



The top rams with Heather, Loxley and Mila Holmes, Kim Murray, Nutrien's Mat Kerin, Elders' Milton Holmes, Jake Murray, Robert Holmes, and Dion and Jasmine Trezona.

Hillview achieves full clearance of Dohnes

SALE SUMMARY

	2025	2024
Offered	60	65
Sold	60	62
Top	\$5000 (x2)	\$3500 (x2)
Av	\$1628	\$1400

HILLVIEW Dohne Merino stud enjoyed a full clearance and lift in average at its annual on-property ram sale at Chilpenunda on Friday.

The Holmes family were expecting a seasonal impact on the final result, but were more than happy with the Elders-run sale of 60 rams to \$5000 twice, av \$1628.

The top prices came at lots 13 and 23, which were knocked down to AA Trezona & Son, Streaky Bay, and LG&KL Whillas, Port Lincoln, respectively.

Lot 13 had a nice spread of Dohne ASBVs, ranking in the top 5 per cent of the breed on yearling clean fleece weight (18.16pc), as well as the top 10pc on number of lambs weaned (0.11pc), post weaning weight (7.75 kilograms), yearling fibre diameter (-1.06 micron) and index value (174.30).

It carried an 18.7-micron

fleece with a 100pc comfort factor and 71.8pc yield.

"The top price rams were structured with good body frame and nice wool - complementing the Dohne features," Robert Holmes said.

Lot 23 also ranked in the top 5pc of the breed on YCFW (17.89pc), as well as the top 20pc on NLW (0.09pc) and index value (169.08).

Volume buyers included AA Trezona & Son; Everglen Ag, Lock; TJ Patterson Pty Ltd, Streaky Bay; Lee Farming Pty Ltd and PF&DM Watson, Yantanabie.

Repeat buyers strongly support Ulooloo sale

SALE SUMMARY

	2025	2024
Offered	60	61
Sold	35	57
Top	\$3400	\$3200
Av	\$1291	\$1364

Ulooloo Dohne Merino stud drew strong repeat support at its annual sale in Hallett, where every registered bidder took home a ram.

The \$3400 top price came at lot 6 for a twin by Ulooloo 200033, bought by Phil Clarke, Bin Bin Station.

On Sheep Genetics, it ranked in the top 10 per cent of the breed with 5.9 weaning weight, 8.8 yearling weight, 16.7 yearling clean fleece weight and an index score of 175.9.

It also sat in the top 20pc for post-weaning weight (7.4) and -1.0 yearling coefficient of variation, a measure of fibre diameter consistency.

The ram carried 18.3 micron wool with a fibre diameter coefficient of variation of 15.2.

Mr Clarke, who has supported the Hall family for over a decade, said the ram offered the balance he was chasing.

"It had meat and wool - both traits we look for," he said.

Five rams went to Bin Bin Station, Keilira, averaging \$1880.

Overall, 35 rams sold of 60 offered, averaging \$1291.

Ulooloo stud principal

Robert Hall said clearance was back on previous years, which reflected the season.

"Some of our larger clients had already flagged they wouldn't need rams, with ewe numbers and joining programs still up in the air," he said.

"We were expecting that, but we're grateful to the buyers who came along. The loyalty of long-term supporters shows the confidence they have in our sheep."

He described the \$3400 top ram as "a complete package".

"He was a deep-bodied, well-muscled animal with very good wool and the figures to back it up," he said.

Volume buyers included Tigmas Proprietors, Yunta,

with nine rams averaging \$1089, while Capago Station bought seven av \$829.

Elders stud stock Tom Penna said bidding was strongest at the top end.

"The rams that combined data and phenotype attracted the most competition," he said.

"Buyers were selective, but those who needed quality genetics were prepared to pay for them."

Nutrien auctioneer Shannon Jaeschke said the Halls had once again presented a high-quality draft.

"Even in tough seasons, they put up rams with the right type and the supporting data," he said.

— KIARA STACEY



Ulooloo stud principals Greg and Rob Hall, Hallett; top ram buyers Phil and Anthea Clarke, Bin Bin Station, Keilira; Nutrien's Jed Puckridge and Cody Hounsell; and Elders' Michael Foster. Picture by Kiara Stacey



Babirra principals Craig and Lynda Farrow, Elders Minlaton agent Adam Pitt and Nutrien Minlaton agent Julian Burke with the top price Dohne ram. Picture by Paula Thompson

Stud interest boosts sale result at Babirra

SALE SUMMARY

	2025	2024
Dohnes		
Offered	30	40
Sold	25	37
Top	\$2800	\$1800
Av	\$1248	\$1176
Poll Merinos		
Offered	22	22
Sold	7	10
Top	\$2200	\$1400
Av	\$1171	\$920

STUD interest helped boost the results at the Babirra Dohne and Poll Merino ram sale in Stansbury on Tuesday last week.

