

## Great commercial result for Leahcim Poll Merinos

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Andrew and Rosemary Michael and family's Leahcim Poll Merino sale continued its outstanding run of results last week when 182 Poll Merinos sold for an \$1881 average.

Buyers were in attendance from all Australian states, with 58 of the registered bidders successful in purchasing from one to ten rams each.

The young paddock reared and extensively performance tested rams were presented in great order with the identified highest performers visually matching their figures. While there are still some in the sheep industry who wonder what measured performance is all about, the Michael family continue to lead, with most in the crowd appreciating the measured genetic value of these rams.

Last year's sale average of \$2123 was boosted by a \$38,000 top and several other high priced stud sales. This year the sale produced a very commercially focussed result, with a top of \$5000 and only five stud purchasers. Principal Andrew Michael said post sale that he was very pleased with the outcome.

"It had a real commercial focus, was more affordable for our commercial clients, especially those who had been with us from the beginning, and the prices followed the genetic values of the rams," he said.

Peter Rolestone, Elders Clare placed the \$5000 top priced bid on behalf of Warranbie Pastoral, Ballarat, with manager Wayne Johnson connected to the sale via phone. This was for Leahcim 123002, a homozygous polled ram with a 17.6 micron clean fleece weight index of +19.8, a staple length index of +10.1 and a yearling weight of +9.7.

Paul Goerling, Lukin Springs Grazing Co, Boyup Brook and buying through Primaries WA was a significant top end buyer and underbidder on the top ram. He purchased three rams, including the second top priced ram at \$4400, plus others at \$3600 and \$3200.

Phillip Foss, John Foss & Co, Bruce Rock was another strong WA contributor to the sale's success. After purchasing 13 rams last year, he was back again this year, purchasing seven excellent rams with balanced figures, paying from \$1100 to \$2200.

The highest volume buying honours were shared by two buying accounts. The Atkinson family from Crafers and KI were the highest volume buyers last year as well and this year Peter, Sue and Chris added 10 rams that suited the selection criteria and budget, paying from \$1100 to \$2600 and at a \$1990 average.

Australian Wool Network's Goulburn, NSW based agents Denis Hewitt and Pat McNeill were again in attendance with several of their clients, plus buying orders for those not present. They purchased 52 rams at auction for 12 clients and included in those was the other equal top volume buyers, Consolo. Their purchases were all at \$800 each except one at \$1000 in real value buying. Other prominent buyers amongst this group were Jim Gordon, 'Glensloy' Pastoral Co, Young (six rams from \$900 to \$2200), RA & SF McLean (six from \$800 to \$1200), L & L Hewett, Hollywood Pastoral Co, Crookwell (five from \$900 to \$800), Lumley Pastoral (six from \$800 to \$1000), K & A Grazing, Crookwell (five from \$1000 to \$1200) and Ellendon Pastoral Co (four from \$1400 to \$2400).

Another strong NSW contributor, but operating through Elders Walgett was AJ & KM Smith. They selected some of the highest performing rams in their seven purchases and paid from \$2200 to \$3000, averaging \$2629.

Putting Queensland's stamp on the sale result was Ian Glasson, Picarilli Pastoral Co, Thargomindah. He also purchased seven top quality rams, paying from \$800 to \$2400 and at a \$1457 average.

From a South Australian buying perspective, Rob Germein, Minlaton was a strong repeat buyer, purchasing six excellent quality rams from \$900 to \$2200. PJ & KL Ebsary, Snowtown purchased five from \$1000 to \$2200 while TR & RG Young, Tumby Bay also purchased five, paying from \$800 to \$1000, both being significant contributors to the result.

Stud buyers included Ray and Brad Schroeder, Gunallo (L122918 for \$3800), BA, HL & RC Kluska, Bordertown (L123170 for \$3800), the Yanta and Nantoura studs on Eyre Peninsula in partnership (L123005 for \$3000), Nantoura on their own (L122992 for \$2800) and the Woolford family, Karawatha Park, Kimba (L122530 for \$3600 and L123264 for \$3000).

Sale Summary	2013	2012
Offered	197	200
Sold	182	196
Top	\$5000	\$38,000
Average	\$1881	\$2123

Agents: Elders and Landmark

Auctioneers: Tony Wetherall (Elders) and Gordon Wood (Landmark)



<< Pictured with the \$5000 top priced ram at Leahcim Poll Merino sale are Landmark auctioneer Gordon Wood, Elders Clare manager Peter Rolestone (right) who purchased for Warrenbie Pastoral, Ballarat and Leahcim's Alistair Michael (holding ram).

Leahcim principal Andrew Michael (front middle) is pictured with key buyers at the Leahcim Poll Merino sale. They are (back) Chris, Peter and Sue Atkinson, Crafers and KI (ten rams), Paul Goerling, Lukin Springs, Boyup Brook, WA (three rams to \$4400), (front) Ian Glasson, Picarilli Pastoral Co, Thargomindah, Qld (seven rams) and Phillip Foss (right), Bruce Rock, WA (seven rams)>>



<< Australian Wool Network agency, Goulburn, NSW provided great buying support at the Leahcim Poll Merino sale, purchasing 52 rams for 12 clients. Pictured are Jim Gordon, 'Glensloy', Young (six rams), Les and Lynne Hewett, Hollywood Pastoral Co, Crookwell (five rams) and agents Denis Hewitt and Pat McNeill.