

Western Victoria Livestock Exchange

WVLX Market Report

Prime Cattle - 18th of March, 2024

Total Yarding: 1,929

Numbers reduced to 1929 head at Mortlake this week representing a decrease of 678 on the previous market. It was a good quality offering over most categories with the lead pens, however some were displaying the effects of the drying conditions in most categories more particularly in the trade weights. There was plenty of weight with the bullocks and grown cattle including the offering of both beef and dairy bred cows. The market consisted of 472 grown cattle, 565 trade weights along with 840 cows and 51 grown bulls.

Most of the regular buyers were present and active in a market that was softer over most categories with the exception being the lead in most categories. Mostly the market was softer by 10c/kg in places. The better covered cows gained 5 to 10c/kg with the medium weights increasing 20c/kg and the lightweights remaining firm. Manufacturing steers gained 25 c/kg ,quality driven. There was limited competition on the secondary types reducing prices by 50 to 70c/kg, however bulls remained firm.

Vealers were selling from 277 to 330c/kg with the trade steers and heifers making from 240 to 300c/kg. Grown cattle topped at 310c whilst manufacturing steers sold up to 250c/kg. Heavy beef cows sold from 210 to 256c/kg with the medium weights between 180 and 210c/kg. Dairy cows with weight were generally selling from 165 to 220c with grown beef bulls to 235c/kg.

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Category	Weight		c/kg	\$/Hd
Bulls	0-700	Top Av	224.0 214.6	\$1513.60 \$1363.13
Bulls	700+	Top Av	235.0 215.7	\$2604.80 \$1882.04
Light Heifers	0-350	Top Av	290.0 185.2	\$887.40 \$590.17
Light Steers	0-350	Top Av	330.0 207.4	\$1146.75 \$662.84
Trade Heifers	351-500	Top Av	320.0 242.0	\$1419.30 \$1023.18
Trade Steers	351-500	Top Av	330.0 248.0	\$1608.75 \$1082.32
Heavy Heifers	500+	Top Av	294.0 267.5	\$1827.70 \$1533.64
Heavy Steers	500+	Top Av	330.0 249.7	\$2225.60 \$1522.53
Grown Steers		Top Av	286.0 265.0	\$1784.14 \$1493.22
Cows		Top Av	256.0 203.7	\$2055.60 \$1149.94
Bullocks		Top Av	298.0 260.3	\$2253.82 \$1716.08





Top Left: This large pen of Angus bullocks was sold by Brian O'Halloran for a top of 298c/kg, averaging \$2254ph for DJ Collins.

Top Right: Elders Kerr & Co sold this pen of Angus cows bathed in sunlight for a top of 256c/kg on behalf of KF, HJ, MF & CK Zimmer, returning \$1619ph.

Bottom Left: Four of the Simmental X heifers in this pen reached a top of 320c/kg under the Nutrien Ag hammer, making \$1308ph for Glynbrae Pastoral Company.

Bottom Right: Topping the market today were three of the steers in this pen that were sold by Elders Kerr & Co for 33oc/kg, with the Angus (marked on the loin) fetching \$1650 for BT & LM Roycroft, while 2 of the no mark Angus X steers made \$1609ph for AP & MA Hickey.

Upcoming Sales and Events:

Thursday 21st March - Weaner Store Sale starts 10am

Monday 25th March - Prime Market starts 9am

Monday 1st April - NO Prime Market (due to Easter Public Holiday)

Thursday 4th April - Store Sale starts 10am

Monday 8th April - Prime Market starts 9am