

Far Valley Dohne stud sells to \$3000



The top-priced ram at the Far Valley Dohne stud, Arthur River, on-property ram sale last week was bought by long-term buyers and neighbours DL & KL Robinson, Arthur River, for \$3000. Pictured is Graeme Alexander (left), Elders Williams Livestock agent, Daely and Jared Robinson and Far Valley Dohne stud principal David Kain.

By AIDAN SMITH

IT was an impressive and even line-up at the 20th annual Far Valley Dohne stud on-property ram sale at Arthur River last Friday.

That was according to Elders auctioneer Nathan King who conducted the sale on behalf of Far Valley Dohne stud principal David Kain.

Mr King said there were buyers from all over the State at the sale – which showed how valuable the genetics of the stud were to Dohne breeders.

“It was a very even line-up and there were spikes in the bidding throughout the sale which kept it going strong,” Mr King said.

Buyers arrived early to look over the rams and were rewarded with hot pies, biscuits and drinks while they waited for the sale to start.

In total 19 buyers registered for the sale which was held in the farm shearing shed – with rams haltered to the pen rails for inspection.

In total 108 rams were offered and there was strong bidding right from the start, with buyers selective on which rams to chase.

The price continued to creep up and up until lot 43 when DL & KL Robinson, Arthur River, outbid their competition to \$3000, to claim the top-priced ram.

Jared Robinson said the family had been long-term buyers at the annual on-farm ram sale and only purchased rams from Far Valley Dohne as they were happy with the results over the years.

The top ram was the seventh purchase in their team of 12 rams that they took home on the day for a total outlay of \$14,800.

The top-priced ram had data of a weaning weight of

6.2, a post weaning weight of 5.9, a fat depth of 0.2, an eye muscle depth of 0.6, fibre diameter of -0.7, fibre diameter coefficient of variation at 0.6, a clean fleece weight of 17 and an overall Dohne index of 176.6.

According to Dohne breeding values, that put the ram in the top 20-30 per cent of the breed.

The total number of rams sold under the hammer was 94 – after Mr Kain withdrew a couple at the last minute – though he also offered some extra rams for sale outside of the auction.

The total under the hammer gross was \$124,600 with an average of \$1326.

While the 20th sale was a significant milestone for the stud, Mr Kain said it was business as usual and he was “very happy with the sale result”.

“I always try to include an

extra 12 or so rams than I need so that those who need them can purchase some,” Mr Kain said.

“I try to cater for those who will pay what it costs to get the rams they want but also those who would be priced out of the auction but also need some.”

“That might drag the average down, but as long as the customers get what they want, that’s fine.”

HA & SA Panizza, Williams, was a volume buyer at the sale – with 14 rams loaded up at the end at an average of \$1629.

The top price the Panizzas paid was for lot one at \$2400.

They also bought another ram from the additional numbers outside in the yards.

CM & EJ Buller, Darkan, took home nine rams, paying a top price of \$1100 for an \$878 average.

SALE SUMMARY

(Under the hammer results)

Offered: 108

Sold: 94

Top: \$3000

Gross: \$124,600

Average: \$1326

Burgess, Arthur River, and HG Dixon, Cuballing, purchased three rams each, while Amuri Creek Fruit Pty Ltd, Denbarker, purchased four rams.

Mr Kain said the season hadn't been the best in the Arthur River area and more rain was needed before summer – although not much was expected.

He said the sheep industry was going through some challenging times with the price of wool reduced and the price offered by processors for lambs in the past few weeks dropping back \$2-3 per kilogram from almost \$8 to \$6.

Mr Kain was concerned that more sheep producers would leave the industry in the future if they weren't paid sufficiently for their produce.

So far the majority of his clients hadn't been impacted too much, with the majority of buyers being what was expected.

Tasman Farm Ventures, Boyup Brook, purchased eight rams at a \$1600 average and top of \$2500.

Jesse Martin & Co, Williams, averaged \$1400 for seven rams with a top price of \$2000.

Richard Creek, Mayanup, averaged \$2025 for four rams with a top price of \$2800.

Ricetti Bros, Darkan, purchased five rams at an average of \$2020 with a top price of \$2700.

They also bought another ram from the number outside in the yards.

Other buyers such as AG



□ Far Valley Dohne stud rams were haltered to the rails in the shearing shed for the on-property ram sale last week.

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