

Return buyers bid to \$2250 at Badgingarra

By HELENA BOGLE

RETURN buyers from throughout the State showed keen interest in the Sandown Prime SMM rams at the on-property sale in Badgingarra last week where the top price reached \$2250.

Competitive bidding got the sale off to a promising start with lot one selling under the hammer for \$1500 to Mick Quinlivan, Esperance.

Clients from Dongara to Esperance rallied to clear 91 per cent of the 79 rams on offer, taking the average to \$793, slightly up on last year's \$786 average.

The Sandown Prime SMM stud also offered 19 ewes with two buyers from Victoria and Northampton taking home five ewes each and one more going to Margam Farms, Dalwallinu.

Elders Geraldton auctioneer Gary Preston said it was a very good sale with great support from throughout the State.

"It was a good presentation of Prime SMM rams which is a credit to the vendors," Mr Preston said.

"The catalogue was consistent throughout the sale, but towards the latter part of the sale it lacked a few buyers."

The top-priced ram from lot five went to RW & PM Taylor, Lake Grace, their only purchase of the day.

The 107kg ram, which was the runner up in the measurement class at this year's Smoke Free Perth Royal Show, had excellent figures of 96.4 per cent CF, 22.5 micron and 49 EMD.

It was the first time Mr Taylor, who runs about 4000



□ Elders Geraldton auctioneer Gary Preston (left), Kelly-Anne Gooch and Ross Taylor, Tiarri Prime SAMMs, Lake Grace and Sandown stud co-principal Tony Abbey with the top-priced ram that Tiarri bought for \$2250 at last week's Sandown on-property sale at Badgingarra.

SANDOWN PRIME SAMMs SALE SUMMARY (Under the hammer results)

	offered	sold	top	gross	average
Rams	79	72	\$2250	\$57,125	\$793
Ewes	19	11	\$255 (5)	\$2775	\$252
Total	98	83	\$2250	\$59,900	\$722

breeding ewes in his Tiarri Prime SMM stud, Lake Grace, had bought a Sandown ram.

"The ram was well-muscled, stood well, had a good stretch and will be going into our Tiarri stud flock," he said. "I was willing to pay the price."

"It will go well over some of our stud ewes and it has South African genetics that we haven't got."

The volume buyer of the day was regular client JR & JM Browne, Eneabba, who took home an impressive team of 20 rams to a top of \$900 and an average of \$649.

GR & W Driscoll, Dongara, picked up seven rams with a top of \$925 on two occasions and an average of \$736 while JA & RH Auld, Marchagee, also took home seven rams for an average of \$593.

Bidding over the phone, Mick Quinlivan, Quintarra stud, Esperance, took home seven rams to a top of \$1500 for lot one and an impressive overall average of \$1189.

Primaries Northampton was buying for two accounts, purchasing six rams for an average of \$738 on one account and four rams for an average of \$756 on the other.

Fairway, Morawa, picked up six rams at the sale for an average \$725 and Topham Brothers, Moora, bought five rams for an average of \$880.

Sandown stud co-principal Tony Abbey said he was very happy with the sale.

"It was pleasing to see some return studs buying sires again," Mr Abbey said. "The Grosser's from Victoria and the Forbes from Jerramungup were both return buyers."

"Considering the season, the rams sold very well."