

## Detpa Grove buyers' paradise

Considering the history of the Pipkorn family's Detpa Grove White Suffolk stud successes over the last decade and a half when they have consistently proven to be the leading genetic supplier to the White Suffolk seedstock industry, this year's annual ram sale proved to be a stud buyers' paradise.

The quality of the 38 stud rams on offer was exceptional and arguably the Pipkorn family's best ever draft for depth of quality, this flowing over into the magnificent line-up of flock rams. Likewise the 66 stud ewes presented for sale were the envy of many.

The flock ram draft was greatly appreciated by the commercial clients with 150 rams selling to a top of \$1800 and averaging a very solid \$995; well up on last year when 112 averaged \$926. This was despite the extremely poor season in the region.

It was likewise with the stud ewe offering where 54 sold to a top of \$2500 and averaged \$661, on par with last year's stud ewe average of \$684, but with 11 more ewes selling and an increase of \$800 in the top price.

The 25 rams to go as studs topped at \$10,000 and averaged \$4160 which was quite solid, but was \$1465 down on last year's average.

It is probable that last year's stud ram average of \$5625, with rams topping at \$23,000 diverted many potential buyers' attention to alternative sources based on anticipated price. History shows that such pre-judging of price is littered with failure, with further evidence in this sale. The winners were those clients who attended this year to compete for what they perceived to be the best genetics available. The value on offer was further emphasised when 13 of the 25 sold from \$2000 to \$3000.

It was repeat Western Australian buyer, Bruce Buswell, Matilda Downs stud, Mr Barker who purchased the \$10,000 top priced ram, DG140180, a son of Anden 120321. This very well balanced ram with length and depth displayed great sire power and was supported by excellent Lambplan figures of Pwwt 14.65, Pfat-0.44, Pemd 2.12 and a C+ index of 198.

Bruce Buswell had inspected the team post Adelaide Show and was after sons of A120321 and DG120657Tw to complement his previous but different Detpa Grove family lines that have bred on so well for him. Bidding by phone linkup with Superior Selections, he was able to get his other top selection, DG140029Tw for \$6000. Considering the value and being under budget he also secured a late August drop son of DG Ricochet 130066 in partnership with Keith Ladyman for just \$2000.

Both of Bruce Buswell's choice selections have had semen retained by Detpa Grove for in stud use. These latter two purchases had Carcase Plus indices of 209 and 212 respectively, emphasising the level of verifiable performance in these rams. The 25 rams sold as studs had an average C+ index of 203.12.

Another Western Australian to benefit from the value was Jenny Roberts, Ambergate stud, Busselton. She was able to pick up a superb sire displaying sire strength, breed type and style plus performance with a C+ index of 202, for just \$3000. This was for DG140270, another DG120657Tw

son and from an elite breeding ewe sired by Gemini 090298. She had earlier paid \$1300 for one of the outstanding ewe line, with Bruce Buswell also purchasing one ewe at \$1000.

Ian Kyle, Ashley Park stud, Bairnsdale had missed out on his selection at Anden the week before but was far more successful at this sale. He bid to \$8000 before winning the battle to purchase DG140609Tw, a Ricochet son with a C+ index of 214. He later added an impressive September drop son of Ricochet's sire, Burwood 110959ET from an elite stud ewe for \$5000. He also purchased two top ewes for \$700 and \$400.

Andrew Frick, Gypsum Hill stud, Padthaway, SA teamed up with Anthony Hurst, Seriston stud, Avenue Range, SA to ensure they got their top selection. They were successful on DG140357Tw for \$7000. However, considering the great value on offer and despite missing out on the \$8000 ram Ian Kyle purchased, they added three more impressive young sires for \$2000, \$3000 and \$3000 to still land inside their original budget for one.

Dennis Irvin, another long term repeat Detpa Grove client also had a buying bonanza. He was able to purchase two top rams for just \$2000 each, then had plenty to spare when he got pushed on his top selection, DG140588Tw by DG110059, eventually purchasing this ram for \$6250.

The second top price of \$8250 was paid by Rogers Brothers, through BR & C Agency, Swan Hill. This was for DG140083, another DG120657Tw son with a C+ index of 207.

