

# MARKET MACHINATIONS

## Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020



### STORE

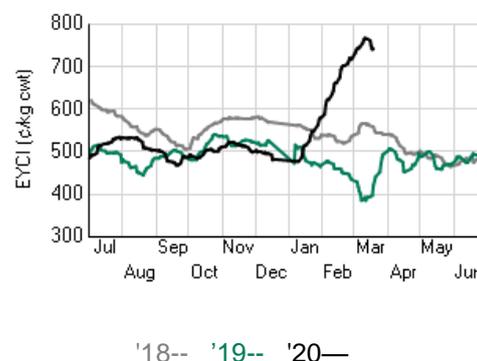
- Cattle numbers lifted by 185% to 8035 head of plainer quality cattle.
- Values for most descriptions fell but quality issues also helped move prices lower.
- Cattle were penned from far north as Winton and Clermont, Boulia in the west, the Maranoa and Warrego.
- Steers under 280kgs were 4-5c dearer to reach 482c, most from 400-447c.
- Steers 280-400kgs were mixed to reach 436c though most sold from 360-420c.
- Steers 400-550kgs topped at 424c and averaged 372c to be down 10-15c.
- Heifers under 280kgs sold to 414c and ranged widely from 340-410c.
- Heifer's 280-450kgs showed a wide variance in quality to top at 400c though they ranged from 240c up.
- Heavy cows sold from 240-288c most from 240-270c a fall of 15-25c.
- Medium weight and 3 score cows sold from 230-263c, to be also 15-25c cheaper.
- Lightweight and store cows ranged from 168-225c to be cheaper by similar levels.
- Cows and calves increased in numbers and met strong competition to sell from \$1000 to \$2180 per unit.

### PRIME

- There will be NO Thursday Prime Sales until the numbers improve.

We will advise when the Prime Sales are to recommence.

CATEGORY	LIVEWEIGHT	HSCW	PRICE RANGE	LWT Eq.	MOVEMENT
Trade Feeder Steers	300-400kg	n/a	n/a	350 – 400c	-10
Trade Feeder Heifers	300-400kg	n/a	n/a	330 – 380c	-10
Heavy Feeders	350-500kg	n/a	n/a	350 - 400c	-10
Angus Feeders	380-520kg	n/a	n/a	400 – 425c	-10
0 – 4T (MSA)	530-730kg	240-340kg	570 - 670c	308 - 362c	-10
4 – 8T	550-730kg	300-420kg	510 - 630c	275 - 340c	-20
Cows	440-475kg	200-300kg	455 - 530c	218 – 254c	-20



### THE WEEK AHEAD

Gravity has begun to catch up with the cattle market. The EYCI softened for the first time in a very long time to ease by 14c to 748c, down from 762c; however still miles in front of last year's 396.5c for the same week. Processors and feedlotter are also attempting to wrestle back some control with feeder and OTH grids all falling. Light store cattle will be least affected, particularly with most producers enjoying a cracking season. Media pressure and continual stories of Armageddon have not helped anyone's nerves. It has been relentless with the ABC leading the charge. It certainly cured the ABC's climate change obsession! Not all is bad. Panic buying has lifted meat sales domestically. The Australian dollar (the south Pacific peso) has fallen under US 60c and has even gone below the NZD on the cross rates keeping meat exports highly competitive. China is attempting to get product moving through the system and this will certainly help. The US has seen the cattle futures market crash. The beef market HASN'T. In fact, the futures markets and the beef market now bear little resemblance to each other. The US beef market this week will process 650-655k (Australia roughly 100k) and will get to 660k next week. Kills that large in the US have not been seen since the early 2000's. Many beef items at the retail level are sold out, and could take up to 3 weeks to be fully resupplied. This sort of throughput will also keep feedlots in the US current. Queensland throughput fell again last week to be below the previous week and nearly 20k behind last year. This was also the trend in both NSW and Victoria. If numbers of prime cattle lift significantly on the east coast prices could come under pressure. Export steers in the north remain strong with suitable cattle fetching 400c Darwin this week. Hang tough all this too will pass.

### **SANTA GERTRUDIS BULLS FOR SALE**

For sale 2 year old Santa Gertrudis bulls 'Glenrobbin' blood, 3 polled 1 poll scurr, very quiet & well handled, well grown in paddock condition  
Price: \$3500 + GST

[Photos available on the website](#)

For further information please contact Seamus Filan Ph. 0428462 312

**\*\*AGENTS\*\***

**Duncan McLeod 0428 225 727    Cameron Adcock 0428 988 252**  
**Seamus Filan 0428 462 312    Wayne Scriven 0447 976 097**

**EYCI: 741.75 Down 23.75; 30-DAY SOI: -0.61 Up 2.12; AUD \$: US \$: 0.5947 Down 0.0344**