

DAYS WHITEFACE SALE REPORT 2013

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, and fittingly the last sheep sold went to the biggest volume purchasers on the day, TW & EN MacKereth, Padthaway, buying through PPH & S Naracoorte, who purchased 42 lots.

Lachy and Lou Day and family, Days Whiteface studs offered 210 White Suffolks and Maternal Composites in this 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. The White Suffolk ewes saw a higher clearance, top price and average than last year.

Eighteen White Suffolk ewes were purchased by TW & EN MacKereth through PPH & S to be the highest volume buyer in this section of the sale.

VR & LR Kent, through Chay and Merrett, Millicent were strong contributors to the success of the White Suffolk ewe sale, purchasing seven ewes, including two at the \$750 top price and later adding a stud ram for \$2000. Twenty six of the twenty eight White Suffolk ewes averaged a very solid \$565.

In the stud ram section of the sale, WJ Peck and KF Browne, through Elders Naracoorte went to \$4000 to purchase Days 120310, this ultimately being the top price in a draft of 16 wonderful White Suffolk stud rams. Three other buyers, Gordon Branson, Mortklake, Vic, Martin Harvey, Bordertown and Lake Hawdon Props, Robe all purchased rams at the \$3500 second top price, the draft all selling at a \$2609 average.

Following the stud ram offering, the large flock ram drafts came under the hammer; these meeting very good competition. The large draft of 133 White Suffolk rams from Days Whiteface followed, these having strong and sustained buying competition. 127 sold to a \$1400 top and averaged \$887.

W Menzel, through KP Lanyon, Hamilton paid the top price to add to the ram they selected from the stud offering for \$2000. The Stoney family, buying through HF Richardson, Geelong was the strongest White Suffolk flock ram purchaser, selecting 16 of these to add to the 13 Poll Dorsets selected from that earlier Allendale draft. Their 29 rams averaged \$1003.

Moonee Hills, through Spence Dix & Co selected 12 White Suffolks to also be a major volume buyer in the White Suffolk draft.

Lachy and Lou Day's draft of Maternal Composites finalised this major sale offering. Still breaking new ground in many prospective buyers' minds as a viable alternative to breed prime lamb dams, they met moderate demand, with 16 selling to a \$1400 top price, yet those that sold achieved the highest flock ram draft average of \$987.

Will Malone, JA Malone & Co and buying through Landmark Naracoorte paid to \$1100 for three of this draft to put them to the test. However the sale's biggest volume buyer, TW & EN MacKereth, with PPH & S agent Richard Harvey buying, purchased 12 of this Composite draft, including three at the \$1400 top price.

Sale Summary

Days White Suffolks

16 of 16 stud rams sold to \$4000 and averaged \$2609
127 of 133 flock rams sold to \$1400 and averaged \$887
26 of 28 stud ewes sold to \$750 and averaged \$565

Days Maternal Composites

16 of 33 flock rams sold to \$1400 and averaged \$987

Agents: Landmark, Elders and Spence Dix & Co

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



Gordon Branson, Banquet White Suffolk stud, Mortlake was ecstatic to be able to purchase his pick White Suffolk stud ram from the Days Whiteface offering for just \$3500.



Maternal Composite rams are a relatively new venture for Lachy and Lou Day and family, Days Whiteface studs. Here Lachy Day (right) discusses their merits with the main purchasers, Will Malone, Naracoorte (three to \$1100) and Richard Harvey, PPH & S Naracoorte, buying for volume buyer TW & EN MacKereth (11 rams to \$1400).