

The Chronicle

HD Smaller yardings all round

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Toowoomba Elders

NUMBERS dropped by 320 to hit 828 this week.

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The smaller yarding was very mixed in quality. A fair panel of buyers was present and operating on the young cattle and one exporter was absent in the cow section.

Medium and heavyweight yearling steers to feed improved in price by 4–5c/kg. However lightweight yearling heifers to feed and slaughter could not maintain the previous week's prices.

The small sample of heavy grown steers and bullocks generally **sold** to strong competition. Cows experienced a mixed trend, with buyers very selective on the medium-weight plain-condition lines, however good heavy cows maintained a strong trend.

Calves to slaughter averaged 164c and made to 181.2c/kg. Vealer heifers averaged 174c and made to 189.2c/kg. Lightweight yearling steers to feed or backgrounders **sold** to 213.2c, to average 189c/kg. Medium-weight yearling steers to feed averaged 196c, with some to 211.2c, while heavyweights generally **sold** around 205c, with some to 208.2c/kg.

Lightweight yearling heifers to feed and slaughter mostly **sold** in the mid-160c/kg range, with poor-quality lines around 148c/kg. Medium-weight yearling heifers to the trade made to 188.2c, to average 181c/kg. Heavyweights made to the occasional 203.2c, with a fair sample at 185c/kg.

Heavy grown steers and bullocks averaged 206c and 207c respectively, with both reaching to 211.2c/kg. Medium-weight two-score cows averaged 139c and made to 154.2c/kg. Good heavy cows averaged close to 180c and made to 189.2c/kg. Heavy bulls reached 210.2c/kg.

Toowoomba Landmark

NUMBERS dropped by 225 to hit 535 this week.

Numbers reduced by 30% from last week's yarding, with quality also lower. Competition was solid for most descriptions, despite the absence of one export buyer, with plain-conditioned cows the most affected. However heavy finished cows **sold** to a solid market.

Light yearling steers to feed averaged 193c, with a top price of 207c/kg. Medium yearling steers to the paddock **sold** to 215c, while feeders in the same range averaged 195c/kg. Heavy feeder steers **sold** to average of 198.5c/kg. Light yearling heifers to feed to averaged 170c, with medium and heavy feed on heifers selling at 180c/kg.

Heavy grown steers to slaughter **sold** to 212.8c and averaged 207c/kg. Heavy four-score cows to slaughter topped at 188c and averaged around 177c/kg. Heavy bulls **sold** to 200c, with an average of 193c/kg.

Toowoomba O'Sullivan

AGENTS yarded 535 head of cattle this week.

A smaller yarding of very mixed cattle came forward. There were a few good pens of heavy steers and only limited numbers of cows this week. A good sample of feeder steers were on offer, while a mixed yarding of vealers was about.

Export classes held with last week's improved rates while some plainer and lighter vealers/trade were a little easier. Regular buyers in attendance, with good support from feedlot operators and restockers.

Charolais-cross steers 629kg from Vale View **sold** for 212.8c for \$1339, also selling 595kg angus steers for \$1256.

Limousin vealer steers 202kg **sold** for 195.2c for \$395, hereford feeder steers from Oakey 294kg **sold** for 207.2c for \$609, murray grey feeder heifers 320kg **sold** for 179.2c for \$573, hereford steers off crop 488kg **sold** for 196.2c for \$958 also selling heifers 379kg for 185.2c, fresian-cross heifers 417kg **sold** for 174.2c for \$727, charolais-cross steers 335kg from Kingaroy **sold** for 220c for \$737, murray grey steers 335kg **sold** for 215.2c for \$720, brahman steers from Kulpi 403kg **sold** for 190c for \$766 and angus steers 685kg **sold** for 196.2c for \$1343.

Warwick cattle

NUMBERS dropped by 184 to hit 1401 in Warwick.

There was a small decline in supply and overall quality was fair to good, however there was a wide variation in the standard of the lightweight classes. Buyers were very selective on the lightweight descriptions and those falling outside feeder specifications experienced a subdued market. Feeder operators maintained the buying strength of previous weeks, with both medium and heavyweight yearling steers in demand and local butchers were also very active when the opportunity arose.

A full panel of export buyers returned to the market and lifted prices on bullocks by six cents and medium-weight cows averaged 4–5c/kg better and more in places.

