

Prime Sheep Report

Wednesday 26th August 2026

On Wednesday 26th August, Penrith & District Farmers' Mart LLP held its weekly sale of 5,474 prime sheep, comprising 1,916 prime lambs, 308 lightweight collections of hoggs and lambs, and 3,250 cast ewes and rams.

What a difference a week makes. A rise of 20p/kg and £12 per head, coupled with stronger demand and an excellent show of expertly finished sheep, rewarded all vendors who brought stock forward today.

The overall average was 335p/kg, or £158 per head—some £15 ahead of the corresponding week last year. In total, 106 lambs sold above 400p/kg, while 20 realised £200 or more. Topping the day's trade at 453p/kg was an outstanding pen of well-fleshed Beltex lambs from Lyle Farming, Staingills. The pen of 10 averaged 45kg and sold for £204 per head.

The same home sold 126 superb lambs, averaging 45kg, 392p/kg and £180.20 per head. The top price per head of £218 was achieved on two occasions: firstly, for a single 58kg lamb from Lyle Farming, equating to 376p/kg; and secondly, for an 86kg Suffolk from Lilia Hutchinson, Howgill Foot.

Messrs Hird, Broomhills, brought forward an excellent pen of 20 Suffolk × Mule lambs, weighing 58kg and realising £199 per head.

David Cannon, Willimoteswick Farm, continued his strong weekly run of Suffolk-cross lambs, with 49 averaging 52kg, 347p/kg and £183 per head. Mule lambs sold to 327p/kg, with a 41kg lamb from J. Whitton, Crewgarth, realising £134. Messrs Fleming and Wilson sold a pen of 21 Mules, weighing 46kg and realising £144 per head.

Well-fed sheep of all classes are needed here at Penrith—the figures speak for themselves.

A very busy ringside of buyers was in attendance, with customers eager to purchase. As a result, many lots were £15–£20 dearer, with the overall average reaching £160.55. The sale topped at £350 per head for a superb pure-bred Texel from Mr E Astley, Morpeth, which sold to A J Meats, Birmingham.

Twenty-two ewes sold for more than £300 per head. Charollais ewes from Mr W Morrison, South Bogbain, achieved £340, while Mr M McNally, Northern Ireland, sold nine at £305 per head.

Suffolks once again achieved excellent returns, with Suffolk × Texels reaching £270 per head. A total of 483 sold to average £188.11, with larger pens achieving £212 × 25, £211 × 23, £210 × 11, £206 × 11, £204 × 14 and £200 × 31.

Mule ewes sold well, with Mr B Duffton, Huntly, selling Scotch Mules to £210 per head and larger pens to £190 × 15. Mr H McRae also sold Scotch Mules to £208 per head.

Horned ewes recorded a welcome and somewhat surprising rise. The section topped at £160 per head for a pen of Northumberland-bred ewes from Mr T A Byers, Ellen Bank.

Messrs E J & R J Wear, Howe Green, sold a run of 25 Swaledale ewes to average £117.52, topping at £136 per head. Messrs Strong, Well House, sold 30 to average £117.67, topping at £122 per head for a pen of 20.

Cast rams met an electrifying trade, topping at £450 per head for a pair of outstanding Suffolk × Texels from Mr S McSwiggan. Mr M McNally selling a pen of ten to £280 per head.

The next sale will be held on Wednesday 2nd September. Please advise entries to Andrew Maughan on 07717 611952 or Paul Gardner on 07552 589141.

