

MARKET MACHINATIONS

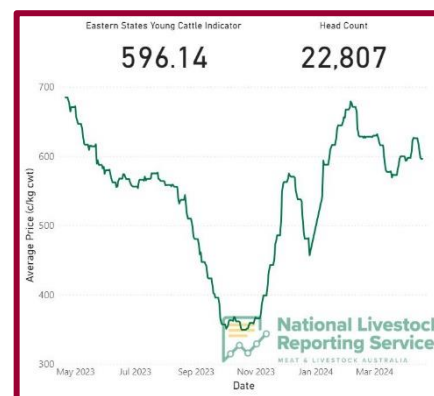
Friday 19th April 2024

WEEKLY SALE for 16th April 2024

- The Epicentre kicked in to gear after the rain restrictions of previous weeks with 9190 mixed quality cattle penned.
- Cattle were drawn from Tibooburra in NSW to Winton, the Central West, Warrego and Maranoa in a market that saw the better end remain firm while the plainer quality cattle were cheaper.
- Steers under 280kgs were 20c dearer to reach 470c, the bulk from 360-456c.
- Steers 280-400kgs were firm selling to 446c, most from 340-400c.
- Feeders sold to 366c and averaged 313c, a fall of 15-20c.
- Processes paid from 214 to 286c for suitable steers and bullocks.
- Heifers under 280kgs were very mixed in quality to reach 322c, though most sold from 220-320c.
- Heifers to background sold to 310c and averaged 257c, a fall of 20c.
- Feeder heifers 330-500kg topped at 316c though most made from 240-298c.
- Processors paid from 204-261c for suitable heifers from the trade.
- Heavy cows over 520kg fell by 15-20c selling from 170-224c.
- Medium weight cows fell by similar levels, selling from 180-215c.
- Lightweight boners and store cows ranged from 70-157c.
- Heavy bulls for processors sold from 180-256c.
- Cows and calves were only lightly supplied to reach \$1190 per unit.



CATEGORY	LIVEWEIGHT	HSCW	PRICE RANGE	LWT Eq.	MOVEMENT
Trade Feeder Steers	300-400kg	n/a	n/a	310c-350c	N/A
Trade Feeder Heifers	300-400kg	n/a	n/a	300c-320c	N/A
Heavy Feeders	380-500kg	n/a	n/a	320c-350c	N/A
Angus Feeders	380-520kg	n/a	n/a	340c-370c	N/A
0 – 4T (MSA)	530-730kg	240-340kg	540-565c	297c-305c	N/A
4 – 8T	550-730kg	300-420kg	520-550c	286c-302c	N/A
Cows	440-600kg	200-300kg	440-500c	220c-250c	N/A



THE WEEK AHEAD

The old chestnut of supply versus demand was clearly in play this week. As the country dried out, numbers have spiked right across the eastern seaboard. This lift in demand has invariably seen values for all categories fall away. The start of this year's weaners met good competition most of the steers selling from 360-470c. Cents a kilo declined as the weight lifted. The heifer portion sold well, though more in the 270-320c range. I believe demand for the weaners will remain strong. This will no doubt shift some buyers to move away from the last of the No 3's to buy the younger No 4 calves. MLA continues to trumpet beef export tonnage with the first quarter of 2024 see an increase of 25% year on year. This figure was also 18% above the five-year average. The USA has emerged as the major destination taking 58% of all products shipped in March. This lift in USA demand has been discussed for some time, unfortunately while the numbers run at present levels there will be only a few winners out of the situation! Meat for export out of Australia of lamb and goat are also breaking records. This again though is for VOLUME not VALUE. When some sort of balance returns, values may lift. Throughput for the week ending 12/04 saw 131,061 head processed with Queensland share being 67,125 cattle.

****AGENTS****

Duncan McLeod 0428 225 727 Cameron Adcock 0428 988 252 Seamus Filan 0428 462 312
Sarah Packer 0400 267 315 Sam Scott 0438 321 215 Wayne Scriven 0447 976 097

30-DAY SOI: -5.16 Down 1.61; EYCI: 596.14 Down 29.83; AUD \$: US \$: 0.6403 Down 0.0104