

AWEX Northern Micron Indices Comparison

AWEX INDEX	This Week S29/23	This Week M29/23	Last Sale S28/23	Sydney Change	Last Year Sydney	Sydney Yearly Change
17	1938	1881n	1938	-46	2292	-354
18	1693	1638	1693	-51	1978	-285
19	1498	1458	1498	-27	1685	-187
20	1394n	1355	1394n	-32	1519	-125
21	-	1324	-	-	1444n	-
26	-	542	-	-	555n	-
28	345n	357	345n	+5	340	+5
MC	702n	725	702n	0	890	-188

Saved by the Exchange Rate

The wool market this week saw almost 50,000 bales offered, well back on the expected 56,000 bales last week. The weaker prices from the close of sales continued with the first day's selling having the largest losses. On Wednesday the fall had slowed down but much of this could be attributed to the weakening exchange rate. On the final day where Melbourne sold in isolation, only 1 cent was taken off the EMI. Fleece wools finer than 18 micron which had performed so well pre-Christmas, carried the majority of the downturned market. Merino skirtings were generally well supported, as were the cardings. Crossbreds overall strengthened defying the general market trend.

After seeing some buyers minimising their participation last week, it was a well-balanced spread of quantity amongst the traders and indent buyers. The announcement of the largest offering for this week in almost a year had set the tone for the opening of selling which played out with reasonable competition, albeit at a lower rate. Wednesday, post sale had purchasing enquiry come forth and that gave some stability for Thursday's Melbourne auction, as well as hopefully the lead into next week.

Buyers tell us that trading sentiment is still positive without being overly bullish. Supply and demand are almost in equilibrium, the shipping delays aren't troubling the mills in China at this stage and the pipeline is only minimally stocked. Getting over the largest starting fortnight in four years (of over 100,000 bales) with the market in reasonable shape, hopefully will see the smaller offerings over the next month or so see positive movement in prices. With the talk of recession quieting and interest rates possibly falling worldwide, the wool market could benefit from this improved outlook throughout 2024.

This week Macwool and Carmichael and Co offered a combined total of over 2,200 bales on Wednesday. This coming Tuesday we will offer almost 1,200 bales selling earlier in the day.

We are calling on growers to donate wool, either oddments or a bale or two lower lines to be auctioned at one of our three special wool sales during the year. Your bale of oddments that might be worth \$400-\$500 could double that at the charity auction for such a cause, which is where Endeavour Wool Exports contribution will come from. Please visit www.macquariehomestay.com.au to view this amazing facility. We have already have around 6 bales pledged for the first sale which will be tested and held for the sale in late March.

Charity Sale Dates		
S39/23 – Week of 25 th Mar 2024	S03/24 – Week of 15 th Jul 2024	S24/24 – Week of 9 th Dec 2024

Southern Aurora Forward Prices

Micron	Date	Low
21	March 2024	1330

Main Buyers (this week)

1	Techwool Trading	6769	2	Tianyu Wool	5307	3	Endeavour Wool	4360
4	Pelican Australia	4019	5	Australian Merino	3483	6	PJ Morris Wools	2971

Eastern Market Indicators (AUD cents/kg clean)

1196 cents ↓ 17 cents compared with 12/01/2024

Northern Market Indicators (AUD cents/kg clean)

1251 cents ↓ 24 cents compared with 12/01/2024

AUD/USD Currency Exchange

0.6552 ↓ 0.0172 cents compared with 12/01/2024