Calves to restockers mostly **sold** around 162c, with some to 182.2c/kg. Well-bred vealer steers returned to the paddock at a top of 226.2c to average 191c/kg. Butchers battled to secure the short supply of suitable vealer heifers and paid to 216.2c/kg.

Medium-weight yearling steers to feed averaged in the high 190c/kg range and made to 210c/kg. The largest number of heavyweights to feed averaged 203c and made to 210c, while local trade descriptions reached 218.2c, to average 210c/kg.

Lightweight yearling heifers **sold** to a cheaper trend to average 163c, with some to 179.2c/kg. Medium weights to the trade made to 210.2c, to average 183c/kg. Heavy grown steers and bullocks averaged 210c and 212c respectively, with both classes reaching 217.2c/kg. Medium-weight two-score cows averaged four cents dearer, at 146c, and **sold** to 161.2c/kg. Good heavy cows mostly **sold** around 183c, some to 194.2c/kg. Heavy bulls reached 224.2c/kg.

Dalby cattle

September 17 report:

NUMBERS dropped by 429 to hit 5831 last week.

Numbers only reduced by a few hundred head and overall quality was fair to good, with some large runs of feeder cattle and cows. Buyer attendance was good, with representatives covering all classes. Young cattle experienced a mixed trend, with lightweight lines of yearling steers and heifers losing ground in price by 9–11c/kg. However very strong feeder activity lifted prices of medium and heavyweights by 7–14c/kg.

Heavy grown steers and bullocks received strong competition and improved in price by 2–3c/kg. The very large line-up of cows varied in price, with medium-weight plain-condition lines maintaining a **firm** trend, however good heavy cows averaged 6c/kg cheaper.

Calves to restockers made to 186.2c to average 169c/kg. Lightweight yearling steers to feed averaged nine cents cheaper at 186c, with sales to 212.2c/kg. A large consignment returned to the paddock at 192c and **sold** to 211.2c/kg. Medium weights to feed reached 217.2c with the plain-condition lines averaging 205c, while the better classes averaged close to 212c/kg. Heavy feeders were dearer, with some large runs reaching 222.2c and most around 216c, some returning \$1124/head.

The largest number of lightweight yearling heifers averaged 11 cents less at 165c, with only a few reaching 200c/kg. Medium-weight yearling heifers to feed averaged 185c and a fair selection **sold** to the trade 8c dearer at 182c/kg.

Heavy grown steers averaged 204c and made to 214.2c, while the bullock portion **sold** to a top 218.2c to average 206c/kg. Medium-weight two-score cows averaged 142c and made to 158.2c/kg. Good heavy cows were in the largest numbers and made to 189.2c, to average 179c/kg. Heavy bulls lost seven cents to average 188c, some to 209.2c/kg.

Roma store

A TOTAL of 3800 head of cattle were penned this week. Weaners under 220kg topped at 232c/kg and averaged 209c/kg, while weaner steers in the 220-280kg range reached 228c/kg and averaged 199c/kg. Steers in the 280-350kg range reached 222c/kg and averaged 195c/kg and steers in the 350-400kg range reached 216c/kg and averaged 199c/kg. Feeder steers in the 400-550kg range topped at 218c/kg and averaged 209c/kg.

Pensini Grazing, Cameron Downs, Hughenden, **sold** charolais-cross steers to 222c for 185c to return \$411. Jenny Ford, Lewah, Roma, **sold** angus-cross steers to 218c for 541kg to return \$1181. R West, Roleen, Wallumbilla, **sold** blonde steers to 217c for 494kg to return \$1072.

G and L Smith, Iona, Wallumbilla, **sold** charbray steers to 216c for 373kg to return \$807. Riverglen Pastoral Co, Riverglen, Glenmorgan, **sold** droughtmaster-cross steers to 210c for 406kg to return \$853. Amy Dart, Thirlstone, Roma, **sold** droughtmaster steers to 206c for 310kg to return \$639.

I and D Forbes, Debian, Roma, **sold** brahman steers to 202c for 536kg to return \$1083. W Proud and D Brumpton, Scattering Plains, Roma, **sold** charbray-cross steers to 197c for 337kg to return \$664. The charbray-cross heifers **sold** to 192c for 3490kg to return \$652.

