

## Magnificent display at Orrie Cowie well received

Visitors and potential buyers at the 44<sup>th</sup> annual Orrie Cowie Merino and Poll Merino ram sale last Wednesday were not only greeted by the usual great hospitality and wool industry displays, but also one of the best quality line-ups of Orrie Cowie rams for many years.

It is one thing to be dedicated to the industry and to produce a line-up of such quality, but another to be adequately rewarded. However, the 37 registered bidders competed strongly for the 59 Merino and Poll Merino auction rams and 26 private selection rams and an excellent outcome resulted.

Forty six White Suffolk and Poll Dorset prime lamb sires were also offered under Dennis and Heather Dalla's Redwood Park prefix and met more limited competition as it is early in the traditional selling season for these meat sheep sires.

The highlight of the sale offering was the lead draft of 20 Poll Merinos; arguably the best collective group of Poll Merino rams ever offered by Orrie Cowie. These sold to \$5,000 and averaged \$1,937, with long time Orrie Cowie supporters, DY & PM Reade, Curramulka purchasing the 2 top priced rams of the draft at \$5,000 and \$4,000.

Scott Kelly, representing D & WD Kelly, Northwich stud, Wongan Hills, Western Australia who are also Orrie Cowie regulars, was underbidder on the \$4,000 lot ram, but won out on lot 3 @ \$2,800. He outbid fellow Western Australian Robert Lange, 'Montrose', Narrogin. Scott also featured in one of the day's highlights by negotiating the private purchase of one of the Orrie Cowie stud reserves, OC 082555, a 21 micron product of the stud's Napoleon family for \$10,000.

Robert Lange was successful in purchasing an impressive and younger lot 18 Poll Merino ram for \$2,200 and later added a Merino ram at lot 35 for \$3,000.

Another Western Australian to buy was K & L Chambers, Kojonup who bought the young lot 16 Poll Merino for \$2,100, buying through Elders Wool area manager Craig Eckert.

While the Poll Merinos were a highlight as a group, it was the super impressive young horned ram, OC 080005 that topped the auction. Sired by Star Affair 175, a Collinsville blood sire from Phillip Goodings (WA) stud, this tall and upstanding plain bodied ram with a quality 21 micron medium wool was purchased by Bruce McCarthy, Yacca for \$6,400.

Bruce was a strong bidder all day, purchasing other horned rams @ \$1,900 and \$1,400 and polls @ \$2,800 and \$3,200 to round out an impressive day's buying. He operated through Elders Clare manager Peter Rolestone. He also purchased top rams last year, including the top priced \$7,800 ram.

The Voigt family, Wilmington and Alan Growden, Gleninga Park, Jamestown bid strongly on the top Merino ram, but were later successful in picking up rams for \$3,000 and \$2,200 respectively.

Another successful seedstock buyer was EC & LN Koehler & sons, Radnor stud, Murray Bridge. They purchased a top Poll Merino with a super soft 100% CF wool, for \$3,400.

The volume flock ram purchasers were spread amongst several regular accounts. Craig Eckert, Elders area wool manager purchased 9 rams for RA & YG Hams, Parndana, KI and 5 for Calana Heights, Stokes Bay, KI.

JF, JE, PJ & RA Rodgers, Milang were strong bidders throughout, being successful in picking up 4 rams from \$800 to \$1,000. NM & DS May, Elliston purchased 4 from \$800 to \$2,000 through Elders Minlaton's Anthony Bray, while Larry Honner, also from Elliston purchased 5 to \$800.

Locally, EL & LA Short, Curramulka and Gerald Anderson, Rockglen Pastoral, Stansbury were each successful in purchasing 3 rams to \$1,000. With private selections, Orrie Cowie cleared 76 Merino and Poll Merino rams on the day.

In the White Suffolk and Poll Dorset offering, 23 of the 46 sold to \$700 and averaged \$561. Merino ram buyers, DY & PM Reade and Calana Heights both took 4 each to be the volume buyers in this section of the catalogue.

<b>Auction Sale Summary 2009</b>		<b>2008</b>
<b>(Merinos and Poll Merinos)</b>		
Offered	59	66
Sold	56	55
Top	\$6,400	\$7,800
Ave	\$1,480.36	\$1,460.91
Agents:	Elders Minlaton & Yorketown	
Auctioneer:	Tom Penna	



*Pictured with the \$6,400 top priced auction ram at the Orrie Cowie sale are Orrie Cowie principal, Dennis Dalla holding the ram, Karen Dressler & Bruce McCarthy, Yacca, purchasers, and their agent, Elders Clare manager, Peter Rolestone.*



*Scott Kelly, Northwich stud, Wongan Hills purchased this impressive Orrie Cowie stud reserve Poll Merino privately at the Orrie Cowie sale day for \$10,000. Also pictured is Orrie Cowie principal Dennis Dalla.*



*Robert Lange, 'Montrose', Narrogin, WA is holding one of the two rams he purchased at the Orrie Cowie ram sale for \$2,200 and \$3,000. Also pictured is Orrie Cowie's John Dalla.*



