's success.

Over the years there have been several astute commercial buyers who are prepared to keep their options open by inspecting the high quality stud rams should stud buyers hesitate in their bidding.

Warren (Wazza) Clark, KP Lanyon, Hamilton, Vic bought six from the White Suffolk stud ram offering from \$1600 to \$2500 for his client, LR (Chips) Menzel. They added one more flock ram at \$1700 to fulfil their buying needs with elite rams.

Will McDonald, Blackwood Park, buying through Elders Strathalbyn purchased two White Suffolk studs at \$1600 and \$2000P; and then added 2 Poll Dorsets, thus satisfying his buying needs before the flock ram drafts started.

The stud ewe drafts commenced the auction at 11:30am and met strong bidding, although a complete clearance was not quite achieved. They were followed by the wonderful stud ram drafts where complete clearances were achieved.

The 30 of 36 White Suffolk ewes that sold were dominated by three buyers. TJ Munro through SAL Naracoorte purchased the most with nine, including three at the \$900 top price. Ian Kyle, Kyle Country Livestock, Bairnsdale

purchased eight to \$650 for a young client's new stud venture, while Spence Dix & Co account Black Gate also purchased eight ewes from \$300 to \$600. The draft averaged \$531.

Jeff McCallum, Melrose was successful in purchasing the top White Suffolk ram, Days 147Twin for \$9500, the individual top priced animal in the entire sale. Sired by 080066 he had impressive figures of 12.6 Pwwt and 1.3 for Pemd and a 178.2 Carcase Plus index, plus sire sire power and great balance.

Underbidder was Anthony Smith, Belladonna stud, Brimpaen, Vic and buying through Landmark Hamilton. He compensated two lots later with Days 380, sired by the great A080311, but had to go to \$8000 to do so. The 17 White Suffolks averaged a very solid \$3094.

One of the Day family's longest and most loyal clients in all three major breeds are Kent & Rose Martin, Kalangadoo and this year was no exception. While not at headline prices, they purchased six rams in total this year; two from each breed and paying from \$1500 to \$2500.

Sale Summary

Days Whiteface White Suffolks	Stud rams	Stud ewes	Flock rams
Offered	17	36	140
Sold	17	30	140
Top	\$9500	\$900	\$2000
Average	\$3094	\$532	\$1306

Agents: Spence Dix & Co, Landmark & Elders

Auctioneers: Jono Spence, Malcolm Scroop & Ross Milne



Graham Day holds the \$9500 top priced White Suffolk ram from the Days Whiteface stud with buyer, Jeff McCallum, Melrose kneeling on the right.



Graham Day holds the \$8000 second top priced White Suffolk ram from Days Whiteface stud with buyer, Anthony Smith, Belladonna stud, Brimpaen, Vic on the right.



Warren (Wazza) Clark, KP Lanyons, Hamilton is with client 'Chips' Menzel and six of the seven impressive Days White Suffolk rams he purchased from \$1600 to \$2500 at the combined Allendale-Days Whiteface sale.