

# Sandown sale reaches a record \$9100

By TAMARA HOOPER

RECORDS were broken at the 17th annual Sandown Prime SAMM ram sale with a massive \$9100 top reached last Friday at Badgingarra.

It was a day of big numbers for the stud, with all final sale figures increasing across the board.

The number of registered buyers in the shed was also up, with 20 in attendance, spanning the State from as far South as Esperance and North to Mullewa.

It was evident from the outset there was going to be some impressive results, with the first pen seeing two bidders push the price all the way to the \$9100 top, setting the scene for the rest of the sale that saw a total of four rams achieve prices above that of the 2017 sale top.

It was an exceptional sale all round, according to Primaries auctioneer Jay Macdonald.

"The sale was just exceptional, the rams were exceptional and the prices reflected this," Mr Macdonald said.

Primaries Badgingarra agent Greg Wootton said the competition and results of the sale were proof of the true value of the Sandown sheep.

"The quality of genetics on offer at Sandown really speak for themselves," Mr Wootton said.

"They have regular clients achieving State record prices for the lambs and there is no better gauge than that."

It was lot one, a big 102 kilogram ram, with measurements of 41mm EMD, 4.0 Fat, 20.1 micron and a comfort factor of 99.7 per cent that had two stud buyers battling for ownership.

The ram was eventually purchased by Dave Medcalf, Parron Place, Badgingarra, on behalf of his boss Tim Stevenson, KD Genetics, as their sole purchase at the sale.

Mr Medcalf said the ram would be going to Mr

## SALE SUMMARY

(Under the hammer results)  
Offered: 78  
Sold: 77  
Top: \$9100  
Gross: \$91,800  
Average: \$1192

Stevenson's Cunderdin property for use in their SAMM stud.

"Tim inspected the ram earlier today and suggested we come here to buy it because he was very impressed with it," Mr Medcalf said.

"The quality of the sheep here at Sandown is fantastic, they produce some extremely good rams."

Taking home the second and fourth top priced rams at the sale was Chris Squiers, CJ Squiers & Sons, Quairading.

The Squiers won the bids at \$3800 on a big 102kg ram with measurements of 42mm EMD, 4.7mm FAT, 20.6 micron and 99.5pc CF, and then \$2700 on a 95kg ram with 41mm EMD, 3.1mm FAT, 21m and 95.7pc CF.

Elders Mingenew's, Ross Tyndale-Powell, purchased a total of nine rams on behalf of two clients, Todd Quinlivan, Quintarra Farms, Esperance, and Walston Nominees, Morowa.

Mr Quinlivan's total purchase of five rams included the third top price of the sale of \$2800, paid for a 91kg ram, measuring 43mm EMD, 5.8mm FAT, 21.1m and 99.9pc CF, whilst overall his average was \$1920.

Mr Tyndale-Powell said the Quinlivan's used to have their own Prime SAMM stud, but now purchase their genetics from Sandown.

Volume buyers at the sale were in abundance with regular clients BF & ML Tucker and Turramurra Trust both purchasing a total of seven rams each.

Brian Tucker, BF & ML Tucker, Three Springs, said they were one of the original



□ Sandown Prime SAMM stud set a new record for themselves (and possibly the Prime SAMM sire prices in WA) last Friday, with this ram selling to a top of \$9100. With the record setting ram are Primaries Badgingarra agent Greg Wootton (left), Sandown Prime SAMM principal Graham Sutherland, buyer representatives Dave Medcalf and Dion Urbas, Badgingarra and Primaries auctioneer, Jay Macdonald. The buyer was Tim Stevenson, KD Genetics, for his Prime SAMM stud at Cunderdin.

clients of Sandown, from the very beginning and was not surprised by the great prices achieved by the stud.

"We have ben buying since they used to sell at Mingenew," Mr Tucker said.

"The top price was very high, but Sandown spend a lot of money on their genetics and you know you are getting what you pay for.

"They are guaranteed performers, we like the lambs we produce in our commercial flock, they have proven their worth for us."

Mr Tucker purchased to a high of \$1300 twice and for an average of \$1057.

Ash Bone, Turramurra Trust, said they had been buying from Sandown for about five years and focussed on their meat traits when choosing rams, as they utilised their genetics over a commercial flock of 2000 breeding ewes and sell 100pc of their lambs.

Mr Bone purchased to a top of \$1100 and an average of \$886.

There were five clients who each purchased six rams from the catalogue, while regular

clients Topham Bros, Coomberdale, purchased four rams to a top of \$1100 and an average of \$1025.

Kim Topham said they had been buying from Sandown since 2002 for their self replacing SAMM flock, and were the first to break the State record for lamb prices in recent weeks.

"We were the first to break the \$200 mark with a pen of old seasons lambs," Mr Topham said.

"Then two weeks ago we got \$201 for new seasons lambs, which were from a pure SAMM ewe and a Poll Dorset ram.

"We like the Sandown genetics, they have great meat qualities and excellent growth in the lambs."

Sandown principal Graham Sutherland said he knew the top-priced ram was pretty exceptional, but did not expect to achieve such a high price.

"He is the best ram I have ever bred," Mr Sutherland said.

"I think the prices today were also indicative of the lamb prices we are currently seeing."