

Detpa Grove Mecca for ram buyers

The Pipkorn family's Detpa Grove White Suffolk stud, Jeparit, Vic continues to be a Mecca for stud and commercial buyers seeking the White Suffolk breed's elite genetics.

Sixty seven buyers from four states made attendance at the annual Detpa Grove production sale their priority, while there were 16 others following the sale and bidding through the Auctions Plus network. The weather was cold but the bidding was hot and by the sale's end, 215 head of ewes and rams had grossed \$345,650 at a \$1608 average in an 81% clearance.

The highlight was again the stud ram draft of 38 rams that saw frenetic bidding at the top end and seven rams sell for \$10,000 or better.

Steve, Ros and Greg Funke, 'Bundara Downs', Bordertown combined forces with Anthony and Don Ferguson, 'Anna Villa', Weetulta to win the bidding duel for the first of the White Suffolk stud rams, DG110084Triplet at \$16,000, which ultimately proved to be the equal top priced ram. This was the highest performance ram on Lambplan in the catalogue with EBVs of 17.51 Pwwt, -0.71 Pfat, 1.36 Pemd culminating in a C+ index of 206 and a L2020 index of 114. He was sired by the high performance sire Anden 080276Twin that has worked so well in the Detpa Grove stud.

Bruce Buswell, 'Matilda Downs', Mt Barker made the trip from Western Australia worthwhile by purchasing the next ram in the ring, DG110116, also for the equal top price of \$16,000. Brilliant for both phenotype and genotype, this son of the 2010 Royal Adelaide Show interbreed champion Anden 090168Twin had a Pwwt EBV of 15.27, Pfat of -0.98, Pemd of 1.39 and a C+ index of 197.

Bruce then chased his second choice ram DG110185Twin by A080276Twin up to \$12,000 before pulling out, with Detpa Grove regulars A&R Weidemann, 'Sunnydale', Rupanyup, Vic winning this duel. However Bruce did not miss out on the genetics completely, for three lots later he secured this ram's twin brother DG110186Twin for a bargain basement \$3000. The Weidemann family also picked up an impressive average breaker late in the catalogue, purchasing DG110210Twin for just \$2500.

Adding to the WA influence on the result were Rex and Tracey Glass, Fenwick Farm, Calingiri. They went to \$6000 to purchase DG110030, another son of A090168Twin, then \$2000 for DG 110025Twin, a son of Burwood 095774.

Bob and Idrienne Neill, Wheetelande stud, Farrell Flat went to \$10,000 to pick up 110091 by the high performance sire Burwood 095774. This ram also had a very high Carcase Plus index at 201. They also picked up a late average breaker at \$3000, a son of Gemini 090298 with a C+ index of 200, highlighted by an eye muscle EBV of 2.09.

The South Australian buying influence was very strong, with the other three rams that made \$10,000 or better all going to buyers from that state.

Steve Funke this time combined with the Piggott family, Illoura stud, Moorlands to pay the \$14,000 necessary to secure DG110308Twin by Burwood 0905774. This ram also had elite performance culminating in a C+ index of 204. This buying combination also paid \$7000 for a Detpa Grove Storm Force 100346 son, while the Funke family paid \$6000 on their own for another Burwood 095774 son later in the catalogue.

Mary Burzacott and Michael Emery, Beachport paid \$10,000 for DG110416Twin, another Anden 090168Twin son for their Richmond Park stud.

Clive and Deb Shillabeer, Wingamin stud, Karoonda were also pushed to \$10,000 for the third last ram offered, DG110452Twin. This August drop youngster was a great grandson of An080276 and was the second highest performance ram on Lambplan in the catalogue with a 205 Carcase Plus index.

While South Australian and Western Australian buyers, along with one from Victoria dominated the top prices there were also plenty of New South Wales breeders competing. Woodlea Farming Pty Ltd, through Elders Dubbo paid \$6500 for DG110585Tw. Repeat buyer John Jamieson, through Elders Deniliquin paid \$3000 for a Storm Force son and Victoria and Lachlan Patterson, Kinellar stud, Goolagong picked up a great value buy for another very impressive Storm Force son for \$3500.

Dennis Irvin, Coeee stud, Barellan also picked up two bargains with Gemini 090298 and Anden 090168Tw sons at \$2500 each. They also purchased 2 two year old rams that were surplus to Detpa Grove's needs privately at \$5000 each, making a significant investment in Detpa Grove genetics this year.

Dennis Duffy, Wanden stud, Tumbarumba, NSW hooked in via Auctions Plus and was the highest priced purchaser on that network by successfully bidding \$7000 for a 202 C+ triplet son of An080276Tw.

Rounding out the NSW purchases with the steal of the day were Ben and Lucy Prentice, Kurralea stud, Aria Park when they purchased DG110522Tw with a C+ index of 192, for just \$2000. The Prentice family has purchased the top priced Detpa Grove ram on at least three occasions before to \$20,000, so this bargain was a small reward for their past commitment.

Mark Williams, through Elders Kaniva has supported Detpa Grove for a long time and this year purchased three outstanding rams at a \$5000 average and later added three top ewes to \$1300.

Rounding out the stud ram purchases were four more SA buyers. Anthony and Don Ferguson, who were partners in the equal sale top ram with Bundara Downs, purchased a Burwood 095774 son for \$7000 in their own right. Andrew and Tanya Frick, Gypsum Hill, Padthaway and operating on Auctions Plus also purchased a high performance Burwood son for \$3500, as did TJ Munro, Taronga Park, Hynam who paid \$3500, plus adding ewes. Rounding out the SA purchasers were Leroy and Rohan Hull, Kattata Well, Streaky Bay who paid \$2500 for a DG100313ET son.

