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"We will be looking at purchasing two to three replacement rams each year from which we will breed our own rams."

Buyers really picked their way through the catalogue and there were some good bidding duels on a number of rams.

This saw the second top price of \$3500 set on two occasions and both times it was DJ Tapscott, Pingrup, who was the successful bidder.

The first ram to hit this mark was a Bundara Downs 156938 son that weighed in at 140kg.

The ram recorded good figures of 0.37 BWT, 10.4 WWT, 15.9 PWT, -0.1 FAT, 2 PEMD and 203.47 for CarcasePlus.

The other ram that the Tapscotts bought for \$3500 was by the same sire and had similar growth figures of 0.42 for BWT, 10.6 WWT, 15.9 for PWT, -0.5 FAT, 1.8 for PEMD and was 203.67 for CarcasePlus.

As well as taking home the two second top-priced rams, the Tapscotts were also equal volume buyers of the sale purchasing 10 rams in total including another at \$3200.

Ryelands Farming, Jerramungup, was another

buyer to take 10 rams and was able to operate at good values paying to a top of \$1300.

Others to buy good numbers of rams included Landmark Breeding Services, which picked up seven in total; Woogenellup Farms, Woogenellup, which bought five; and Capemont Farms, Katanning, which bought six.

Mr Warren said it was a great result for the Yonga Downs stud in only its second auction at the on-property sale.

"Again they had big weights and strong figures and it was good to see solid support for the stud with many buyers who operated at the first sale back again to fill requirements this year," he said.

Poll Merino

The Willemenup Poll Merino stud sale kicked off at a flying pace with the first 30 rams averaging \$2523.

The strong start to the sale kept the Elders selling team on their toes as bids flew from all parts of the shed as mostly long-term clients of the stud went about filling their sire battery requirements.

At the end of the sale 134 of the 158 rams offered had been sold under the hammer to a \$4000 top and a \$1579 average.

There was a drop in the

number of rams offered this year compared to last year's sale where 153 rams sold under the hammer out of 185 offered last year at a \$1375 average.

The \$4000 top price was set in lot five of this year's sale, with the quality wool ram gaining plenty of attention.

The well-put together sire was from the stud's Churchill family and certainly lived up to this family name, providing plenty of presence in its pen.

The successful buyer of the ram was the Letter family, JJ & AE Letter, Tambellup, who were attracted by the pure wool qualities of the ram.

Speaking on behalf of the family, Dion Letter said the ram had bright, white wool and a good crimp.

"This ram will go over specially selected ewes of a similar wool type to breed rams that will be used in our 4000-head Merino ewe flock," Mr Letter said.

The ram had it all, with wool test results of 19.8 micron, 2.9 SD, 14.6 CV and 99.8pc comfort factor, combined with a big 43mm EMD and a 100kg bodyweight.

Close behind in the price stakes was the second top-priced Poll Merino of the sale, which was in lot four and bought by Lachie Lewis,

 Royston SAMM

 Royston White Dorper

ON-PROPERTY SALE

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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

York Poll Dorset Ram Sale
– Stockdale

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Northam Poll Dorset Sale
– Canternatting
Fearnley Poll Dorset Ram Sale
– Badgingarra

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

Kojonup Poll Dorset Ram Sale
– Sherwood

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

IGA Perth Royal Show British Breeds
Ram Sale

– More sales listed in later issues –

MONDAY, OCTOBER 1

Mt Barker Poll Dorset Ram Sale
– Matilda Downs

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2

Kendenup Poll Dorset Ram Sale
– Brimfield

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3

Kojonup Breeders' Triple 'S' Ram
Sale

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