

KATANNING JUNE SPECIAL SALE

1yo Merino ewes hit \$172.50 at June sale

By JODIE RINTOUL
and KANE CHATFIELD

THE sheep market has been strengthening over the past couple of months and this continued at last week's Combined Agents Katanning June Special Invitational Sheep Sale, where prices hit a high of \$172.50 for one-year-old Merino ewes.

With demand strong from both processor and export orders, the sale was red hot throughout giving producers plenty of confidence going forward.

All up 15,369 wethers and ewes were sold in the sale for an average of \$110.45, which was a very strong result according to all agents.

In the breakdown, the four agents sold 12,602 wethers for an average of \$109.71 and to a top of \$160.50 and 2767 ewes for an average on \$113.81.

As in previous years, Livestock Shipping Services (LSS) was the volume buyer on any wether lines suitable for shipping, but this year they had plenty of competition from processors including first-time buyers at the sale V & V Walsh.

While June special sales in the past have been known for their quality lines of wethers it was a classy draft of young ewes which captured the attention of most buyers.

When Elders auctioneer Don Morgan stood over the well-presented line of 1-year-old ewes offered by the Tyson family, AD & PA Tyson, Kulin, it didn't take long for a bidding melee to erupt.

Finally after plenty of head nodding and eye winking the line of 479 January shorn, Kolindale/Lewisdale blood ewes, was knocked down to V & V Walsh buyer Steve Forrest.

The losing bidder on the line was WAMMCO.

Vendor Beau Tyson said the



Prices reached \$172.50 for a line of 479 June 2013-drop January shorn Kolindale-Lewisdale blood Merino ewe lambs from AD & PA Tyson, Kulin, at the Combined Agents June Special Invitational Sheep Sale at Katanning last Friday. With the ewes were Darell Shaddick (left), Elders Pingelly-Wickepin agent, buyer Rob Cockman, V & V Walsh, Bunbury, vendor Beau Tyson, AD & PA Tyson, Luke Ledwith, Kolindale stud, Dudinin, and Paul Keppel, Elders Katanning.

ewes had been running on lupin stubbles since harvest and more recently on green clover-based pastures.

The ewes were the annual surplus to requirement numbers from the Tyson family's 2000 head breeding ewe flock and were normally destined for the special ewe sale at Wickepin later in the year, but had to be sold earlier due to an increased cropping program this season.

Elders Wickepin/Pingelly

agent Darell Shaddick said it was a great result for the Tyson family who look after their sheep well.

"(They have) good sheep management and genetics and the Tyson family is being rewarded for their efforts," he said.

Landmark

LANDMARK opened the sale and got it off to a flying start, with prices regularly surpassing the \$100 mark and

peaking at \$160.50 for a line of 1yo wethers.

In the sale the green team sold 5373 wethers at an average of \$112.52 and 510 ewes at an average of \$123.

Taking top honours in the Landmark catalogue and the sale's top wether price at \$160.50 was a quality line of 307 1yo wethers which was knocked down to V & V Walsh.

The well-grown, September shorn wethers, based on