Leading Prices

Prime Lambs £/head

Suffolk - £218, £216 Redgate; £210, £198, £194, £168 Holme House; £208 Park Nook; £199 Broomhill Farm; £190, £184 Wreay Hall Farm; £189, £187, £181, £180 Willimoteswick Farm; £184 Mellgates; £183, £168 Hole House (Coulston); £180, £178 Park Nook; £180, £165 Galleywreay Farm; £172 Thorneycroft; £171, £168 Brocklebank Farm; £171 Kirkhouse; £170 Fenton Farm; £168 Sceugh Dyke; £167 (2) Holme House; £167 Hurlbarrow Farm

Texel - £218, £176 Staingills; £202, £196, £178, £171, £170 Hole House (Coulston); £201 Park View; £199, £193, £178, £175 Clifton Moor Farm; £196, £175 New Rent Farm; £194 Sceugh Dyke; £193 Kirkhouse; £190 High Seaton; £190 Manor Farm; £188, £170 Galleywreay Farm; £188 Applegarth; £188 Wreay Hall Farm; £186 Shap Abbey; £185 Holme House; £182 Cottage Farm; £181 Crewgarth; £178 Willimoteswick Farm; £178 Shire Lodge; £174 Hay Close; £170 Castle Bank

Beltex - £206, £204, £200, £196, £190, £188 (4), £183, £182 (2), £178, £176 (2), £172, £170 Staingills; £185, £175, £170 Glaslyn House; £180, £178 (2), £174 Waterside Farm; £178 Fenton Farm; £176 Stanley House; £176 Hay Close; £175 Shethin Farm; £174, £170 Shap Abbey; £174 Fenton Farm; £171 Croft Ends Farm; £170 Castle Bank; £170 Clifton Moor Farm

Continental - £188 Willimoteswick Farm; £179 Shire Lodge; £174, £160 Holme House; £162 Cairnbridge Farm

Cheviot - £169, £156 Clifton Moor Farm; £160 New Rent Farm

Bluefaced Leicester - £167 Applegarth

Blue Texel - £166 Bonny Rigg; £162 Hay Close

Cheviot Mule - £158 Mellgates

Zwartbles - £155 Holme House

Mule - £154 Mellgates; £144 Low Mill; £134 Crewgarth

Prime Lambs p/kg

Beltex – 453.0, 436.0, 432.0, 418.0, 417.0, 410.0, 409.0, 405.0, 404.0, 392.0, 389.0, 384.0, 383.0, 373.0 Staingills; 449.0 Shethin Farm; 445.0, 435.0, 421.0, 414.0 Waterside Farm; 420.0, 405.0, 372.0 Glaslyn House; 398.0 Croft Ends Farm; 387.0 Shap Abbey; 381.0 Colene Croft; 381.0 Crewgarth; 374.0 Stanley House

Blue Texel – 395.0 Bonny Rigg; 324.0 Hay Close

Texel – 377.0, 356.0, 350 (2) New Rent Farm; 376.0 Staingills; 371.0, 354.0, 350.0 Hole House (Coulston); 371.0 Cottage Farm; 370.0 Bonny Rigg; 363.0 Crewgarth; 363.0

Willimoteswick Farm; 362.0, 349.0 Galleywreay Farm; 361.0 Howe Farm; 359.0 Park View; 356.0 Colene Croft; 350.0 North Gill Bank; 348.0 Hay Close; 348.0 Drawbriggs Court
Suffolk – 368.0 Cottage Farm; 363.0, 346.0 (2), 342.0 Willimoteswick Farm; 343.0 Broomhill; 342.0 Kirkhouse; 341.0 Wreay Hall Farm; 341.0 Hurlbarrow Farm; 340.0, 335.0, 330.0 (2) Park Nook; 340.0 Holme House; 339.0 Hole House (Coulston); 336.0 Sceugh Dyke; 335.0 Mellgates; 335.0 (2), 331.0 Hay Close; 330.0 Galleywreay Farm
Cheviot – 367.0 Cottage Farm; 333.0 New Rent Farm; 331.0 Clifton Moor Farm
Continental – 366.0 Cottage Farm; 364.0 Shethin Farm; 355.0 Willimoteswick Farm
Mule – 327.0 Crewgarth; 313.0 Low Mill
Cheviot Mule – 304.0 Kirkhouse; 304.0 Mellgates

