

AMMO 2018B Sale Report.

D L Stapleton

Below is an independent sale report on this sale. The offering on 23rd November 2018 was of 25,206kg in 38 lots. Top price of \$42.00/kg greasy went to the 2-bale lot of BSFFK (26.2um). Four lots of FK sold at \$37 to \$38. The sale averaged of \$23.46 with a 78% clearance. Several large lots of DFFH (22 bales) remained unsold with bidding reaching \$21.30 before being passed in. It is expected that these lots will sell next week.

Three mills were represented though two mills were represented by one buyer. New England Wool had retired from buying on this occasion because of the lack of Quality Assurance (see elsewhere). Representatives of a new buying company attended to observe, and it is hoped that this firm may take part in future sales.

Below is a plot of the fibre diameters of AMMO sale lots from 2012. In this sale the FFK FK and YG lots appear to be somewhat stronger than in the previous sale. This was not apparent from visual fineness of the lots though the variety of YG coded lots was perhaps surprising and seemed not to show differences in micron suggested by the FFYG, FYG and YG codes. Accuracy of the AWTA tests was suggested as a reason for the 26um FFK lots. Another explanation might be that this fibre was second shearing, or “winter kid” which looks fine but is a little stronger than first shearing “summer kid”. In any event buyers appeared to accept the offered excuse and paid prices similar to the FFK of the previous sale. It may be that selection for visually finer mohair could

The newly revised length codes, in this case, seemed to have created variation rather than reduced it. There were no “A” lines (>15cm) though the “B” lines (13-15cm) seemed to contain an amount of “overlong” staples greater than 15cm. This inclusion occurred previously in the longest fleece lines and continues to be a worry. Lines with the “C” length code seemed closer to the specification (10 to 12 cm) but seemed to be a shade long, while “D” length fibre also seemed marginally long.

There is also something also to be said for growers timing their shearing more closely to a 6-month shearing interval and accurately classing fleeces on length. Once mixed it is almost impossible for AMMO classers to unscramble and they should not be expected to try.

