

## Anden Excels

Andrew and Denita Donna and family staged a hugely successful 17<sup>th</sup> annual ram sale at their Woomelang property last Thursday, where they offered 162 White Suffolk, Poll Dorset and Suffolk rams.

On the back of the high quality of the grassfed offering that was presented in magnificent order, the large gallery of buyers from three states ensured strong bidding competition to produce a good result. 157 rams cleared to a top of \$7000 and averaged \$1257. This average was down \$100 on last year, but in consideration of the current softer lamb market and desperate need for rain in many areas, it was an exceptionally good result.

Nineteen specially selected White Suffolk rams commenced the sale. This was well up on the ten offered last year when they topped at \$12000 and averaged \$5475. The depth of quality and demand was much greater this year and while the top of \$7000 was lower the average of \$3763 for the nineteen was very satisfying for the Donnan family.

This selected ram offering was the 'shop window' from a total yarding that most studs would love to be able to replicate, both for phenotype and genotype. The stud's Lambplan figures are right up with the best in the industry.

The sale was connected to the Auctions Plus network this year for the first time and while this resulted in only two successful bidders, it did provide some underbidding and one of the successful bids was for the top priced ram.

Lachy and Lou Day, Days Whiteface stud Bordertown were getting ready for their own sale the next day, so linked in via this network. Lachy couldn't believe his luck in securing lot 3, Anden 110129Twin for \$7000, expecting to be pushed much higher for such a high quality ram. Sired by A090168, this strong and powerful sire was second at this year's Adelaide Royal show in his July drop class. He was supported by exceptional Lambplan figures, highlighted by a Pwwt EBV of 14.4, Pemd of 1.17 and a C+ index of 190.7.

While \$7000 may have undervalued this ram somewhat, it was the strength of the stud breeder support that contributed to such a good result. Nine of the rams made \$4000 or better.

R Johanson, 'Deer Park', Emshurst and R Wilkinson, 'Camborn', Wentworth NSW both paid \$6500 for sons of Anden 'Smoothie' 090168, the 2010 Adelaide Supreme all breeds ram.

DJ & EM Roddis, through Landmark Ballarat paid \$6000 for A110172, an ET son of A080276, while Leroy Hull, 'Kattata Well' stud Streaky Bay SA paid \$5000 for A110031Twin, a huge performance son of Detpa Grove 080297.

Peter Angus, Maroola stud, Mallala added to the SA buying list by paying \$4000 for A110103Tri while Ben and Lucy Prentice, Kurralea stud, NSW paid the same amount for A110256. McKinnon and Bailey through FP Nevins & Co, Inglewod also paid \$4000 for another triplet, A110152, while R Johanson purchased a ram at \$4000 to add to his earlier \$6500 purchase.

Far from a headline sale, Paul and Dalles Routley, 'Almondvale', Urana, NSW paid \$2000 for A110020, the second last of the run, but still a high quality young ram. This highlights the value of an underbidder, as Almondvale was underbidder on ten of the previous lots in this sale, including the three highest priced lots.

The 102 White Suffolk flock rams followed in two drafts, split by the offering of 29 Poll Dorsets from the Donnan's Viewdale Poll Dorset stud. There was exceptionally strong demand from mainly Mallee based commercial buyers for these exceptional rams, with not one testing the base price of \$600. Every ram in the White Suffolk and Poll Dorset drafts sold between \$800 and \$1200. A lot of the pick of the pen of three rams saw all three rams go in one hit.

The final draft of 12 Suffolk rams from the recently re-established Kerangie Suffolk stud was the only group to struggle a little. Seven of these 12 sold, all at the \$600 base as this venture establishes its name with buyers. Andrew's uncle and mentor, John, originally ran the highly successful Kerangie stud in the 1970s and 80s until his retirement and Andrew and family have recently re-established it.

The value of local stock agents who actively service their client base was highlighted by Elders Wycheproof's Kevin Thompson. Buying on behalf of absent Birchip, Swan Hill and Wycheproof clients, he successfully bid on 44 White Suffolk and Poll Dorset rams. The most prominent of these was the Stapleton family, Kulwin Park. They purchased 10 White Suffolks from \$850 to \$900.

Jim Casey was present and buying through Elders Birchip, also purchasing 10 rams; eight Poll Dorsets to \$1100 and two White Suffolks at \$850 each.

Another of Kevin Thompson's absent buyers was Elders Birchip, account Barra Boga Pty Ltd, purchasing eight White Suffolks from \$800 to \$850.

Aaron Zwar, Elders Warracknabeal purchased for repeat clients KY Pastoral to be the biggest volume buyers on the day. They secured 11 rams in total; eight White Suffolks all at \$850 and then topped up with three of the Suffolks at \$600 each.

Elders Ouyen was also prominent, purchasing nine White Suffolk rams for clients, all at \$900 to \$950, while long time Anden supporter, Gerard Curran, Robinvale added seven from \$800 to \$950 through the same agency.

R&K Christie, through Landmark Ararat are regulars who are prepared to travel to buy rams of this quality. They bid successfully from \$900 to \$1100 to purchase seven select and high performing White Suffolk and Poll Dorset rams from this impressive offering.

TJ, TA& PT Ryan, through Elders Ouyen with five rams at \$800 each, GD & JM McLean through BR&C Swan Hill with six rams to \$1250, DP & BM Smith through M&P Jolly, Birchip with five rams at \$1050 and Andersons of Bronzewing through Elders Ouyen with five to \$1000 rounded out the biggest volume buyers.

Rodgers Brothers, Wood Wood and buying through Elders Swan Hill paid t\$2200 for the top Poll Dorset. This was their only purchase, having also purchased the \$1400 top Poll Dorset last year.

The 102 White Suffolk flock rams averaged \$884, the 29 Poll Dorsets averaged \$1086 and the seven Suffolks all sold at \$600.

## Sale Summary

White Suffolks	Elites	2012	2011	Flocks	2012	2011
Offered		19	10		102	105
Sold		19	10		102	105
Top		\$7000	\$12000		\$1050	\$2750
Average		\$3763	\$5475		\$884	\$1233
Poll Dorsets		2012	2011	Suffolks	2012	2011
Offered		29	41		12	10
Sold		29	41		7	10
Top		\$2200	\$1400		\$600	\$800
Average		\$1086	\$843		\$600	\$640

Agents: Elders

Auctioneer: Ross Milne



Anden principal Andrew Donnan (left) is with key buyers at the Anden, Viewdale and Kerangie sale. They are Philip Down, Speed (two rams at \$900), Elders auctioneer Ross Milne, Jim Casey, Birchip (10 rams to \$1100), Gerard Curran, Robinvale (seven rams to \$950) and Elders Wycheproof's Kevin Thompson (44 rams for eight client accounts to \$1150).



Elders auctioneer Ross Milne is with Anden's Joel (holding ram) and Andrew Donnan and Anden 110129Twin, the \$7000 top priced ram purchased via Auctions Plus by Lachy and Lou Day, Days Whiteface stud, Bordertown SA.



Joel Donnan holds the impressive Anden 110031Twin, the \$5000 ram purchased by Leroy Hull (left), Kattata Well stud, Streaky Bay, SA. Also pictured are Leroy's partner Kelsey Doudle, Elders auctioneer Ross Milne and Anden principal Andrew Donnan.



Andy and Pete Angus with his \$4000 purchase