

Curlew Creek PD ram hits \$5000

By **TONY HUGHES-OWEN**

THE Garnett family's Willemenup and Curlew Creek on-property ram sale last Thursday could be seen as the sale of the 2015 ram selling season, given the number of rams sold and the overall gross.

In a marathon two breed, two agent sale, 368 rams were sold for a gross of just under \$450,000.

Some 186 rams were catalogued in the Poll Merino section conducted by Preston Clark for Elders, and 168 were sold to a top of \$3400 and a \$1374 average.

After a short break Landmark's Chris Elliott took over the selling rostrum with a catalogue of 200 Curlew Creek Poll Dorset rams.

All rams sold to a top of \$5000 and a very solid average of \$1080.

Some 66 potential buyers registered with 25 purchasing in the Poll Merino offering, 37 in the Poll Dorset catalogue, and a few operated in both sections.

□ Poll Merino

Keen competition from some long-term clients saw a number of rams sell above the \$3000 mark.

Lot 15 eventually topped the sale at \$3400 when knocked down to Greg and Kane Hinkley, WA Hinkley & Co, Gnowangerup.

Mr Hinkley said they have been buying sires to put over their nucleus ewe flock to breed rams for their own purpose.

They join about 2500 ewes annually and in the past have bought only Merinos.

Last year the Hinkleys changed to Willemenup Polls and, pleased with the results, they returned this year.

The April 2014 drop ram has figures of 21.3 micron, 3.6 SD, 16.8 CV and 98.6 per cent comfort factor, EMD scan of 37, a fat rib scan of 4 and weighs 110 kilograms.



□ This young 14-month-old Poll Dorset stud sire sold to the Rockslea Downs Poll Dorset stud, Diamond Creek, Victoria, for \$5000 at last week's Curlew Creek Poll Dorset sale at Gnowangerup. With the ram were auctioneer Chris Elliott (left), Landmark Katanning, Landmark breeding representative Roy Addis, stud principal Collyn Garnett and Curlew Creek stud manager Brenton Addis.

Another ram sold at \$3300 and two others each at \$3000 were knocked down to northern client Jim Heal, Heal Farming, Three Springs.

Three others each sold at \$3200.

Two of these rams, along with a further nine all up averaging just under \$2600, went to Trevor and Allyson Ross, TA & AR Ross, Jerramungup, who have been regular Willemenup buyers for 21 years.

They join about 2000 ewes to Poll Merinos.

"We keep getting top results, that's why we keep coming back," Mr Ross said.

The other ram to go at \$3200 went to regular Tambellup family concern, JJ & EA Letter, which is each year up among the top priced buyers at the sale. They also bought a ram at \$3100.

Graham Stutley, PE Stutley & Son, Gnowangerup, bought three rams, paying up to \$3000 for two of them.

Newdegate client of 16

years, Steve Thompson, SJ & N Thompson, was again a volume buyer purchasing 20 head this year up to \$2300.

Another consistent buyer of top rams, Sheldon Kowald, Capemont Farms, Katanning, bought 10 head up to \$2300.

Brendon Tapscott, Tapscott Pastoral, Jerramungup, went home with nine head, as did G & M Egerton Warburton, Cranbrook.

Other regular buyers went home with between five to seven head and Elders'

Russell McKay bought eight up to \$1100 on behalf of first time buyer to the stud, Red Hill Grazing, Katanning.

The largest purchase was 24 head bought on behalf of an

undisclosed client by Landmark's stud stock representative Mitchell Crosby.

Some of those rams that failed to sell at auction were sold afterwards.

Mr Clark said that Willemenup principal Collyn Garnett had presented a team of big robust wool cutters and although some had been passed in it was pleasing to see buyers going home with their requirements.

□ Poll Dorset

This year's Poll Dorset catalogue took a meteoric rise to 200 head, compared to last year when 74 rams were sold.

The bigger numbers came

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WILLEMENUP & CURLEW CREEK ON-PROPERTY SALE (Under the hammer results)

	offered	sold	top	gross	average
Willemenup					
Poll Merino	186	168	\$3400	\$230,800	\$1374
Curlew Creek					
Poll Dorset	200	200	\$5000	\$215,900	\$1080