

MARKET MACHINATIONS

Friday 22nd January 2021

WEEKLY COMBINED SALE on 19/01/2021



- Roma agents yarded 2016 head of mixed quality cattle for the first sale of 2021.
- Most cattle penned were drawn from the Warrego and the Maranoa in a dearer market.
- Steers under 280kgs sold to a top of 701c with most from 590-650c.
- Steers 280-350kgs topped at 618c and averaged 541c.
- Steers 350-400kgs (trade feeders) ranged from 420-454 topping at 460c.
- Feeders 400-550kg sold to 440c and averaged 400c.
- Steers to the live exporters and processors ranged from 358-388c.
- Heifers under 280kg sold to 672c, the bulk making from 500-598c.
- Heifers 280-450kgs reached 498c and ranged from 370-443c.
- Processors paid from 314-368c for suitable types.
- Preg tested heifers sold from 314-448c or from \$1600-\$1800 per head.
- Heavy cows sold to 324c and ranged from 281-320c.
- Medium weight cows sold from 248-313c.
- Lightweight boner and store cows sold from 248-278c.
- Bulls to live export and the processors sold from 290-351c.
- Medium weight bulls ranged from 300-360c.
- Cows and calves were insufficient numbers to quote.

CATEGORY	LIVEWEIGHT	HSCW	PRICE RANGE	LWT Eq.	MOVEMENT
Trade Feeder Steers	300-400kg	n/a	n/a	450c-480c	
Trade Feeder Heifers	300-400kg	n/a	n/a	430c-450c	
Heavy Feeders	350-500kg	n/a	n/a	420c-450c	
Angus Feeders	380-520kg	n/a	n/a	460c-485c	
0 – 4T (MSA)	530-730kg	240-340kg	675-695c	364c-375c	
4 – 8T	550-730kg	300-420kg	640-675c	345c-364c	
Cows	440-600kg	200-300kg	590-620c	283c-297c	

THE WEEK AHEAD

Markets started 2021 with a bang with all classes of cattle kicking, some even establishing new records. However to make a bad simile on Dickens it was a "tale of two classes". Young cattle under 280kgs have gone like a rocket; heavier and prime cattle yes dearer but to nowhere near the same sizzle. This is where the conundrum lies; do producers who chose to fatten cattle or sell heavy feeders go early and take the money on offer now, or stick to their plan and the risks involved? In this week's markets many light cattle were making very similar dollars to feeders being sold forcing many backgrounders to walk away scratching their heads, and with no cattle. Some believe it will get dearer; all the feeders and processors say they are at their limits. Who is right? I'm not too sure if any of us have a clue at present, doesn't matter which side you sit. We are all in uncharted waters. All I can observe is if you have cattle to sell it much easier when buyers are falling over themselves to operate than when the balls in their court. The weather over the Christmas break and early January has been highly beneficial, but not all producers have had the same result so mother nature will continue to have some input to future market directions as per usual.

AGISTMENT AVAILABLE – 4000 acres suitable for cattle or sheep

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30-DAY SOI: 16.78 ; EYCI: 871.50; AUD \$: US \$: 0.7747