Cast Ewes £/head

Texel (Av £234.04) - £350, £226 West Stobswood Farm; £340, £300, £270, £245, £222 Greenacres; £325, £285, £255 Park View; £305, £275, £260, £240 Holme House; £300, £250 Witton; £295, £222 Buninver Road; £295, £228 Belvedene; £280 Brannock Courts; £275 Woodhead Farm; £270 Glen Loughan Road; £270 Croft End Farm; £270, £242 Huntly Lodge Farm; £268, £265, £246 Shethin Farm; £252 Cottage Farm; £248, £238, £232 High Moss; £236(2) Ballymaderphy; £222 Dunfell View
Charollais (Av £252.80) - £340 Greenacres; £265 Ballymena Road
Continental (Av £174.47) - £270, £222 Ballymena Road; £265, £242 High Wreay Farm; £265, £222 Brannock Courts; £260, £220 Witton; £260, £236 Gate Farm; £255 Greenacres; £234, £230 Lane End; £232 Woodhead; £232 Belvedene; £230 Westfield House; £230 Greenlands; £228 (2), £224 Holme House; £226 Hole House Farm
Suffolk (Av £198.11) - £270, £218, £212, £211 Holme House; £250, £238 (2), £220, £210 Witton; £236, £212 Ballymaderphy Road; £225 Four-O-Boot Farm; £222, £219 67 Lane End; £216 Shethin Farm; £215, £214 Belvedene; £215 Ballymena Road; £214 1 Eden Terrace; £214 Brannock Courts; £210 Huntly Lodge Farm
Beltex (Av £222.94) - £240, £238 (2), £222, £214 Shap Abbey; £230, £228, £212 Galloper Park; £225 Low House
Blue Texel - £218 West Stobswood Farm
Cheviot (Av £135.29) - £212, £170 Uras Farm; £188 Hedwynds; £178 Witton; £176 Belvedene; £170 Westfield House Farm; £160 Shethin Farm; £160 West Stobswood Farm; £158 Gate Farm; £156 Greeacres
Mule (Av £149.98) - £210 Belvedene; £208 Shethin Farm; £190, £170 Witton; £186 Waters Farm; £182 Brannock Courts; £176 Brocklebank; £175 Ballymena Road; £175 Buninver Road; £174 Croft Ends Farm; £174 Holme House; £172, £170 Four-O-Boot Farm; £170 (2) Lane End; £170 The Coach House; £170 Mellgates
Cheviot Mule (Av £162.80) - £202 Belvedene; £194 Witton; £190 Shethin Farm; £190 Uras Farm; £188 Greenacres; £184 Witton; £180 Long Park Farm
Bluefaced Leicester (Av £170.06) - £196 Glen Loughan Road; £186 Shethin Farm; £182 High Crossgill
Zwartbles - £190 Blackwell Road

Masham - £184 Manister Road

Scotch Blackfaced (Av £118.27) - £160 Ellen Bank; £144 Tara; £144 Brannock Courts; £140 Glen Loughan Road; £130 Shethin Farm; £130 (2), £120 Greenacres; £128 Killough Road

Jacob - £156 Glen Loughan Road

Swaledale (Av £87.83) - £136, £135, £113 (2) Howe Green; £128 Hedwynds; £122 Well House; £116 Howgill Castle; £110 West Stobswood Farm; £110 Shap Abbey

Herdwick - £112 Manister Road

Cast Rams £/head

Suffolk - £450 Buninver Road

Continental -£300, £220 Pear Tree House; £280, £250, £240 Holme House; £235 Belvedene; £215 Home Farm

Texel - £240 Ballymaderphy Road

Charollais- £230 Leonards Cragg

Cheviot - £205, £200 Greenacres; £200 Welton Farm

Blue Texel- £200 Bromley Green

Scotch Blackfaced - £160 Holme House