

Total Chirniminup clearance tops \$3800

By **COURTNEY WALSH**

DEMAND for Dohne genetics at the Chirniminup on-property ram sale this week at Nyabing was so red-hot, it left stud principal Rachel Browne feeling slightly overwhelmed.

There were 177 well-bred Dohne rams to get through on Monday and as the Landmark team blazed through them, calling bids from across the shed, it became increasingly clear they were selling the textbook definition of a 'ripper' of a sale.

Pen after pen, row after row, the bids and the average didn't slow, meaning when auctioneer Mark Warren stepped down from the rail at the end of the sale, he'd sold a total clearance of 177 rams to gross \$356,300, a top of \$3800 and an average of \$2013, besting the 2018 sale average of \$1588 by \$425.

The first row of the day averaged \$2546 and the last row of the day averaged \$1918, with the lowest price of the day fetched just once when someone got lucky and spent just \$1000 on lot 169.

The strength of the sale had a little tear in the corner of Ms Browne's eye when she stood up after the sale to say a heartfelt thank you to the clients who had made the sale a success.

"We were completely overwhelmed by the demand and competition at this year's sale," Ms Browne said privately afterwards.

"I want to thank again our repeat and valued clients, whose support is what makes Chirniminup Dohnes a success.

"Without them it isn't possible.

"We also want to thank the new buyers as well, who we look forward to working with in the future.

"We're always striving to invest in genetics to produce the sort of quality that buyers want to compete for and we were so pleased to see the



□ With the \$3800 top-priced ram sold at the on-property Chirniminup Dohne ram sale on Monday were Landmark auctioneer Mark Warren (left), Landmark Breeding representative Roy Addis, Chirniminup stud principal Rachel Browne, Nyabing and buyer Cameron White, Mukinbudin.

SALE SUMMARY

(Under the hammer results)
Offered: 177
Sold: 177
Top: \$3800
Gross: \$356,300
Average: \$2013

work we've been doing is being well received by our clients.

"We are truly honoured that our clients rate our Dohnes high enough to reach so far into their pockets."

At the top end of the buying, return buyer Cameron White, Woodlands Grazing Co, travelled from Mukinbudin to get his hands on a standout Chirniminup Dohne, paying the sale top price of \$3800 for the ram in lot 21.

As with every ram sold on the day, the bidding started much earlier and worked its way from an opening call of

\$2000 up to its final price, when Mr White was pleased to have secured the big bodied Dohne.

It was a twin born ram with ASBVs including 5.8 WWT, 6.3 PWT, 1.2 PEMD, 0.2 PFAT, 16.2 YCFW, -0.6 YFD and an index of 186.6.

Mr White said he thought it was the stand-out ram of the shed.

"I liked the body on him, the good staple length and heavy cutting ability," Mr White said.

"You can't argue with quality and he's got a good spring of rib too."

Mr White has been buying Dohnes from Chirniminup for the past five years to service his flock of 1200 Dohne ewes.

The second top-priced ram of the day went home with Mr White as well, with the single born ram in lot 23 selling to Mukinbudin for \$3600 after the opening bid was taken at \$1800.

It had ASBVs including 5.9 WWT, 6.8 PWT, 0.4 PEMD, 0.2 PFAT, 12.1 YCFW, -0.5 YFD and an index of 165.6.

Throughout the rest of the sale, buyers did their very best to secure the numbers they needed and it appeared they had success, with nearly every registered buyer securing at least one ram, and the vast majority securing more than a couple.

The biggest buying order on the day was held by Wade Brockway, WS & HM Brockway, Wagin, finishing with a team of 20 Chirniminup Dohnes for an average of \$1755, including a couple of tops at \$2100.

Mr Brockway was a return client and having recently upped the numbers of ewes at his property to about 3500 breeding Dohnes, he was chasing a larger order of 20 rams which he was glad to be able to fill.

There were a few other

larger orders on the day, with an Elders Hyden account landing a team of 11 including a top of \$2300 for an average of \$1854, while NC & TM Garlick, Katanning, bought 10 for an average of \$1920, including a top of \$2200.

Beverley-based Anbrook Grazing Co came away with 10 for an average of \$1560 including a top of \$2000 and Amuri Creek Grazing Co, Little Grove, took home 10 as well to average \$2210, including a top of \$2500 (twice).

Wagin-based producers PR & LR Coles and CJ South & Co bought nine and seven respectively, averaging \$2211 and \$1886, while Busselton producer MM & MJ Johnston bought eight for an average of \$2675, paying a top of \$3100.

Many others came away with teams of four, five or six rams, with buyers operating confidently on rams throughout the shed due to the evenness in quality presented right to the last row.

Landmark auctioneer Mark Warren said it was an outstanding offering of Dohne rams from lot one, right through to the last.

“The outstanding line-up created excellent buying support from repeat and new buyers who were all bidding with confidence,” Mr Warren said.

“Not only did the rams present well in the pens, they demonstrated good size, wool cut and were backed up by great ASBVs.


“Even though the average price per ram was up substantially, it was clear buyers weren’t hesitating to pay to the quality on offer.”

When asked about what he thought had pushed values up, Mr Warren said some larger buying orders from existing clients and the introduction of some new clients made all the difference.


“But with the strength of the sheep industry at the moment quality sheep are making good money and buyers have to be willing to pay,” he said.



Enjoying a celebratory drink after the sale were Tim Adams (left), Kukerin, Don Pegrum, Kondinin, Hank Smith, Kukerin, Rachel Browne, Chirniminup Dohne, Nyabing and Bevan George, Cuballing.



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MerinoSelect ASBV Percentiles (Aust Wide)	TOP 1% 2% 5% 10% 20%							
	Micron	YCFW	YSL	PWT	YWT	YFAT	YEMD	Merino DP+
Australian Averages		13.9	6.8	3.3	4.7	0.1	0.3	140.5
Stud Reserve 150688	19.0	17.0	14.4	7.0	10.6	2.4	4.5	152.0
Stud Reserve 170431	18.9	28.9	17.2	6.4	9.6	2.1	2.9	165.5
2018 AI group average	19.6	22.6	14.6	6.7	10.2	2.1	3.4	157.7
2018 Hill Padua sire average	17.4	18.9	14.2	5.5	9.3	1.8	2.9	144.1
2019 Hill Padua sale team average	17.1	17.6	14.5	5.2	8.6	1.4	2.4	148.9

Hill Padua foresaw a sustainable direction for the Merino industry using Australian Sheep Breeding Values in developing a multi-purpose Merino. In its 10th year of using MerinoSelect performance measurements, the stud has matured in wool quality, meaty carcase types and fertility.

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