

14th Annual On Property Sale of Coolawang Border Leicesters at Mundulla on Thursday 8th of October 2015. Report by Richard Cooper.

Wide support for Coolawang

Buyers from three states ensured the 14th Annual Coolawang sale was a great success on Thursday of last week.

Once again the decision by Trevor, Judy and Lachie James to offer all their 2014 ram progeny “on property” proved to be a winner.

“Following a wonderful showing in Adelaide which included receiving the Supreme Champion Interbreed Ram award, the most prestigious award at the show, the James family felt it was unwise and unfair to ask their stud clients to travel to multiple locations to secure their selections. The decision was again vindicated by the \$5565 average for the 10 specially selected rams offered, well up on last year’s \$3745.

Top price honours went to lot 1, Coolawang 140007, a ram much admired by the many good judges who have inspected him.

First in his class in Adelaide, the ram went on to be Junior and Grand Champion Border Ram, Champion Interbreed Longwool Ram then the ultimate, Supreme Champion All-Breeds Ram, as well as being the Border Leicester Objective Measurement class winner.

Questioned as to why and how the stud could afford to offer this ram, Lachie James said, “We breed them to sell and we have excellent sires at home here, but we are keeping 100 straws of semen for our own flock use”.

Following a bidding duel which started at \$5000, the ram was taken up in \$250 rises by a very capable Tony Weatherall of Elders to a final bid of \$13,500 from long term supporter of the Coolawang sheep Jeff Sutton, Wattle Farm Border Leicesters from Temora, NSW, bidding via telephone connection to Alan Thompson of Elders Naracoorte. This purchase follows up his previous two years’ purchases on rams for \$6500 and \$5500.

Buying through Elders Mt Gambier, Nampara Past Co, Penola secured C140006 and C140031tw for \$6750 and \$6000 respectively. C140006 had been shown in Adelaide with great success, having been awarded the blue ribbon in the Border Leicester breeders group, the British Breeds Group, the Sires Progeny Group and the Elders Supreme All Breeds Group. These first three rams were all by the Wellingrove 110027 sire whose progeny in the stud section averaged over \$7500.

Ashley Corkhill, RB Corkhill & Co, Normanhurst Border Leicesters from Boorowa NSW made the long journey to Coolawang and as a first time attendee and buyer he was very impressed with the raw data, excellent tests and wool on the Coolawang sheep.

“For me these sheep are a complete outcross” Ashley said. Having been in the bidding earlier in the sale he was very happy with his purchase of lot 7, C140029tw for \$6200, a ram exhibited in Adelaide where he gained a red ribbon.

Long term client Pat Lawlor, Marjong Park, Furner purchased two from these specially selected stud rams for \$4000 each through his agent Tim Merrett, Chay & Merrett of Millicent. Both rams had received major ribbons in Adelaide. Pat purchased another nine rams to \$2000 and for an average of \$1900 from the flock ram draft.

Andrew Bos, Tregowel Stud, Pine Camp Station, via Wentworth liked what he saw, securing lot 9, C140287 and another Adelaide ribbon winner for \$4600.

"I'm very happy with the depth of quality here at Coolawang and the wonderful wool", Andrew said.

Tom Munro, Taronga Park stud, Naracoorte returned again and purchased lot 5, C140028tw for \$3800, a ram much admired for his wool quality.

Neil Kroehn, Belmont Props, Springton was an active bidder in the stud section where he finally secured lot 10, C140272 for \$3600, while Brenton Leggett from Mt Gambier secured lot 4, C140270tw for \$3200.

In the flock ram section a total clearance of the 122 offered was achieved, selling to \$2100 (x2) and at an average of \$1272, well up on last years \$988. Although the average was up by some \$284, there was still 30% of the sale very affordable at under \$1000 and the bulk buyers used this to their advantage to bring down their buying averages.

The top flock ram price of \$2200 was achieved well into the sale at lot 44 when C140364tri sold to Peter Carslake buying through Elders Kingston. He was also one of two buyers who paid the second top price of \$2100 and selected six rams in all for an average of \$1883.

Landmark Mt Gambier client, the Bowd Family Trust secured the other \$2100 ram when they purchased lot 52, C140303, also a triplet. Laryn Gogel of SAL Naracoorte supported the sale well with an order from long term Coolawang client Greg Fisher, Clover Ridge, Woolumbool who secured 12 rams to \$1500 (x2) to average \$1300.

Volume buyer on the day and offering support throughout the sale was Nick Downward from Elders with his client Chris England, The Snuggery, Kingston. The Snuggery purchased a total of 14 rams for a good value average of \$910.

Prominent throughout the sale as usual was a very complimentary Steven Hill of TDC Penola who purchased a total of 15 rams for three clients. Steven's clients, JD & G Kidman purchased eight to average \$912; FW Boylan, four to average \$925; and George Kidman, Limestone Ridge, three to average \$1566. All appreciated the performance, early maturity and the suitable wool type for their conditions they got from the Coolawang sheep.

Near neighbours and clients for more than 20 years, JB Hoare & Sons returned to purchase five head to \$1000, as did RG & JK Vogelsang from Padthaway with five to \$950. SR & HR Edwards, Mt Gambier purchased well to secure six head to \$1400 (x3), as did D & SJ Decourcy Ireland from Millicent with six to \$1300.

A very satisfied and happy Trevor James post sale said the result was great encouragement to continue their breeding aims of big, well-structured commercial sheep with correct breed characteristics and backed by extensive performance data.

"We concentrate on the commercial aspects of our sheep and always try to have a good understanding of what our clients want and try to satisfy their needs", Trevor said.

Having sold the top priced ewes at the prestigious Naracoorte 1st cross sale on a number of occasions including last year at \$256 and \$250, it's easy for return buyers to agree that the Coolawang aims agree with their needs.

See sale summary on next page

Sale Summary

	Selected Stud Rams		Flock Rams	
	2015	2014	2015	2014
Offered	10	11	122	119
Sold	10	11	122	119
Top Price	\$13,500	\$6500	\$2200	\$2000
Ave Price	\$5565	\$3745	\$1272	\$988

The sale was conducted by Elders Naracoorte with Tony Wetherall the Auctioneer.



Tom Dennis and Tony Wetherall Elders are with Trevor James, holding Coolawang 140007 that sold for \$13,500 on a phone bid to Jeff Sutton, Wattle Farm Border Leicesters, Temora, NSW.



Chris England, The Snuggery, and Nick Downward, Elders Kingston check over the 14 rams Chris purchased at Coolawang, to be the biggest volume buyer.



Pictured are Tim Merrett, Chay & Merrett, Millicent, his client Pat Lawlor, Marjong Park, Furner, Mark Diprose, Virbac Area Manager and Coolawang's Lachie James. Marjong Park was the winner of the 5litre container of the recently released Cydectin Mineralised Oral Drench for sheep.



George Kidman, Limestone Ridge Estate, a long term purchaser at Coolawang purchased rams to average \$1,566 and is with his agent, Steven Hill, TDC Penola inspecting their purchases after the sale last Thursday.



Ashley Corkhill, Normanhurst, Boorowa, NSW is with Trevor James, Coolawang, inspecting the ram he purchased for \$6,200. A first time buyer at Coolawang, Ashley liked what he saw in the ram which was also a complete outcross for the Normanhurst breeding program.



With Coolawang principal Trevor James (right) is Andrew Bos, Tregrowell stud, Pine Camp Station, Wentworth, a return client who purchased this ram for \$4,600.