

Days White Suffolks excel at 40th combined sale

In a significant milestone, the Day family staged their 40th annual sheep sale, featuring Days White Suffolks and Maternal Composites, in conjunction with the Allendale Suffolks and Poll Dorsets.

The combined offering was presented to prospective buyers in tip-top condition.

Jono Spence, Spence Dix & Co and one of five auctioneers who had the pleasure of standing over and controlling the bidding during this marathon sale said, "The depth of quality gets better all the time."

He praised the principals on their presentation and great results around the major shows.

"These studs have stood the biggest test of all; the test of time. They continue to produce standout genetics, as indicated by their successes at the recent Adelaide and Melbourne Royal Shows, and then make them available to other breeders Australia wide," he said.

The registered buyers' list contained bidders from three states who competed for the 124 stud rams and ewes and 320 flock rams on offer. Lachy & Lou Day and family, Days Whiteface & Composites contributed 209 of that offering.

The softer lamb market and seasonal cut out in many areas of the country reduced expectations, especially on top of last year's spectacular and record-breaking half a million dollar sale.

That proved to be the case as buyers were more reserved in the bidding, except the draft of 18 White Suffolk stud rams. This section of the sale was up 22% on last year's result, highlighted by three sales of \$10,000 or better, topping at the overall sale high of \$13,000; a new Days White Suffolk ram sale record.

Martin Harvey, Paxton studs, Western Flat and Andrew Frick, Gypsum Hill, Padthaway combined forces to place the winning \$13,000 bid for Days 110070, a long and powerful son of Gemini 298, the high performance ram that has worked so well in the Days flock. With a 15.9 Pwwt EBV, -1.3 for Pfat, +0.5 for Pemd and a Carcase plus index of 192, the ram attracted a lot of interest; the winning partnership outlasting a phone bidder through Elders Laryn Gogel.

Steve Funke, Bundara Downs stud, Western Flat then went to \$10,000 to purchase the second G298 son, Days 110084 in partnership with the Tattykeel stud, Oberon, NSW. This ram had performance figures only marginally below the sale topper.

When the third White Suffolk stud ram, Days 110337 also made \$10,000, this time going to Leigh & Jayne Richards, Tongara stud, Tintinara, it was clear this wonderfully presented White Suffolk draft had attracted plenty of serious competition. Leigh Richards also purchased another impressive long and balanced son of Bundara Downs 097740 for \$2250 to average out his buying.

David McCallum, Gunview stud, Melrose paid \$5000 for another of the draft while Anthony Smith, Belladonna stud, Horsham and Limestone White Suffolks, Ballarat each paid \$4000 for White Suffolk rams. The 18 white Suffolk stud rams averaged a very healthy \$3778. Kent and Rose Martin, Chickerloo, Kalangadoo have been long-time supporters of Allendale/Days in all three main breeds and this year included two Days White Suffolk stud rams in their 4 purchases.

White Suffolk stud ewes met patchier demand, with 17 of the 28 offered finding new homes. Angus Creek, through PPH&S Naracoorte purchased six to \$350 to be the biggest volume buyers. The top of \$500 was paid by Drydens Run through Landmark Kyneton, one of two White Suffolk ewes they bought. The 17 ewes averaged a solid \$368

The 139 White Suffolk flock rams offered by Days Whiteface attracted very strong early competition with Garvaldvale Partnership through Landmark Bordertown going to the \$1900 top price in this draft.

Thirty individual bidders were successful in purchasing rams from this high quality draft but once orders were filled 13 rams were passed in later lots, giving a 91% clearance.

Joint sale agents Spence Dix & Co client, Moonee Hills purchased 12 rams in the later lots at the bargain \$600 to \$700 price range. Panmura Props, also through Spence Dix & Co purchased nine rams from \$800 to \$1000 to be prominent buyers, while SEJ Shand through PPH&S Naracoorte paid from \$700 to \$1000 for ten rams. The Paltridge family, buying through TDC Penola purchased six rams from \$800 to \$1000 amongst their 11 ram purchases at the sale.

The 126 White Suffolks that sold averaged a very solid \$915.

Lachlan and Lou Day also offered 30 Maternal Composite rams, a strain developed at Days encompassing the maternal qualities in the other composites combined with Merinos and White Suffolks selected for their dual purpose qualities. It is early in their development and thus client demand was limited, but those that did attract buyers sold well.

Garvaldvale Partnership, who paid the \$1900 top price for White Suffolks went to the \$2200 top for these Maternal Composite rams, this being one of four they bought at a \$1850 average. TW & EN Mackereth, through PPH&S with five rams from \$600 to \$1800 and PPH&S account Brackenlea with four from \$800 to \$1200 rounded out the buying. The 13 Composites averaged \$1169.

Will McDonald, Blackwood Park and buying through Elders Strathalbyn has been a long term supporter of Allendale/Days genetics and is one commercial buyer who is very aware of the bargains that often appear in the stud ram offerings. This year he found three White Suffolks amongst his 5 purchases, paying from \$1500 to \$1750 and averaging \$1550.

Agents: Landmark, Elders & Spence Dix & Co

Auctioneers: Malcolm Scroop & Gordon Wood (Landmark), Ross Milne (Elders) Luke Schreiber & Jono Spence (Spence Dix & Co)



Buyers Andrew Frick, Gypsum Hill, Padthaway and Martin Harvey, Paxton stud, Western Flat are with the Days Whiteface White Suffolk ram that they purchased for the overall sale top price of \$13,000.



These three White Suffolk rams all sold for \$10,000 or better in the Days White Suffolk offering. They are held by their purchasers, Leigh Richards, Tongara stud, Tintinara (\$10,000), Steve Funke, Bundara Downs, Bordertown (\$10,000 in partnership with Tattykeel stud, NSW) and Andrew Frick, Gypsum Hill, Padthaway and Martin Harvey, 'Paxton', Western Flat (\$13,000 in partnership).



Steve Funke, Bundara Downs, Bordertown holds the Days Whiteface ram he purchased for \$10,000 in partnership with Tattykeel stud, Oberon NSW, while Graham Day, Bordertown looks on.



Leigh Richards, Tongara stud, Tintinara is pictured with the Days White Suffolk ram he purchased for \$10,000, also purchasing another at \$2250.



The Days Whiteface stud ewe offering had the honour of opening the huge 444 head offering at the combined Day family, four breed sheep sale.