

MEDIA RELEASE

New National Meatsheep Record of \$36,000 at Detpa Grove

The Pipkorn family's Detpa Grove stud, Jeparit, Victoria, set a new national White Suffolk and meat sheep breeds record, when one of their rams sold for \$36,000 at their annual sale last Thursday. This was paid by the Gilmore family, Tattykeel, Oberon, NSW, in conjunction with Ian and Barbara Nitschke, "Glenarbian", Millicent, SA, for lot 3, Detpa Grove 208/04, the recent Adelaide Royal Supreme All-breeds Champion ram. This price surpassed the \$35,000 set at Detpa Grove's 2003 sale. The ram has now been named "Breaker" in an obvious reference to the record breaking price. Underbidders on the ram were Anthony and Roxanne Smith, "Belladonna", Horsham, Victoria.

Both purchasers saw the ram at Adelaide, where Graham Gilmore was a judge and Ian Nitschke was a fellow exhibitor, and they took an immediate liking to the ram. Discussions resulted in the formation of the buying syndicate. Graham Gilmore described "Breaker" as, "The best balanced and correct performance ram he had seen in the White Suffolk breed; plus he had a breeding background of success and predictability."

Glenarbian's Ian Nitschke reinforced Graham's remarks saying "Breaker" was an outstanding ram, especially with his correctness and balance. He added that as soon as he saw the ram, he felt it was the one he needed to go over the quality line of ewes he and Barbara have put together over the years, and felt he could take their stud to the next level in leaps and bounds.

This record sale was the obvious highlight in a fantastic sale that was a highlight in itself. A total clearance was achieved for the 27 stud rams, 88 stud ewes and 151 flock rams, for an overall average of \$1,203.20 for the 266 head, and giving a sale gross of \$320,050. This average is 12% up on the 2004 sale result, despite an 8% increase in numbers offered and in a year when generally clearances and averages have been down a little. The overall results of the Detpa Grove sale, in the last 3 years in particular, have been outstanding and are a reflection of the high quality of the offerings, plus the genetic merit and breeding success of these genetics for their purchasers. Detpa Grove now holds the honour of selling the 3 highest priced meat sheep rams in Australia's history, which is a wonderful credit to studmaster David Pipkorn and his family.

2005 Sale Summary			2004	2003
Stud Rams:	Offered and sold	27	28	24
	Top Price	\$36,000	\$22,000	\$35,000
	Average Price	\$5,583.33	\$3,977	\$8,813
Stud Ewes:	Offered and sold	88	82	64
	Top Price	\$1,600	\$1,650	\$950
	Average Price	\$475.57	\$361	\$434
Flock Rams:	Offered and sold	151	137	132
	Top Price	\$2,600	\$2,000	\$2,100
	Average Price	\$844.04	\$909	\$943
Agents:	Elders VP			
Auctioneers:	Ross Milne & Aaron Zwar			

The sale commenced with the stud rams, with the record price being the obvious major highlight. Buyers competed from all states (except Queensland) for the 27 exceptional quality rams. The sale's 2nd top price of \$9,000 was achieved twice, for lot 8, a son of Galaxy Park 023756, going to Peter Angus, "Maroola", Mallala, SA, in partnership with Peter Nalder, "Nalvin Park", Wagin, WA; and lot 12, an Accelerator ram going to Don and Anthony Ferguson, "Anna Villa", Weetulla, SA.

The "Wheetelande", "Wingamin" and "Netley Park" studs, all from SA, combined to secure lot 9 for \$8,500; while Jim Prentice, "Kurralea", Ariah Park, NSW, purchased the Hamilton champion ram at lot 2 for \$8,000 through Superior Selections. Jim was judge at Hamilton and backed his opinion of him. The highest performance ram in the catalogue with a 213.43 carcass plus index was lot 7, sired by last year's \$22,000 top priced ram. He sold for \$8,000 to the Superwhites group, buying through Murray Long, Ardlethan, NSW. Hobson Farming, "Banjanda", Burrumbeet, purchased a very good ram at lot 16 for \$5,500 to be the highest price paid by Victorian breeders, although RA & JC Batters, "Tillside", St Arnaud, picked up an impressive lot 4 @ \$5,000 to also make a significant purchase.