The \$2800 top price Dohne ram at lot 20 was knocked down to Elders Minlaton agent Adam Pitt on behalf of the Holmes family, Hillview Dohne stud, Streaky Bay.

It weighed 96 kilograms, had an eye muscle depth of 40 millimetres and 6.5mm

carcase fat. Its fleece measurements were 15.4 micron, 2.9 standard deviation, 19 per cent coefficient of variation and 99.7pc comfort factor.

The Hillview stud purchased another ram at \$2000.

Babirra co-principal Craig Farrow said it was pleasing to see the stud interest at the top-end of the sale, with Mt Alma Dohne stud the under-bidder on the top price ram.

The \$2400 second-highest price ram - another Dohne - sold to return clients Sunnysvale Props, Eden Valley.

This ram weighed 94kg, with fat score of 7mm and 42EMD. Its fleece was 18.2M, 3.5 SD, 19.2CV and 99.9CF.

Pastoral client MS&SA Jackson, Broken Hill, NSW, bought 15 Dohnes at \$1000.

Taking home the top price Poll Merino at \$2200, long-time local client Paul Preuss,

who said Babirra rams were proven performers.

"Size-wise they're very good, wool-wise they're very good - they're pretty much all that you want in a ram," he said.

The top Poll Merino ram weighed 105.5kg, with 6.5fat and 41EMD. Its fleece was 18.3M, 2.4SD, 13.4CV and 99.8CF.

All the rams in the sale were May-shorn and spring-drops.

Babirra co-principal Lynda Farrow said this year's sale would be the last spring-drop offering.

"Next year they'll be replaced with hoggets, as we cut back our September/October-drops," she said.

The sale was conducted jointly by Nutrien and Elders, with auctioneer Tom Penna.

— PAULA THOMPSON

Top rams at Glen Holme Mallee bound

SALE SUMMARY

Dohne

	2025	2024
Offered	46	52
Sold	34	37
Top	\$3000	\$3600
Av	\$1405	\$1278

Poll Merino

Offered	23	16
Sold	13	12
Top	\$1200	\$1600
Av	\$1015	\$1158

DESPITE missing a number of regular clients, Glen Holme's on-property ram sale at Manoora last week drew some strong bidding action.

In a flurry of bids, Brent Farr of Loxton took home lot 58, a Dohne Merino, for the top price of \$3000.

Lot 58, a twin weighing 82.5 kilograms, was in the Dohne ASBVs top 5 per cent for yearling staple length (8.5), top 10pc for early breech wrinkle (-0.5) and late dag (-0.28), while his yearling eye muscle depth score (1.3) and Dohne plus index (168.2) were both in the top 20pc.

Mr Farr said this particular ram caught his eye due to the wool it carried.

"I'm looking to put them back over a first-cross Dohne," Mr Farr said.

"I've bought these Dohne rams to start self-replacing again, rather than putting



Glen Holme's Lauren Philp, AWN's Jared Phillips; top ram buyer Brent Farr, Nutrien stud stock's Gordon Wood, and Glen Holme's Allen Kelly. Picture by Chelsea Ashmeade

too many White Suffolks over my ewes."

Mr Farr said they typically ran 2200 ewes, but the drought meant they had reduced to 1200 head.

He also bought the top Poll Merino, lot 64, for \$1200.

Overall, Mr Farr's six rams averaged \$1800, while another volume buyer was TA&DH Philp, Peterborough, with six averaging \$1000.

Buxton Ag, Naracoorte, bought five rams, averaging \$1680, and DM Haby, through Platinum Adelaide, bought five, averaging \$1080.

In the sale breakdown, 34 of 46 Dohnes sold to \$3000, averaging \$1405, while 13 of 23 Poll Merinos sold to \$1200, averaging \$1015.

In total, 47 of 69 rams sold, averaging \$1300.

Glen Holme principal Allen Kelly said a couple of key clients were missing from this year's sale - mainly due to the drought - which he felt had an impact on the sale, which was conducted by Nutrien and Australian Wool Network.

Nutrien Livestock auctioneer Gordon Wood commended the performance data and measuring behind the Glen Holme rams.

"They traverse the nation trying to find the genetics that are going to improve their flock, and their drive to better their sheep for their clientele is fantastic," he said.

- CHELSEA ASHMEADE