

## **Kurralea's very solid sale result**

The seasonal pinch, especially in Kurralea's traditionally strong Poll Dorset client areas north of Ariah Park had an effect on the 2011 Kurralea Poll Dorset and White Suffolk sale last week. That said, the sale offering of 46 stud and 300 flock ram still produced a very good result, with a 91% clearance and a sale gross of \$396,600.

The prices were very solid rather than spectacular, with buyers from four states contributing.

The sale opened with the offering of 32 excellent quality Poll Dorset stud rams. These all cleared to a top of \$5500 twice and averaged \$2461. This was just under \$1000 less than last year in Kurralea's record breaking sale result.

Andrew Hiscock, 'Brurab' Poll Dorset stud, Kilmore, Vic and Ted Rumler, 'Valed' Poll Dorset stud, Leigh Creek, Vic both paid the \$5500 equal top price in this run, as well as the overall sale.

The Hiscock ram purchase, Kurralea 100650, by UP080185, the 2009 Melbourne Royal supreme champion ram headed a group of impressive spring drop rams that also included K100684 at \$3000, the only ram to go to Western Australia in this sale. It was bought by Max Whyte and Gail Cremasco, Brimfield stud, Kendenup; Max bidding by phone more successfully than last year when he was runner-up on the \$18,000 sale topper.

The Valed stud purchase, K10086 was sired by UP080138, the reserve champion from the 2009 Melbourne Royal. Gilmour Station, operating through Landmark Bathurst purchased three rams, starting with lot 1 at \$4500 and then added great value rams at \$2250 and \$1750.

Zacman Poll Dorsets, Binnun, SA and Irvin Brothers, Barellan, NSW both went to \$3750 for stud rams and long-time loyal client Ian Kyle, Ashley Park stud, Bairnsdale bought two at \$2750 and \$2500, proving that there is value to be had in most years at Kurralea.

Astute commercial buyers made the most of the buying opportunities to grab some of these elite quality and performance rams. KM & JL Norrie purchased seven from \$1500 to \$2250 and at an \$1821 average to be the most alert to the opportunity presented to them.

W & L Ramsey, Condobolin bought four from \$1500 to \$2000, while Peter and Geoff Ballantyne came all the way from Millicent in SA to grab three at \$2500 each.

In the White Suffolk studs the line-up of 14 rams had depth of quality right through it in clearly Kurralea's best offering yet. The 14 cleared to \$4000 and averaged \$2268, in what would have to be one of the best value buying days at any stud sale.

Todd Shotton, Belmont Park stud, Rochester paid \$4000 for K100057, a son of the \$28,500 Anden 070007, and then added another at \$2000.

Darryl Honeysett, Gulgang, NSW operated by phone and couldn't believe he got both his pick rams (K100250 by the Anden sire and K100200 by the \$20,000 Detpa Grove 080518) for only \$2750 and \$2000.

Tom Grant, Conapaira stud, Rankin Springs was just as disbelieving, picking up the first two stud rams, K100149 and K100152 for \$2000 each, both having been used in the Kurralea stud as ram lambs.

Peter and Carly Brown, Grenfell, NSW got their stud selection for \$2500, Irwin Bros one at \$2000 to add to their earlier Poll Dorset purchase and J & JR Cahill, Cooma (1 at \$2700), rounding out the stud sales.

LJ & JA Magill, Bogan Gate, NSW made the most of the opportunity and picked up all four of his commercial ram requirements in this run from \$1750 to \$2000.

The flock rams met very good early competition with Poll Dorsets topping at \$1500 and White Suffolks at \$1700. However the latter rams of both breeds were not as forward as usual and without the northern competition in particular, several lots at the end of the drafts were passed.

Buying honours were again dominated by James Osborne with the assistance of his son Henry, representing FS Falkiner & Sons Pty Ltd. They purchased 73 in the Poll Dorset run, plus 57 in the White Suffolks, paying from \$600 to \$1300 for the 130 rams.

Loyal and regular purchasers, Chatsworth House, Chatsworth, Vic represented by Taylor Haleb and Trent Adams and buying through their Southern Grampians agent Heath Templeton operated at the top end, purchasing 30 White Suffolk flock rams to \$1700, but got some average breakers at \$800 and \$1000 later in the draft.

Lake Repose Partnership, also loyal repeat clients and operating through Southern Grampians bought eight White Suffolks and two Poll Dorsets from \$600 to \$1100, while Fletcher International, Dubbo purchased 13 White Suffolks from \$1300 to \$1600 to be the other double figure volume buyers.

#### Sale Summary

##### Studs

Poll Dorset	2011	2010	White Suffolks	2011	2010
Offered	32	38		14	10
Sold	32	38		14	10
Top	\$5500 (x2)	\$18,000		\$4000	\$13,500
Average	\$2461	\$3420		\$2268	\$4475

##### Flocks

Poll Dorset	2011	2010	White Suffolks	2011	2010
Offered	159	211		141	110
Sold	140	211		130	110

Top	\$1500	\$1700	\$1700	\$1600
Average	\$1017	\$1109	\$1105	\$1255

Agents: Elders Wagga & GTSM

Auctioneers: Michael Glasser (GTSM), Ron Rutledge & Nick Fogarty (Elders)