Rounding out the \$5,000 plus sales was Paul Dolling, Uralba Pty Ltd, Cleve, who picked up the full brother to the 2003 Melbourne Champion (\$33,000) for a great value \$5,000, also through Superior Selections. Despite the stud sale success, two thirds (18) of the stud rams sold below \$5,000 to present great buying value.

Holland Partnership, Winchelsea, Vic; Clarrie Bell, Nhill, Vic; and GI & JD Stirling, Tumbly Bay, SA, each purchased 2 rams, while Tattykeel also purchased another ram on their own to be the only multiple ram buyers in this section of the catalogue.

The stud ewe offering consisted of 88 high quality ewes. The stud's extensive AI & ET programs, combined with their inherent high fertility, enables Detpa Grove to offer this many top end quality young ewes for sale.

An average of \$476 was achieved, selling to a top of \$1,600. This was paid by Tattykeel for one of 3 select ewes the Gilmores purchased on the day

Bruce Vowles, Trawalla, Vic, paid to \$850 for 7 ewes, while Allanvale P/L, Willatook, Vic picked up 6 from \$250 to \$375. The Wilkinson family, Camborn Station, Wentworth, NSW went to \$1,050 in picking up 4 elite ewes, while Doug Comb, Hay, NSW purchased 5 to \$650, having purchased last year's top ewe @ \$1,650.

However, by far and away the biggest volume buyer of stud ewes was Julian Kay, Ararat, buying through Lempriere, Fox and Lillie agent Andrew Hendy. They purchased 31 from the offering, paying from \$215 to \$650 to put a very significant backbone in the ewe sale.

Ray and Melinda Addis, "Ashbourne", Nyabing, WA went to \$650 in purchasing 2 elite ewes to add to the \$4,500 ram they purchased earlier at lot 26.

Flock rams met early animated bidding, with 41 individual bidders successful in purchasing from this quality draft. Sale regulars, WJ & KJ Satchell, Hamilton (6 rams to \$1,300), and EM & RM Williams, Lillmur (4 rams to \$1,600) competed strongly at the start of the catalogue on better figured rams. The top of \$2,600 was paid by Superior Selections, Adelaide for Glen & Kay Cole, WA, for a young, extreme performance ram that will be registered, while M & D Croot, Nhill went to \$2,200 for another extreme figured ram in their 2 purchases, the other at \$2,000.

Volume and repeat buyers were A Jensen & Son, Raywood, Vic, who purchased 13 rams from \$650 to \$1,050 in astute and solid bidding throughout the catalogue. Another regular Detpa Grove buyer, 'Blue' Wylie, Naracoorte, paid to \$1,200 for 1 of the 4 he purchased, to be the most prominent of 7 South Australian buyers of flock rams.

Other prominent buyers included Weir Farms, Rainbow, Vic (11 from \$450 to \$900); DR, J, DA & AV Wilson, Campbells Forest (10 from \$500 to \$850); S Wilson, Campbells Forest (8 from \$500 to \$1,200); Lake Repose Partnership, Glenthompson (9 from \$450 to \$700); and taking 6 rams each were Elders Bendigo (\$950 to \$1,150); Mekani P/L, Kaniva (\$700 to \$1,200), and R McKenzie, Warracknabeal (all @ \$400). Lake Repose purchased 23 rams to be the volume buyers in 2004. While the top end was strong, there was excellent value through to catalogue, with 112 of the 151 selling below \$1,000 and 34 of these below \$500.

The auctioneers, Ross Milne and Aaron Zwar, carried out duties to perfection to keep the 4 ½ hour sale moving.