

Prime Sheep Report

Wednesday 5th August 2026

On Wednesday 5th August, Penrith & District Farmers' Mart LLP held its weekly sale of 4,885 prime sheep, comprising 1,437 prime lambs, 302 lightweight collections of hogs and lambs, and 3,146 cast ewes and rams.

The first week of August brought a tremendous trade, with ewe prices rising by £10 with ease. The sale peaked at a centre record of £395 for a pair of outstanding pure Texel ewes from Messrs Moir, Home Farm, Aberdeenshire. The same home sold 39 Texel and Charollais ewes to average £294.79, one of the highest averages achieved for a consignment of this size. Heavy ewes sold exceptionally well, with many realising between £220 and £240. Suffolk ewes topped at £272 for Suffolk × Texels, while numerous pens sold from £220 to £230. Mr C Abernethy sold three consecutive pens of 10 Suffolk × Mule ewes for £235, £230 and £228.

The best English Mule ewes topped at £210 from Messrs E R Toppin & Sons, Gale Hall, with many selling from £190 to £198. A pen of 15 Scotch Mule ewes realised £199 for Mr B Duffton.

Demand for cast rams was exceptionally strong, with numbers well short of buyers' requirements. Prices topped at £290 for a pure Zwartble from Mr P Rodgers.

Horned ewes also met a lively trade and sold readily, topping at £158 from Mr M McNally. A ringful of 22 Swaledale ewes was presented achieving £136 by Messrs G R Wharton & Son, Keisley Farm and Messrs M T P & S D Wills, Fawcett Park sold 11 to realise £132.

Further entries are required for next week, with buyers particularly keen to source Continental and heavy ewes. Today's numbers fell well short of requirements.

Penrith & District Farmers' Mart LLP held its weekly sale of 1,437 prime lambs and 302 lightweight hogs and lambs, bringing the total prime sheep entry to 1,739 head.

A great day trading here at Penrith & District Farmers Mart. Trade rose sharply on the week, particularly for lambs weighing 40–45kg, resulting in an SQQ average of 349.5p/kg, an overall average of 339p/kg and an average value of £158.24 per head.

Within today's sale we held our annual young handlers competition, a huge thank you to Joanne Hall, Inglewood Edge, for taking the time to judge today's classes. We greatly appreciate her expertise, encouragement, and support for our young competitors.

Congratulations to Sam Pollock, Wreay Hall Farm, who was awarded the Inglewood Trophy for an outstanding performance. Well done, Sam! The Lamb later selling for the top price of the day at 465ppk, weighing 43kg achieving £200.

We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to our generous sponsors, Lake District National Park and Penrith Show, whose support helps make opportunities like this possible for our young handlers.

Thank you to everyone who took part and helped make the competition such a success. We look forward to seeing you all again next year.

Messrs Lyle, Staingills, achieved the trade of the day with an expertly finished consignment. A pen of 11 lambs, weighing 44kg, topped at 450p/kg and realised £187 per head. Their run of 32 lambs averaged 45kg, 407p/kg and £184.28 per head. The top price per head was £222 for a 78kg lamb from Mr G Pyman, Park View. Numerous pens exceeded the £200 mark, including three Texel lambs from Mrs W E & B Wilson, weighing 56kg and realising £200 per head. Suffolk Mule lambs from J J & J Pollock, Scales Farm, sold to £192 per head at 58kg, while Suffolk lambs reached 351p/kg on two occasions.

Demand continues to strengthen, and greater numbers of well-finished, adequately fleshed sheep are required for next week's sale.

Our next sale will be held on Wednesday 12th August. Please advise entries to Andrew Maughan on 07717 611952 or Paul Gardner on 07552 589141.

Young Handlers results

Champion- Sam Pollock, Wreay Hall Farm- £200 Mr A Dawson

Reserve Champion- Alana Hodgson, Tottlebank Farm- £196 Mr W Shearer

Class 1- Under 6 years

1st- Alana Hodgson, Tottlebank Farm- £196

2nd- Harriet Teasdale, Colstons - £196

3rd- Lucy Pollock, Wreay Hall Farm- £176

Class 2- 6-10 years

1st- Sam Pollock, Wreay Hall Farm- £200

2nd- Isabelle Lyle, Staingills- £198

3rd- Ellie Jarmen, Brow Top- £168

4th- April Toppin, Gale Hall- £160

5th- Sybil Edgar, Castle Nook- £148

Class 3- 11-16 years

1st- Gemma Todd, Longhurst Farm- £179

2nd- Rebecca Hogg, Cairnbridge Farm- £160

3rd- Tom Harrington, 20 Salkeld Road- £192

4th- Ellie Chapplehow, Goose Green Cottage- £172

5th- Annie Harrington, 20 Salkeld Road- £171

Leading Prices

Cast Ewes £/head

Texel (Av £241.95) - £395, £365, £335 (2), £325, £320, £300, £290 (2), £285, £270, £262 Home Farm; £325, £320, £300, £270, £260, £244 Holme House; £280, £266 South Bogbain; £275, £268 Ballymaderphy Road; £268 Clea Hall; £260 Brannock Courts; £255 Inglewood Edge; £248 Thorneyland; £245 Home Farm; £242 Greenlands; £238 West Foreshield; £224 Robin Hood Farm.

Continental (Av £174.11) - £300 Bridge End; £284, £230 Shethin Farm; £270 Bridge End; £288, £264, £250, £236. £233, £230 Brannock Courts; £265 Thorneyland; £260, £220 Crosby Hall; £254, £248, £230 Ballymena Road; £242 (2) Ghyll House Farm; £240, £234, £223 Belvedene; £238 (3) Bogie Street; £234 (2) Crosby Hall; £232 Holme House; £230 Wreay Hall Farm; £230 Lower Gate Farm; £228 Thorneyland; £222 Coolkeran Road;

Suffolk (Av £181.76) - £272 Bridge Close; £258 Moir Livestock; £254 Holme Land; £250, £235, £230, £228 Belvedene; £250 Wreay Hall Farm; £238 Greening; £226 Ballymena Road.

