

Report on the 12th Annual on Property Sale of Coolawang Border Leicesters at Mundulla on Thursday 10th October 2013

“Records Tumble at Coolawang”

A highlight of the southern selling season was achieved at the James family's Coolawang Border Leicester ram sale last week when a new Australian record price of \$18,200 was paid for a Border Leicester ram.

The ram, Coolawang 120088 was the reserve junior and grand champion ram at the 2013 Adelaide Royal show, also winning the Lambplan Objective Measurement class. The ram was a late addition into the sale catalogue after strong pre-sale enquiry. Sired by Coolawang Victory 1st, a son of The Oaks Victory 30th who has bred so well at Coolawang, this mid-August drop sire weighed in at 126kg. It had excellent performance figures as well, including a weaning weight of 5.8 and post eye muscle depth EBV of +0.7. Its actual eye muscle depth reading at Adelaide was 44mm. The ram displayed outstanding structure, wool and breed type, including an excellent head with power and style, an attribute for which the Coolawang sheep are renowned.

Craig and Josh Graham, “Glencorrie” Border Leicester stud, Maitland SA were the successful buyers after seeing off three other bidders who were still in the auction over the \$10,000 mark.

In a stylish performance from the selling dais, Elders Auctioneer Laryn Gogel gave everyone the opportunity to participate, taking a total of 62 bids before finally knocking it down to the Grahams. Later in the stud ram offering, they outlaid another \$8,000 for another son of Victory 1st. Both rams will have semen available shortly and then join the Glencorrie stud's sire group at Sandilands where the Grahams annual sale will be held on the 18th of October.

Local area breeder, Martin Harvey, “Paxton” Border Leicester stud, Western Flat purchased Lot 1, a ram with excellent wool and well balanced figures, including an impressive Border dollar index of 127.4, plus an actual 41mm EMD at Adelaide for \$10,400. When exhibited in Adelaide this ram was first in the breeders group and 2nd in the woolly ram under 1.5yrs class.

The James family was again the most successful exhibitor in the Border Leicester section at Adelaide, taking out six of the eight broad ribbons awarded. Their breeding policy pursued for the last 33 years and backed by their outstanding show record over the last 13 years is paying dividends. For the first time this year, all rams were offered at their on-property sale. The sale attracted bidders from three states and the strong competition led to an average stud ram price of \$6,250 for the 15 selected rams offered.

The Starling family from Telang Past Co, Naracoorte purchased Lot 4 for \$6,200, a sheep shown with success in the Shorn and Objective Measurement classes in Adelaide.

The Munro family, Taronga stud, Naracoorte secured Lot 4 for \$6,000, while the Grossman family, Koonawarra Border Leicester stud at Angaston also paid \$6,000 for Lot 7, a son of Coolawang 070018, whose four progeny in the section of the sale averaged a very credible \$4,900.

Lot 2, a ram with outstanding show results was purchased by Wattle Farm Border Leicester stud from Temora, NSW for \$5500. When shown in Adelaide the ram was junior and grand champion Border Leicester ram, plus the best headed Border Leicester award and reserve champion long wool ram in the interbreed judging.

Marjong Park at Millicent saw value in the selected section and snapped up 5 for an average of \$4,460. They later added three more flock rams at \$1,900 each, the second top price in that section of the sale.

Tallageira Past Co., Frances secured a ram that was in the winning woolly pair of rams class at Adelaide for \$5,200.00. Belmont Props at Mt Pleasant, purchased Lot 12, and AJ & SK Geue from Kingston, Lot 13, both for \$3,000.

In the flock ram section 106 were offered and all sold to a top of \$2,000 and average \$961, just \$9 less than last year.

Speaking on behalf of the family after the sale, Trevor James expressed great satisfaction with the sale result.

“A 100% clearance and the maintaining of last year’s good flock ram average is very satisfying. We have always believed in the importance of having sheep as structurally correct as possible and with strong constitutions, while pursuing improved performance levels through independent assessment on Lambplan. We believe it is folly to chase the latter without the former. Consequently, it has taken a little longer to get our performance figures up to a consistently high level, but today’s result would tend to support the course we have taken”, he said.

The family had thought long and hard about selling all their rams at the one venue as they had previously sold rams to \$10,000 at multi-vendor sales. Trevor said he felt the challenge to sell all sheep at home had also been vindicated by the result. One the most pleasing aspects of this sale for the James family is the return year after year of many buyers, a number of whom had also been buying privately for decades before the commencement of their on-property auction sales.

Volume buyers on the day were repeat buyers Chris and Liz England, “The Snuggery”, Kingston. They selected 20 rams for an average of \$700 in value buying. As the volume buyer of the day, the Englands won the Virbac sponsored prize of a 500ml container of Multimin.

Top price honours in the flock ram section went to Chris Skeer & Co at Millicent who purchased 2 rams to \$2,000 and averaged \$1,850. JD & G Kidman, Penola purchased 8 rams at \$800, and GM Butler & Sons, Naracoorte, 8 rams also at an average of \$800, topping at \$1000.

RH Woodward, Lucindale and Langkine Pastoral, Millicent both purchased 7 rams for \$930 and \$1,086 averages respectively, while near neighbours, KD Day & Co secured 5 rams; as did PJ Carslake, Kingston who purchased rams up to \$1,300.

The sale was conducted by Elders with Laryn Gogel the Auctioneer.

Sale Summary

Stud rams	Offered	Sold	Top price	Ave price
	15	15	\$18,200	\$6250
Flock rams				
	106	106	\$2000	\$961

Agents – Elders

Auctioneer – Laryn Gogel



Judy and Trevor James are pictured holding Coolawang 120088, the ram they sold for a new Australian record price of \$18,200 at their annual on-property ram sale.



Trevor & Lachie James, Coolawang, Mundulla, Elders auctioneer Laryn Gogel, Judy James and Craig and Josh Graham, Glencorrie Border Leicester stud, Maitland are with Coolawang 120088, the new record priced Border Leicester ram purchased by the Grahams at the annual Coolawang ram sale.



Coolawang principal, Trevor James holds Coolawang 120049, sold for \$10,400 to the Paxton stud at Western Flat, represented by Martin Harvey and children, Will, Zoe and Lilly. The ram had been shown in Adelaide and was first in the breeders group and second in the woolly ram under 1.5 years class.



Lachlan, Stephan and Ron Grossman are pictured with Lot 7, the Coolawang sire they purchased for \$6,000, having been runner up on two other higher priced rams.



Coolawang's Lachie James (left) and Mark Diprose (right), representing sale sponsors Virbac, present Chris England with a 500ml Multimin pack for being the volume buyer of the sale.



Chris and Liz England, The Snuggery, Kingston were the volume buyers at Coolawang, selecting 20 rams for an average of \$700. They are pictured with their Elders Kingston agent Nick Downward.