Heifers in the 350-450kg range reached 187c/kg and averaged 161c/kg. Heifers in the 280-350kg range topped at 206c/kg and averaged 176c/kg. Heifers in the 220-280kg range topped at 196c/kg and averaged 175c/kg, while heifers under 220kg topped at 198c/kg and averaged 173c/kg.

Bruce Smith, Coleraine, Mitchell, **sold** santa-cross heifers to 206c for 326kg to return \$673.

Cows over 500kg **sold** to 196c/kg and averaged 167c/kg, while cows 400-500kg topped at reached 192c/kg and averaged 155c/kg. Cows in the 300-400kg **sold** to 167c/kg and averaged 124c/kg.

Bulls up to 400kg reached 215c/kg and average 172c/kg.

Roma Prime

September 18 report:

NUMBERS dropped by 361 to total 1542 last week.

Good numbers were penned, with cattle drawn from most western parts of Queensland. All the usual export processors were operating and good-quality bullocks and grown heifers continued to attract very solid processor buyer competition.

The three and four-score cow price came off the boil, with good heavy four-score cows reaching 184c/kg. The better-quality bulls met strong export processor demand but secondary lines were cheaper than the previous prime **sale**. Medium-weight grown steers **sold** to 213c and averaged 209c, up nine cents, while bullocks hit 210c and averaged 205c, up 6c/kg.

Medium-weight three-score grown heifers **sold** to 156c and averaged 149c, down five cents, and medium-weight four-score grown heifers made to 195c and averaged 176c, down 8c/kg.

Store-conditioned two-score cows **sold** between 95-116c, while the three scores hit 172c and averaged 150c, down 14c/kg. Heavyweight four-score cows topped at 184c and averaged 179c, down 1c/kg. Good heavy bulls reached 221c and averaged 183c, down 8c/kg.

Moreton grain-assist

AGENTS reported a yarding of 905 cattle on Tuesday. Yearlings and vealers were slightly easier due to one processor not operating. Trade cattle remained **firm**, as were feeder cattle. All export cattle **sold** to rates stronger than last week.

Yooralla Pastoral Co **sold** yearling heifers for 184.2c weighing 377kg to return \$695. Qld Natural Beef **sold** yearling steers for 160c weighing 271kg to return \$435. F and M Drake, **Chingee**, **sold** pasture heifers for 199.2c weighing 375kg to return \$747. G and V Clark, Blackbutt, **sold** euro steers for 214.2c weighing 695kg to return \$1488. S and H Edwards **sold** murray grey steers for 206.2c, weighing 525kg to return \$1082.

Pharoz Investments **sold** simmental steers for 207c weighing 475kg to return \$983. A Claydon, Rosewood, **sold** grain-assist heifers for 193.2c weighing 290kg to return \$560. P and M Sheu **sold** **dairy** culls for 183.2c weighing 743kg to return \$1361. J Hertrich **sold** medium cows for 193.2c weighing 580kg to return \$1120. Tudor Downs **sold** euro cows for 205.2c weighing 630kg to return \$1292.

Warwick sheep

September 17 report:

AGENTS yarded 1423 lambs and hoggets and 362 sheep. Top lambs account John P Murphy, of Dalby, **sold** for \$135, purchased by Gillies Meats, and account MG Dorge, of Earlslea, Kaimkillenbun, **sold** for \$135, purchased by Paynes Meats.

In a similar yarding of both sheep and lambs, the market was **firm** to a shade easier for all descriptions.

Quotations:

Cross-bred lambs 46-55kg selling \$101-\$135, 42-45kg selling \$100-\$135, 36-42kg selling \$96-\$122 and 35-40kg selling \$88-\$101.

Cross-bred hoggets 48.7kg selling to \$92 (shorn).

Trade wethers \$3 selling to \$76 or \$3.80/kg. Light wethers \$6 selling to \$49 or \$2.70/kg. Heavy cross-bred ewes \$10 selling to \$70 or \$3.50/kg. Light ewes \$5 selling to \$57 or \$2.90/kg.

Toowoomba pigs

BACKFATTER sows were the highlight of the **sale**, with very dear prices. Quality store and weaner pigs again **sold** to very dear rates, however prime pork and bacon **sold** to easier trends. Quotations:

Prime pork \$2.50– \$3.10/kg, prime light bacon \$2.30–\$2.80/kg, prime bacon \$1.80–\$2.30/kg, boars 12c/kg and sows to \$1.35/kg. Forward stores \$138–\$148, and weaners \$94–\$98.

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