Beltex (Av £233.43) - £270 Crosby Hall; £262, £252 (2), £228 Inglewood Edge; £258 Wreay Hall; £250 Newstead Grange; £250 West View; £250 Staingills; £248 Brannock Courts; £248 Wreay Hall; £224 Shap Abbey.

Charollais (Av £218.07) - £250 Belvedene; £245 Home Farm; £240 Shethin Farm; £232 Holme House; £226 Ballymena Road.

Cheviot (Av £129.21) - £212, £170 Home Farm; £196 Shethin Farm; £190 Ormathwaite Farm; £180, £150 Ranbeck; £178 Dalveen; £174 Clea Hall; £168 Belvedene; £158 Witton Farms; £158 The Wath.

Mule (Av £148.79) - £210 Gale Hall; £199 Bogie Street; £194 Goldon Lane; £192 Home Farm; £191 Sunnysides; £191 Willows Farm; £188 Shawclough Road; £186 Scales Farm; £180 Lamonby House; £180 Rockcliffe Farm; £180 Gale Hall; £180 Sycamore Rise.

Bluefaced Leicester (Av £161) - £198 Ghyll House Farm; £196 Old Parks.

Cheviot Mule (Av £176.74) - £196, £190 Crosby Hall; £184 Moor Farm.

Scotch Blackfaced (Av £97.01) - £158, £134 Holme House; £123 South Bogbain Farm.

Swaledale (Av £88.80) - £136 Keisley Farm; £132 Fawcett Park; £123 Stubbsgill Farm; £123 Tarn House; £122 Knock Hall; £120 Leigh Croft.

Herdwick (Av £80.00) - £120 Enthorn; £110 Knock Hall.

Prime Lambs £/head

Texel - £222, £208 (2), £194, £182 Park View; £208, £181 Parkside Crescent; £200, £175, £173 Undercragg; £196 Coulstons; £192, £171 Salkeld Road; £191 Morrison Farms; £190, £188 Holme End; £190, £187 (2), £181 Staingills; £186 Robin Hood Pub; £184, £176, £174 Sandhills; £182 Crosby Hall; £181 Ormathwaite Farm; £180 Grassknop Farm; £180, £176 Wreay Hall Farm; £178 (3), £175 Clifton Moor Farm; £176 Sceugh Dyke; £174 Ghyll House Farm; £174 Lower Gate Farm; £170 West Foreshield.

Suffolk - £192, £166 Scales Farm; £190, £159 Ghyll House Farm; £186, £176 Wreay Hall Farm; £183 Morison Farm; £176 Seat House Farm; £175, £169, £176 Parkside Crescent; £172, £166 Goose Green Cottage; £172, £166, £161, £160, £157 Field House; £172 Staingills; £166 Grassknop; £165 Park Head; £161 Hurlbarrow Farm; £160 Scales Farm; £158 West Foreshield; £156 Eden Croft; £150 Ellonby Hall Bunglallow.

Dutch Spotted- £210 Holme Road; £188 Parkside Crescent.

Beltex - £204, £198, £172 Staingills; £200 Wreay Hall; £196 Tottlebank Farm; £180 Park View; £180 Lower Gate Farm; £179 Low Row; £178, £176 (2) Crosby Hall; £178, £168, £167 Thorneyland,

Blue Texel- £197, £188, £164 Wayside Cottage; £180 Park View; £164 Staingills.

Prime Lambs p/kg

Beltex – 465.0 Wreay Hall; 450.0, 410.0, 385.0 Staingills; 426.0 Tottlebank Farm; 410.0, 407.0, 405.0 Thorneyland; 409.0 (2), 363.0 Crosby Hall; 409.0 Lower Gate Farm; 392.0, 384.0, 378.0, 361.0 Home Farm; 389.0 Low Row; 383.0 Park View.

Texel – 425.0, 416.0, 413.0, 393.0 Staingills; 400.0, 370.0, 351.0 (2) Brow Top; 394.0, 359.0 Dyke Farm; 393.0 Ormathwaite Farm; 393.0, 371.0, 353.0, 350.0 Clifton Moor Farm; 390.0, 380.0 Green Farm; 384.0, 374.0, 370.0, 350.0 Sandhills; 383.0 Holme Farm; 380.0, 373.0, 361.0, 357.0, 353.0 Undercragg; 376.0 Thorneyland; 364.0 Park View; 363.0 Walloway; 363.0 Coulstons; 360.0 Wreay Hall Farm; 358.0 Macey Bank; 356.0 Cairnbridge Farm; 354.0 Morison Farms.

Dutch Spotted- 367.0 Sunnybank.

Blue Texel- 367.0 Park View; 364.0, 348.0 Wayside Cottage; 349.0 Staingills

Suffolk –351.0 Staingills; 351.0, 345.0 Wreay Hall; 350.0 Holme House; 345.0, 331.0 Ghyll House Farm; 344.0, 330.0 Macey Bank; 344.0 Brow Top; 342.0, 336.0 Thorneycroft; 339.0 Morrison Farms; 337.0, 330.0 Nook Farm; 336.0 West Foreshield; 336.0 Goose Green Cottage; 332.0 Scales Farm; 332.0 Grassknop Farm; 332.0, 330.0 Seat House Farm; 331.0 Long Park; 330.0 Park Head,

Charollais- 350.0 Grassknop Farm.

Cheviot- 330.0 Holme Farm.

Herdwick- 342.0 Oakdene.