The competition for quality rams in the flock ram line was much stronger and more consistent, with a 96% clearance. Eight astute buyers jumped in on the rams overlooked by stud buyers in that draft and purchased 13 high quality rams catalogued as studs, these adding to the 137 to sell from the flock ram draft.

These included Lagoon Partnership through Kerr & Co, Hamilton who was able to complete their buying needs in the elite stud ram draft with four at a \$1375 average.

Craig Binnie, one of a group of five PPH&S repeat clients in attendance purchased two of his three in this draft at \$1500 each then added one at \$1100 from the flocks.

Simon Mulraney, PPH& S agent from Naracoorte regularly attends this sale, with five clients recognising the quality and value they get. Collectively they purchased 33 rams this year with Irving Brothers again being the most prominent with 15, paying to \$1000, but averaging a great value \$820. D & K Selkrig was another prominent member of this group with eight rams at an even better value \$763 average, while G & R Sambell averaged \$1000 for six selections.

The Schmidt family, buying through Elders Hamilton, were strong bidders on the top lots, including one from the stud draft at \$1250. They paid the \$1800 flock ram top price three times and averaged \$1494 for their eight selections. Their three top priced purchases averaged 15.1 for post weaning weight, -0.6 for post weaning fat, 2.61 for post weaning eye muscle depth and 208 on Carcase Plus index.

Robin Jackson, Lake Repose Partnership was back this year to top up his ram numbers and bid strongly through Elders Hamilton to pick up 10 top rams at an \$850 average in real value buying.

Callamondah Pastoral Co, through Crawford Dowling, Ballarat was the second highest volume flock ram buyer, with 14 rams, paying to \$1100 and averaging \$993.

The highlight of the stud ewe section was the sale of DG140019Tw, a May drop daughter of DG120657Tw and with a Carcase Plus index of 209, for \$2500, a price only exceeded at Detpa Grove by a few elite selections in their biannual mated ewe sale. Gary Heilig, Montana USA has been the purchaser of some of those elite mated ewes but was underbidder on this occasion on this star lot, the successful bidder being Duncan Young, Livestock Marketing P/L, operating through Elders Strathalbyn, SA.

Duncan Young dominated the ewe bidding, successfully bidding on 24 of the 54 ewes to sell including seven of the nine ewes to make \$1000 or better. He averaged \$804 for his purchases.

Auctions Plus was more successful this year, with 10 ewes from \$400 to \$600 going through that system, with Aaron Zwar being the sale venue connection. A+ also purchased two of the stud rams.

Tim Spicer, Elders stud stock manager for WA connected via phone and successfully bid on three ewes at a \$700 average while Bruce Buswell's and Jenny Roberts's purchases at \$1000 and \$1300 respectively saw five ewes heading to WA.

Sale Summary	Stud rams		Flock rams		Stud ewes	
	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014
<b>Offered</b>	25	26	157	151	66	79
<b>Sold</b>	25	26	150	112	54	43
<b>Top</b>	\$10,000	\$23,000	\$1800	\$2000	\$2500	\$1700
<b>Average</b>	\$4160	\$5625	\$995	\$926	\$661	\$684

**Agents:** Elders Wycheproof  
**Auctioneers:** Ross Milne



Detpa Grove principals Michelle and David Pipkorn are pictured with the \$10,000 top priced ram, DG140180 purchased via phone connection by Bruce Buswell, Mt Barker, WA. Bruce later purchased two other rams at \$6000 and \$2000, the latter in partnership.



Detpa Grove principal David Pipkorn holds DG140357Tw, and is with purchasers Shane and Andrew Frick, Gypsum Hill stud, Padthaway, SA, buying in partnership with Anthony Hurst, Seriston stud, Avenue Range, SA for \$7000. They ended up purchasing four rams throughout the catalogue.



Detpa Grove principals Michelle and David Pipkorn (centre & 2<sup>nd</sup> right) are pictured with flock ram buyers at the Detpa Grove sale; Robin Jackson, Lake Repose Partnership through Elders Hamilton (10 rams); Glen Nuske, Pinnaroo (3 rams); and David Jonasson, Cowangie (4 rams).



Pictured inspecting some of their purchases from the Detpa Grove sale after loading are PPH&S Naracoorte clients, Peter Irving (15 rams), Craig Bennie (3 rams) and Glen Sambell (6 rams). The 5 clients buying through this agency purchased 33 rams in total.