

**MICRON INDICES COMPARISON**

Source AWEX Wooltrak

AWEX INDICATOR	This Week 13/03/20	Last Week 06/03/20	Change	Last Year 15/03/19	Yearly Change
17	1994	2058	-64	2445	-451
18	1888	1943	-55	2375	-487
19	1780	1799	-19	2326	-546
20	1753	1782	-29	2292	-539
21	1736	1766	-30	2277	-541
22	1754	NQ	0	2285	0
23	NQ	NQ	0	NQ	0
24	NQ	NQ	0	NQ	0
25	NQ	NQ	0	NQ	0
26	1138	1153	-15	NQ	0
28	880	881	-1	1141	-261
30	679	676	+3	921	-242
32	411	408	+3	594	-183
MC	1081	1108	-27	1184	-103

The wool market fell sharply this week. The fragile state of the wool market was impacted by the further spread of the Coronavirus and weakness on equity markets around the world. Cheaper trends evident towards the close of trading last week carried over as sales opened on Wednesday. The EMI lost 41 cents with most of the fall recorded on the opening day, driven by weakness in all merino categories. In the merino fleece section, prices were immediately lower from the opening lot as several exporters waited to see where the market might land before starting orders. This led to a very erratic competition and, except for some of the better style sound lines, very limited competition on some lots. More than 60% of fleece wool was passed in in the opening hour. However, prices found a level as the day progressed, and while prices were lower, competition improved. Selling towards the end of the day, the Rodwells catalogue certainly benefitted from the better market conditions. Prices lost up to 40 cents clean on the opening day, after some types were as much as 80 cents lower in the opening hour. Prices remained generally unchanged yesterday although the inferior lots (very tender and or very low yielding) were still hard to move. Skirtings closed the week lower with any lot showing cott, colour or jowl heavily discounted as buyers searched for quality. Crossbreds were well supplied, and prices remained buoyant despite weakness in other sectors. Cardings were cheaper for all types. Crossbred lambs, especially the broad composite types and those displaying kemp were very hard to move at fair value and in some cases totally neglected.

This week, only 32,000 bales of the offering was cleared to the trade, as growers resisted selling at lower price levels. The high pass in rate was a positive force in the market, as was a sharply lower currency. However, market conditions remain difficult and while China is back working, the spread of Coronavirus to many other parts of the world is having a negative impact. In addition, the cancellation of a sales a fortnight ago means we are still offering larger volumes than normal trying to catch up. Next week, 50,000 bales are on offer nationally, putting the market under pressure again.

**FORWARD PRICES** (Supplied by Riemann's) 13/03/2020

	18.0	19	19.5	21	28	30
<b>AUCTION</b>	1888	1780	1771	1736	880	679
<b>Apr-20</b>	NQ	1700	NQ	1580	830	NQ
<b>Jun-20</b>	NQ	NQ	NQ	NQ	830	NQ
<b>Aug-20</b>	NQ	NQ	NQ	NQ	NQ	NQ
<b>Oct-20</b>	NQ	1670	NQ	NQ	NQ	NQ
<b>Dec-20</b>	NQ	1650	NQ	NQ	NQ	NQ
<b>Feb-21</b>	NQ	1650	NQ	NQ	NQ	NQ

**MAJOR AUCTION BUYERS** (Bales)

1	Techwool Trading	5,174	2	Tianyu Wool	3,200	3	Endeavour Wool	3,001
4	Fox & Lillie	2,479	5	United Wool	2,268	6	P.J. Morris	2,049
7	Aust Merino Exp	2,028	8	Kathaytex	2,001	9	Seatech Ind	1,792

**Market Indicators compared with 06/03/20**

**EASTERN** 1521¢/kg ▼41  
**SOUTHERN** 1498¢/kg ▼38

**Three Week Forecast**

Week 38	16/03/20	50,253
Week 39	23/03/20	44,849
Week 40	30/03/20	34,640