The 38 stud listed rams averaged a very impressive \$5084, but seven of these went to astute commercial lamb producers. The 31 that went to ram breeding enterprises averaged \$5871.

Joff and Robert Sporn, Murrayville and buying through Rodwells Keith have always had their eyes open on the stud ram draft for quality rams that would suit their prime lamb enterprise and are going at cheaper prices. This year they purchased four of the seven that went that way, paying from \$1500 to \$2000. They then bid to the top flock ram price of \$2400 for three top rams in that ram draft to round out their seven purchases for a \$1743 average. Joff said they get the returns on their top end purchasing with faster growth, better muscling and yields, enabling them to turn their prime lambs off earlier; important in their more marginal country and especially so in seasons like this.

With very strong commercial buyer bidding, it was clear that commercial producers appreciate these Detpa Grove rams as much as the seedstock breeders. Only 14 near the very end of the large offering failed to find buyers during the auction, resulting in a 90% clearance. With the seven stud listed rams that were purchased by commercial lamb producers included, 133 rams were sold as flock rams for a \$998.50 average.

Besides the Sporn family, flock ram buying was dominated by two stock agencies. Simon Mulraney, PPH&S Naracoorte was agent for seven clients in the Edenhope area, these collectively purchasing 47 rams to a top of \$1800 and at a \$944 average.

Of these, Irving Partners, Devon Downs, Edenhope were the biggest volume buyers with 25 rams in the great value range of \$600 to \$900 and at a \$756 average. Glen Sambell, Salt Creek, Harrow bought at the top end with eight from \$800 to \$1400, and Craig Bennie, Edenhope, with five to a \$1750 top and a \$1450 average were other prominent buyers through this agency.

Elders Bendigo branch has been bringing satisfied clients to this sale almost since its inception 24 years ago, this year being no exception. This year five buyers purchased 27 rams to \$1800 and at a \$1007 average through this agency.

A Jensen & Son with 10 rams from \$700 to \$1300 and at a \$940 average was the biggest volume buyer through Elders Bendigo. M Scott with five from \$600 to \$1000, SJ & GM Wilson with four from \$1000 to \$1200, AJ, BL & LJ Mann with four from \$1400 to \$1800, and AL & CJ Coombes with four from \$600 to \$900 completed the Elders Bendigo buying.

Blythwood Pastoral Co through Elders Hamilton, with six rams from \$1000 to \$1300 and SW Fielding & PW Spicer, through Elders Warracknabeal with two top rams at \$1500 and \$2200 were also prominent. DMD Nhill supplied two clients of note; Josh Pitt with five from \$700 to \$1000 and Zanker Grains with four from \$600 to \$700.

Thirty two individual buying accounts were successful in purchasing the Detpa Grove flock rams.

The high quality stud ewe offering was the only area of the sale to produce a somewhat disappointing clearance, although prices were still very good. With only eight ewe buyers for the 88 ewes that were available, a high clearance rate was always going to be difficult.

RG & JA Roberts, with 12 ewes from \$400 to \$1200 did their best to make an impact in the numbers, while TJ Munro, 'Taronga Park, Hynam and buying through SAL Naracoorte also purchased 12 from \$300 to \$450 to add to their \$3500 ram purchase.

The Kelly family, 'Mooramook', Caramut was not far behind in volume, successfully bidding on 10 ewes from \$400 to a \$1350 top.

Ian and Pam Kyle, 'Ashley Park', Bairnsdale were unsuccessful in their ram purchase attempt, being underbidder on the \$10,000 ram purchased by Wingamin, but they made an impact in the ewes. They purchased seven outstanding ewes, including the \$1500 top priced special ewe. This was for DG110036Tw, a Storm Force daughter with terrific phenotype and balanced genotype.

Sale Summary

Stud rams	2012	2011	Stud ewes	2012	2011
Offered	31	37	88	95	
Sold	31	37	51	74	
Top	\$16,000 x2	\$18,000	\$1500	\$2600	
Average	\$5871	\$5993	\$605	\$674	
Flock rams	2012	2011			
Offered	147	143			
Sold	133	143			
Top	\$2400	\$2000			
Average	\$999	\$1102			

Agents: Elders

Auctioneers: Ross Milne & Matt O'Connor



Detpa Grove principal David Pipkorn (left) is pictured with DG110084Triplet, the \$16,000 equal top priced ram at last week's spectacular White Suffolk sale at Jeparit and SA buyers, Greg Funke, Bundara Downs, Bordertown and Anthony Ferguson, Anna Villa, Weetulta.



Detpa Grove principal David Pipkorn is holding the \$16,000 equal top priced ram at last week's great White Suffolk sale at Jeparit and is with the purchaser, Bruce Buswell, 'Matilda Downs' stud, Mt Barker, WA.



Detpa Grove White Suffolk stud principal David Pipkorn (2nd left) is with very prominent flock ram buyers at the 24th annual sale at Jeparit. Buying through PPH&S Naracoorte Glen Sambell, Salt Creek, Harrow (eight rams to \$1400), Peter Irving, Irving Partners, Devon Downs, Edenhope (25 rams to \$900) and Craig Bennie, Edenhope (five rams to \$1750) collectively purchased 29% of the flock rams sold.



Bob Neill, Wheetelande stud, Farrell Flat, SA holds the impressive high performance sire he purchased for \$10,000 from the Detpa Grove sale, represented here by principal David Pipkorn.



Greg Funke, Bundara Downs stud, Bordertown holds the \$14,000 ram Bundara Downs purchased in conjunction with the Piggott family, Illoura, Moorlands, SA. Also pictured is Detpa Grove principal David Pipkorn.

