

Sale summary

White Suffolks: 53 offered and sold to \$1600, av \$1071.70

White Suffolk-White Dorpers: 18 offered and sold to \$1350, av \$941.66

Poll Dorset-White Dorpers: 21 offered, 18 sold to \$1100, av \$802.78

Fitting swansong sale for Hayelle

By CATHERINE MILLER

HAYELLE'S 12th and final annual flock ram sale last Thursday at Serviceton was one of its best ever with strong SA and Vic competition for good quality prime lamb sires.

Overall 89 of 92 growthy, long rams offered by stud principals Hayden and Michelle

Whittlesea found homes for a \$991 average, a much improved result on 2014 when 69 of 105 rams averaged \$862.

This included a total clearance of both the White Suffolk and White Suffolk-White Dorper composites which each posted an average more than \$100 higher than last year. This is a good sign for the many prime lamb sire sales in the coming month.

It capped off a terrific week for Hayelle who sold its Hamilton Sheepvention grand champion ram for a new stud record of \$9000 at the White Suffolk Elite ram sale at Bendigo. Their other two stud rams offered at Bendigo made \$3000 each.

The sale kicked off with two late additions from the stud's reserves which were knocked down at \$1300 and \$1400.

The sale's top price of \$1600 came the following lot and was paid by Gerald Duffy, Tara, Thoona, Vic who also bought the top priced flock ram in 2014.

The ram sired by Sunnybanks 120032 was 134 kilograms with an eye muscle depth of 52mm and 10mm fat depth.

"I keep coming back because I am getting the results. We have just got some more feedback on some lambs we sold and they have the right fat cover, muscling and high carcass yield," Mr Duffy said.

Later in the sale Mr Duffy also bought the \$1350 top priced White Suffolk-White Dorper flock ram - a 116 kilogram ram with an eye muscle depth of 48mm and fat depth of 7mm.

Many other clients who have been enjoying great results with Hayelle genetics were in the stands including Saltbush Ag, Mount Bryan who bought 12 White Suffolks and two White Suffolk-White Dorper rams for their Balmoral, Vic property.

Nalang Pastoral Company, Bordertown bought five rams for a \$1300 ave, and DJ&CE Kuchel, Dinyarrak, Vic secured five rams for a \$1290 ave.

Just days earlier the Kuchels had sold a semi-load of 444 Merino-White Suffolk sucker lambs for \$170 average.

The five-month-old, Hayelle blood lambs weighed 26.7 kilogram and included a \$10.50 skin. Mr Whittlesea said he had decided to disperse the stud to spend more time with his three children and focus on commercial sheep production.

One hundred and forty of Hayelle's stud ewes have been bought by enthusiastic young breeder Damien Hawker who from the rostrum at the end of the sale said it was "always a dream" to expand his Omad stud at Kaniva.

"I plan on keeping it the same but introducing Lambplan back in for those who are looking for those figures. Next year I will have an on-property sale of my own as well and hope to continue to service Hayelle's clients," he said.

Pinkerton Palm Hamlyn & Steen auctioneer Robin Steen said the rams presented extremely well and the White Suffolks met very strong support which was reflected in the excellent \$1071.70 average.

"It is pleasing to see a finish like this for Hayden and Michelle but also see a young fella

carrying on the good work," he said.

Driscoll McIllree & Dickinson's Andrew McIllree said the sale reflected the quality of the rams and current buoyant lamb prices.

"It is a sad occasion but it is very pleasing to see a good sale to go out on. It was good buying for the buyers who appreciate the locally bred rams suited to the area."

The sale was conducted by Pinkerton Palm Hamlyn & Steen and Driscoll McIllree & Dickinson with Robin Steen and Brock Quick auctioneers.