

PERTH RAM SOCIETY SALE - Report courtesy of The Scottish Farmer

averages: 178 Shearling rams, £707 (-£138.30 for 36 fewer); 55 ram lambs, £415 (-£164.64 for the same number).

A new look venue and date for the Perth Ram Society's annual show and sale of Blackface rams, at United Auctions new Stirling centre, may not have attracted the same number of Irish buyers as in previous years, but with the event being staged alongside Stirling's annual Blackie sale it did prove popular with purchasers who had the choice of buying either a south or Perth-type ram the same day.

Not surprisingly, a larger number of buyers, from as far afield as Devon and Cornwall, were forward, ensuring a good clearance for both Perth-type shearlings which peaked at £11,000 and ram lambs that hit a top of £3500.

"There was a great buzz about the sale and it worked well combined with the Stirling sale," said Peter Myles, chairman of the Perth Ram Society. "We were delighted with the show ring at the mart and the overall trade was extremely satisfactory and with a higher clearance rate."

And commenting on the date of the sale which proved controversial with several members he said: "I know the sale clashed with a north-type Blackface sale in Donegal, but we still had a big Irish contingent forward who were extremely selective in their



Katie Fairlie's Champion lamb was purchased by Auchnacloch, for £1500.

purchases and were wary of buying due to the implications of exporting to Ireland.

Although it is not illegal for the Irish to import sheep from the mainland, the Irish

department makes it extremely difficult for anyone who does and those who do are often faced with complete on-farm spot checks.

Consequently, in contrast to previous years which has often witnessed several of the top priced lots head across the Irish Sea, this year, many of the sale leaders remained in this country with only a handful selling to Ireland

Tops at £11,000 was the pen leader from Drew and Bob Adam's Auldallan consignment from Glenisla purchased in a two-way partnership between Matthew Hamilton and son Matthew, Woolfords, Cobbinshaw, West Calder and Northern Ireland breeder Paul McEvoy, Kilcoo, Newry, Co Down. This shearling ram brought out by shepherd Alan Petrie is from the first crop of sons to be sold by the £2000 Woolfords tup bought in 2007, out of a ewe by a £9000 Achdregnie.

The Grants from Glendamp – Bert and Elizabeth and daughter Sheona – Glenisla are never far away from the top spots at this event and this year was no exception, producing the day's second top price at £8000. This was the reserve shearling champion, a son of the £6000 Craigneich shearling bought in 2007, out of a ewe by a £2000 Auldallan. He heads north, purchased by Sandy and Steven Smith, Haughton, Glenkindie.



Show Champions: Lamb from Katie Fairlie and Shearling from Auchdregnie.

The Grants also sold the top priced south-type ram in this ring at £2000 – a massive son of a £1000 Glenrath, which goes out to work at Balnabroich, Dundee, Angus

Despite an early calling, shearling rams from David Baillie's Calla flock from Carnwath sold well and to a top of £6000 for a son of a £3500 Auchnacloch purchase shared with Woolfords, out of a ewe by a £4000 Kilburn. Buying back some of their own bloodlines, he was knocked down to Archie Mackinnon, manager at Auchnacloch for Cadogan Estates, Amulree, Perthshire.

On the other side of the coin, Auchnacloch received £3200 for their pen leader, a son of a 5500gns Harkin, out of a ewe by a 2000gns Conway, from Auldallan.

And even better, Archie's son, Ben (16) sold his own shearling for £3500 to Pamela Forbes, flock manager at Doldy, Eastmill, Glenisla. The best of this one was the fact that it was purchased in Ireland last year for the bargain price of 100gns from Sam Wallace.

Balancing up the books, Doldy then received £5000 for their pen leader, a son of a £700 Craigneich that bred ram lamb sons to £8000, out of a ewe by a grand-son of an £8000 Tangy. He heads across the water to Northern Ireland bought by Messrs Smythe, Adams and Harkin of Macosquin, Coleraine; Broughshane, Ballymena and Limavady, Co Derry, respectively.

Sheep from Matthew Hamilton's Woolfords flock are another which regularly hit the headlines and this year they peaked at £4500 and £4000. Dearest of the duo was the pen's number two, a son of a £3800 Auchnacloch, purchased by Tom and Mairi Paterson of Craigneich and Dunruchan, Comrie, Perthshire. The pen leader, by a 1000gns Tom Adams tup bought in Ireland, made £4000 to Sandy and Steven Smith, Haughton.

However, the Hamiltons didn't hold on to the money for long as they later bought the number one from Bert and Patsy Paton, Spott, a son of a Woolfords tup at £2000 and the two top priced lots from Craigneich at £1800 and £1500. The former, is by Archie, an Auchnacloch son of a £12,000 Craigneich, while the latter is by a home-bred son of TT, a 5000gns Adams.

The ram lamb trade was led by a £3500 call for the best from Dave Nicol's small flock from Viewmount, Glenisla, purchased by Doldy, with Mr Nicol retaining a quarter share. The breeding behind this transaction includes a £400 Doldy onto a ewe by a £2800 Midlock.

Next in the bidding stakes at £2200 was the number one lamb from the Ferguson family from Kilry, bought by Messrs Cornelius, Orchard Farm, Otterhan, Camelford, Cornwall.

Glendamph bred on both sides, he is by Glendamph tup bought privately and out of a Glendamph ewe.

The champion shearling ram, from Stephen Duncan and son Stephen, Auchdregnie, Glenlivet, made £1000, while the show leader amongst the lambs, from Katie Fairlie, was purchased by Auchnacloch, for £1500. He is by a home-bred son of The Legend, a £16,000 Achdregnie.

OTHER LEADING PRICES:

Ram lambs – £1500 – Doldy, to Woolfords. £1200 – Calla, to Conway Bros, Plumbridge, Omagh, NI. £1000 – N Kydd, Glenhead, to E Johnston, Kilmundie and Chamberwells, Glamis.

Auctioneers – United Auctions

Flock	(No)	Top	Av09	08
Shearlings				
Dunruchan	(8)	600	418.75	400
Calla	(5)	6000	1480.00	290
Hillhead of Morinsh	(5)	700	434.00	2540
Glendamph	(12)	8000	1115.00	1384
Glenrinnes	(3)	800	440.00	277
Auldallan	(7)	11,000	1885.7 1	405
Woolfords	(9)	4500	1305.56	1387
Haughton	(11)	550	343.64	899
Auchnacloch	(9)	3200	663.33	706
Newmill	(6)	500	416.67	417
Tombreckachie	(3)	300	233.33	–
Burnfaulds	(4)	1000	812.50	–
Craigneich	(12)	1800	804.17	1527
Glencally	(9)	700	407.78	838
Glenhead	(8)	700	350.00	926
Nether Scythie	(5)	2000	890.00	805
Spott	(6)	2000	550.00	338
Knowehead of Auldallan	(5)	1000	420.00	–
Doldy	(11)	5000	891.82	318
Achdregnie	(16)	1500	722.50	2083
Chamberwells	(6)	500	295.00	331
Dalbog	(5)	500	300.00	340
Markethill	(3)	700	440.00	317
Lambs				
Kilry	(4)	2200	800.00	240
Calla	(6)	1200	433.33	793
Hillhead of Morinsh	(3)	600	460.00	–
Tangy	(4)	180	135.00	–

Glencally	(3)	1500	783.33	–
Folda and Fergus	(3)	350	183.33	–
Tombreckachie	(4)	150	112.50	383
Viewmount	(5)	3500	964.00	300
Chamberwells	(7)	450	278.57	2074
Newmill	(5)	220	184.00	430
Eastmill	(5)	1500	502.00	204