

Glen Devon's quality rewarded

A magnificent draft of 109 highest quality Poll Dorsets greeted the 35 registered buyers at the Hart family's Glen Devon ram sale at Two Wells on Monday.

Described by many present as their best ever draft of rams, Rob, Helen, Lachlan and Mileah Hart were rewarded for their efforts with another lift in average from \$1087 last year up to \$1117 this year.

In his opening address Landmark auctioneer Leo Redden commended the Hart family on their presentation and said, "They have fast growth and finishing ability and you cannot help but be impressed with them."

On the back of last year's sale success and being conscious of maintaining affordability for all buying budgets the Hart family made the late decision to put another 10 rams in the auction. However there were 10 rams not sold at the end of this sale. It may have been initially seen as an unnecessary move, but it did ensure volume buyers were able to average out their buying a little. Last year only four rams sold under \$900, whereas in this sale 28 sold under that figure, but the competition was stronger at the top end and the average still rose in line with industry buoyancy.

Ten specially selected stud quality rams commenced the sale. Five of the rams attracted winning bids from studs or ram breeding flocks, but as they all selected different first choice selections, competition on each one was restricted, with \$2100 being the top price. Chris Gilbertson, 'Murtonga', Millicent paid this for GD140167, a son of homebred ram GD120215 and was in Glen Devon's shorn pair of rams at the recent Adelaide Royal. He added GD140030 two lots later for \$1600, a ram that was fifth in the Adelaide Lambplan class and a son of Valma 110420.

Mal Branson, Murray Bend stud, Piangil, Vic and buying through BR&C Mildura paid \$2000 for GD140224, another son of GD120215, a figure also paid by Mark Hill, Gilbertside stud, Tarlee for GD140038, by Valma 110420, and Michael Cook, Bsarma stud Minlaton for GD140404, by GD120042.

Long term supporter of Glen Devon rams, Steve DiGiorgio, Lucindale was back again and buying through his PPH&S agent Robin Steen he commenced his purchasing tally of 13 rams with three of these top rams. Subjectively and objectively there was very little difference in quality and size of the entire draft, so buyers were able to bid with confidence throughout. Starting at lot 1 for \$1600 and finishing at lot 73 for \$600, Steve was able to purchase his 13 rams at an average of \$1277. When penned together after the sale, there was very little difference in visual quality.

BR&C Agents, Rory Singleton, Ouyen and Liam Ryan, Swan Hill again provided magnificent buying support for this sale from their Victorian Mallee client base. They purchased 29 of the 99 rams at auction for 11 separate clients, plus several more in the private selections post sale. Six rams account Dallkolyn (average \$950), five account Greg Cane (average \$1300) and four account N&F Hamilton (average \$1225) were the most prominent at auction.

Joe and Michael Trimboli, Mimited through Elders Orroroo were strong repeat clients and successfully bid on nine rams, paying from \$700 to \$1500 and averaged out their buying at \$1122, almost right on the overall sale average.

A group of three NSW buyers from the Crookwell region has attended this sale for several years, initially attracted by the consistent quality and excellent performance data available through Lambplan. Collectively this year they purchased 11 rams with K & A Grazing purchasing five to \$1300, Hollywod Pastoral Co, four to \$1300, and D & M Hewitt two to \$1200.

The Mudge family, Balaklava split their buying into three arms of the extended family, also collectively purchasing 11 rams. TR & OA Mudge with five top rams to \$1600 and at an average of \$1400 were the strongest contributors.

Ben Pym, Avon with four rams to \$1000 was another strong repeat local area buyer. Adalis Pastoral, through Landmark Clare was one who extended his buying due to the greater value available in the back end of the sale without a quality drop, purchasing eight rams. He started his buying at \$1100 but with his last six rams topping at only \$750, he was able to purchase at an exceptional value \$744.

Sale Summary	2015	2014
Offered	109	100
Sold	99	100
Top	\$2100	\$2300
Average	\$1117	\$1087

Agents: Landmark and Elders

Auctioneer: Leo Redden (Landmark)



Glen Devon's Robert Hart (2nd left) is with three of the buyers of stud rams holding their purchases; Chris Gilbertson, Millicent (\$2100), Mark Hill, Tarlee (\$2000) and Michael Cook, Minlaton (\$2000).



Looking over some of their 29 ram purchases with Glen Devon's Lachlan Hart are Rory Singleton, BR&C Ouyen, Liam Ryan, BR&C Swan Hill and Neil Hamilton, Ouyen.



Looking over the 13 rams purchased by Steve DiGiorgio (2nd left), S & R DiGiorgio, Lucindale are Robin Steen, PPH&S Naracoorte, and Glen Devon principals Lachlan and Rob Hart.



Glen Devon's Lachlan Hart holds the ram purchased by Mal Branson (left), Murray Bend stud, Piangil, Vic for \$2000.



Rob Hart (right) is pictured post sale with Joe and Michael Trimboli, Mimited Orroroo. They were strong buyers, purchasing nine rams at an \$1122 average.