



Minnamurra Leander L81 (ET), Nick Hannaford, David Reid and Dennis Power, buyers Wayne Munt, Paul Guy, Mick Malone, auctioneer Paul Dooley.



Graeme Small in the paddock.

Abrona White Suffolks disperse

AFTER 23 years of breeding White Suffolk sheep, Graeme and Rosemary Small will be dispersing their Abrona White Suffolks on June 30.

The stud began in 1994 with six Allendale White Suffolk ewes.

The Smalls were able to buy a share in the PLG stud and AI'ed their flock for many years using the best PLG genetics.

The Smalls used LambPlan as an objective measurement tool to pursue genetic gain from the very beginning of the stud.

In 2000 an Illoura ram was purchased that made a huge impact on both genetic gain and placid nature of the flock.

Since then the Smalls have continued to purchase high performance, structurally sound rams from other elite studs as well as using the best of the rams from within the Abrona stud.

For the past 12 years the Abrona White Suffolk stud has utilised synchronised joining to lamb the ewes over a short period to improve both ewe and lamb management and the accuracy of birthweight breeding values.

Breed's record rewritten

BY MARK GRIGGS

BUYERS rewrote the Speckle Park breed record last Friday when the sale-topper was knocked down for \$35,000.

The total auction-clearance of 51 bulls averaged a handsome \$11,173 while 50 F1 heifers topped at \$2000 and averaged \$1880 at the Minnamurra Speckle Park bull sale at "Mount Mill", Coolah.

Among the sale which sold bulls to five states 35 sold at \$10,000 and over while 22 were secured by 12 absentee buyers from Queensland, NSW, South Australia and Tasmania through AuctionsPlus.

Sale-topper, Minnamurra Leander L81 (ET), one of the first sons of Six Star Royal Flesh 101Y to be offered in Australia, was purchased by a two-state syndicate of NSW and Victorian breeders.

He is from the River Hill Walker sired Minnamurra 60W Nice Lady G8.

Mick Malone, Wayne Whitby and Neil Werrett of "Kitchin Hills", Scone, joined forces with Victorians Paul Guy, Te Mooi stud, Benalla, John Ellis, Hanging Rock stud, Hanging Rock, and Wayne Munt, Gundowring, who is a partner in Snowline stud, but starting another stud in the Kiewa Valley.

Mr Guy said Leander had the best daily growth of any bull in the catalogue plus best eye muscle area and beef finishing ability.

"We saw the bull recently and was talking to others when we realised we were all interested in purchasing him, so we formed a partnership and plan to market semen domestically and globally," he said.

Second top money at \$24,000 was Minnamurra

Luther L94 by Six Star 50S Anchor E229 and from a Minnamurra bred dam, purchased by the Doak family, "Drogheda", Bundarra.

The James family, Corongra near Lucerndale, SA, paid \$20,000 among three purchases averaging \$16,667 for Minnamurra Leeroy L85 (ET) also by the Royal Flesh sire and \$18,000 for a son of Six Star 50S Anchor.

Only recently deciding to invest in the Speckle Park breed, Graeme and Catherine Crozier, Karpa Kora Station, Pooncaarie, secured four bulls in their first entry paying \$10,000 twice and an average of \$8750. The bulls will be joined to their large herd of Angus breeders.

Ron Potter Farms, "Ballyrogan", Hillston, purchased three bulls paying to \$13,000 and \$10,000 twice.

Elders' northern livestock manager, Andrew Hosken,

Tamworth, said AuctionsPlus played an integral role in the sale securing 97 online bidders making 253 bids and 3792 separate catalogue views in Australia, New Zealand and overseas.

"Close to half the bulls sold were purchased by AuctionsPlus for absent buyers," he said.

"That's a fantastic result for this innovative selling system.

"AuctionsPlus proved itself as by far the best technology with the widest exposure of any mediums available."

Among the AuctionsPlus buyers Elders, Charleville, Qld, bought on behalf of the Rule family, four bulls to \$14,000 and averaging \$10,500 with the top lot being Minnamurra Lalor L10 (ET) by Spots'N Sprouts Stands Alone 300X

Also Quality Livestock client Port Wine Pty Ltd, Unley,

SA, bought two bulls topping at \$12,000 and 20 F1 heifers topping at \$1900 each for 10 head. The top bull was Minnamurra Langdon L16 (ET) by Star Bank George 82U.

Guyra district buyers through the computer sales included Davidson Cameron's Kelly Cattle, Bostobrick, who paid \$14,000 for Minnamurra Lysander L3 (ET) by the Spot'sN Sprouts Stands Alone sire plus 10 heifers at \$2000 each, while Ray White's client The Press family, Uralla, paid \$14,000 for another son of Spots'N Sprouts Alone.

The Birchmore family, Bernborough Downs, Winton, Qld, through Elders, Winton and AuctionsPlus, bought two bulls at \$13,000 and \$8000.

The sale was conducted by Elders, Tamworth, and AuctionsPlus with auctioneer Paul Dooley, Tamworth.