

JEMALONG WOOL BULLETIN (week ending 13/03/2003)

Table 1: Northern Market Prices

Micron Price Guides	Current MPG Price	Weekly Change	10-yr Average	Current Price to Average	This time last year	Year high	Year low	
18.5	1260	2	1342	94%	na	1542	1124	
19	1231	-3	1056	117%	1177	1466	1036	
19.5	1200	-14	1018	118%	na	1442	988	
20	1196	-10	817	146%	996	1401	956	
21	1189	-10	718	166%	991	1379	953	
22	1172	-16	671	175%	989	1365	953	
23	1145	-23	629	182%	985	1340	953	
24	1114	-40	613	182%	978	1299	952	
25	1029	-18	587	175%	971	1198	945	
26	935	-18	559	167%	859	1088	878	
28	686	10	517	133%	680	889	674	
30	572	-6	470	122%	591	729	569	
32	502	8	452	111%	563	669	494	
MC	582	-2	406	143%	575	684	463	

Australian Dollar 0.5917

A drop in the Macquarie Wool Futures Market on Monday and Tuesday set the scene for what was to be a cautious week. Despite the weakness in the forward market, Wednesday auctions opened firmer on the back of a weakening Australian dollar. 18.5-19.5 most affected, up 12c/kg, mediums up 5-10c/kg. Little increase in demand was reported, however some buyers were willing to buy wool and cover the currency at the lower levels. Wednesday night the dollar fell further below 60US cents and in response the forward markets saw prices on Thursday morning jump 20c/kg clean for delivery 2003. Those growers ready to take advantage of the higher forward prices had to be quick as prices soon retraced when auction markets opened cheaper and closed 15-20c/kg cheaper.

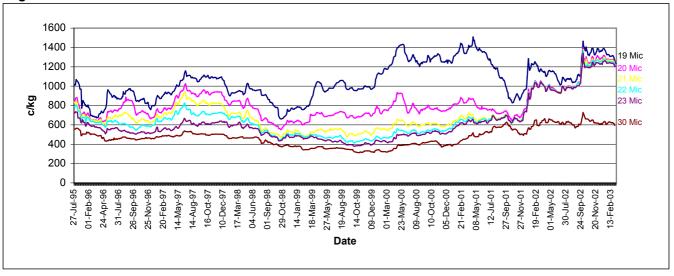
The question raised is why if the dollar has fallen to 59c US on Thursday did the physical market fall also? The key to what will drive price is demand. Chinese markets are highly influenced by the level of the dollar but also their willingness to buy will be affected by the volatility in the dollar. Where we see the dollar move over 1cent even in the downward direction, the Chinese might not be encouraged to buy given the thought that the dollar level could fall further yet. In essence if the dollar was to remain steady at a given level, be that 60US cents, perhaps the Chinese would be more encouraged.

Wooltrade began it's Forward Board Offer Board this week, with interest received from both buyer and sellers. Attractive prices were achieved by growers locking small portions of their clip 22 & 22 micron for April and July. Buyers were a little more hesitant on price post Novemebr 03.

Auctions continue next week in Fremantle, Sydney and Melbourne with just under 60,000 bales on offer. Passed-in rates were over 20% for the week - these bales likely to be reoffered April-May boosting the lower fresh wool volumes expected.

Comments: Evonne Luton (Wooltrade)

Figure 1: Northern MPG Movement



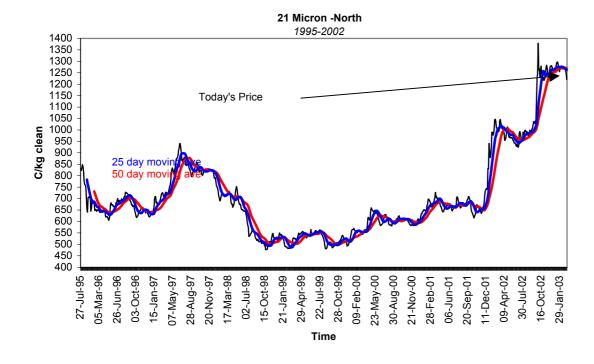


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Table 3: Northern Market Deciles

Micron Price Guide (1995-2002)

	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	28	MC
Current	1231	1196	1189	1172	1145	1114	1029	686	502	582
90%	789	649	522	468	434	426	416	394	339	261
80%	881	695	554	497	476	466	448	418	366	291
70%	942	721	605	541	508	483	466	444	397	325
60%	973	744	642	591	529	509	482	467	435	355
50%	1042	766	663	631	565	542	521	494	456	392
40%	1089	803	688	657	604	583	553	512	475	430
30%	1170	855	724	683	629	607	579	544	493	461
20%	1265	938	842	736	668	665	649	593	528	486
10%	1346	1003	997	995	992	982	964	733	571	594





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Macquarie Wool Futures

					Diff.										Diff.		
Delivery			Diff. to		to		Diff. to		Diff. to		Diff. to		Diff. to		to		Diff to
Month	18	19	Spot	20	Spot	21	Spot	22	Spot	23	Spot	24	Spot	25	Spot	ΧB	Spot
Apr-03	1310	1200	-31	1180	-16	1165	-24	1150	-22	1125	-20	1090	-24	1010	-19	675	103
Jun-03	1310	1200	-31	1170	-26	1160	-29	1145	-27	1120	-25	1085	-29	1005	-24	645	73
Aug-03	1300	1180	-51	1145	-51	1130	-59	1120	-52	1090	-55	1060	-54	980	-49	625	53
Oct-03	1300	1175	-56	1135	-61	1120	-69	1110	-62	1080	-65	1050	-64	970	-59	620	48
Dec-03	1300	1165	-66	1120	-76	1105	-84	1090	-82	1060	-85	1030	-84	955	-74	620	48
Feb-04	1300	1130	-101	1075	-121	1055	-134	1030	-142	1000	-145	970	-144	925	-104	595	23
Apr-04	1300	1120	-111	1050	-146	1025	-164	1000	-172	970	-175	940	-174	900	-129	585	13
Jun-04	1300	1110	-121	1030	-166	1005	-184	975	-197	945	-200	915	-199	875	-154	585	13
Aug-04	1300	1100	-131	1000	-196	970	-219	940	-232	910	-235	885	-229	840	-189	575	3

