

Great value at Leahcim White Suffolk sale

By David Wright, Cheryl Calvert and Ian Turner

Buyers received exceptional value for money at Leahcim's outstanding offering of White Suffolk rams during its annual White Suffolk on-property auction on Friday, September 21.

Stud principal Andrew Michael said he believed the inflated prices paid at last year's on-property sale due to the intense demand had worried some clients so this year's sale offering had been increased to 150 rams to ensure everyone received better value.

"Our focus is to have volumes at very commercial values," he said.

"Without doubt, this is the best offering we've put up in terms of quality and their Sheep Genetics ASBVs."

Auctioneers Gordon Wood (Landmark) and Damien Webb (Elders) sold 104 rams under the hammer to stands of enthusiastic buyers.

First time buyers Ros and Robert Cuthbert, of Glenbrook White Suffolk stud at Darkan, WA, achieved their pre-sale goal of buying either the top or second-top performance rams in the auction, by purchasing both rams. They paid \$4000 for the top priced stud ram and then picked up his brother for \$2000.

Mrs Cuthbert said the top two rams were well grown and structured and, with the bonus of excellent Lambplan figures, would fit in well at the south-west WA property.

The four Leahcim White Suffolk stud rams offered at the action averaged \$2525.

The 100 flock rams that sold at the auction reached a top price of \$1200 and averaged \$807.

The largest volume buyer was the Bell family of Bono Station, Pooncarie, which bought 39 rams to a top price of \$800. Roger Wheaton, who did the buying on behalf of regular client Craig Bell, said the sale offered good value for money and plenty of choice for discerning buyers.

Other volume buyers included regular clients Tom Hawker of Amana, Clare, who purchased nine rams to a top price of \$1100, and Adalis Pastoral, of Snowtown, who purchased eight to a top price of \$900. MF Page & Co, of Jamestown, purchased seven rams to a top price of \$1100.

Mr Michael said he was very pleased with the client and agent support at this year's sale and all buyers had received a bonus from another Michael family enterprise – a bottle of Koolyatta Vineyard Shiraz.

Sales summary

Stud rams	2012	2011	Flock rams	2012	2011
Offered	4	10	Offered	150	116
Sold	4	10	Sold	100	116
Top price	\$4000	\$6900	Sold	\$1200	\$2500
Average	\$2525	\$3880	Sold	\$807	\$1423

Agents: Landmark & Elders

Auctioneers: Gordon Wood & Damien Webb



With the top-priced ram at the 2012 Leahcim White Suffolk on-property sale on Friday are (from left) Gordon Wood (Landmark), Stewart Michael (Leahcim), buyers Ros and Robert Cuthbert, Darkan, WA and Damien Webb (Elders).



Roger Wheaton, who bought 39 White Suffolk rams for regular Leahcim buyer, Craig Bell of Bono Station, Pooncarie is with Leahcim principal Andrew Michael.



Damien Webb has conducted a few auctions in his time but Friday's Leahcim White Suffolk on-property sale was the first that his parents, Perc and Ellie Webb of Kadina had attended. The couple farmed at Tintinara before retiring to Kadina.