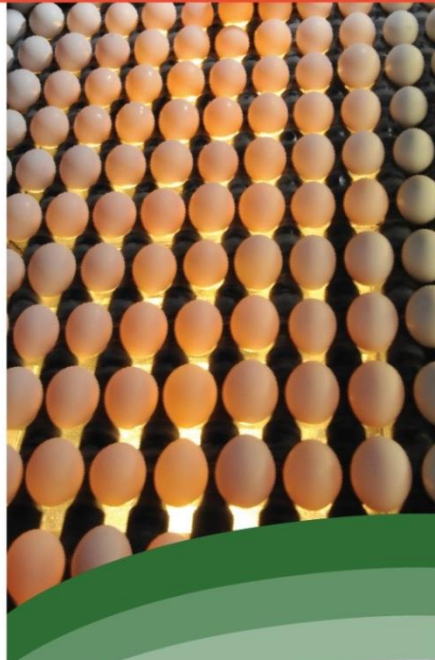




United States Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Creating Opportunities for American Farmers and Businesses





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Creating Opportunities for American Farmers and Businesses

2018 ASI Wool Roundtable

Chris Dias

AMS, LPGMN Reporter

Topics to Discuss

1. Territory Wools
2. Australian Wools
3. World Wool Market
4. New ways to report more wool trade



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Territory Wools



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Territory Wool Prices Reported

Micron	2016	2017	Change
20	4.17	4.64	+0.47
21	3.95	4.33	+0.38
22	3.84	4.12	+0.28
23	3.58	3.88	+0.30
24	3.23	3.54	+0.31
25	3.16	3.21	+0.05
26	2.69	2.98	+0.29

Domestic Wool Trade

- Prices across the micron range were up in 2017, with the exception of very course wools.
 - Finer wools under 24 micron had largest gains
 - Over 24 micron are vary
 - Active buyers even with fluctuating foreign markets
 - The U.S. Dollar has been stronger than the Australian dollar since May of 2013.

Domestic Wool Trade

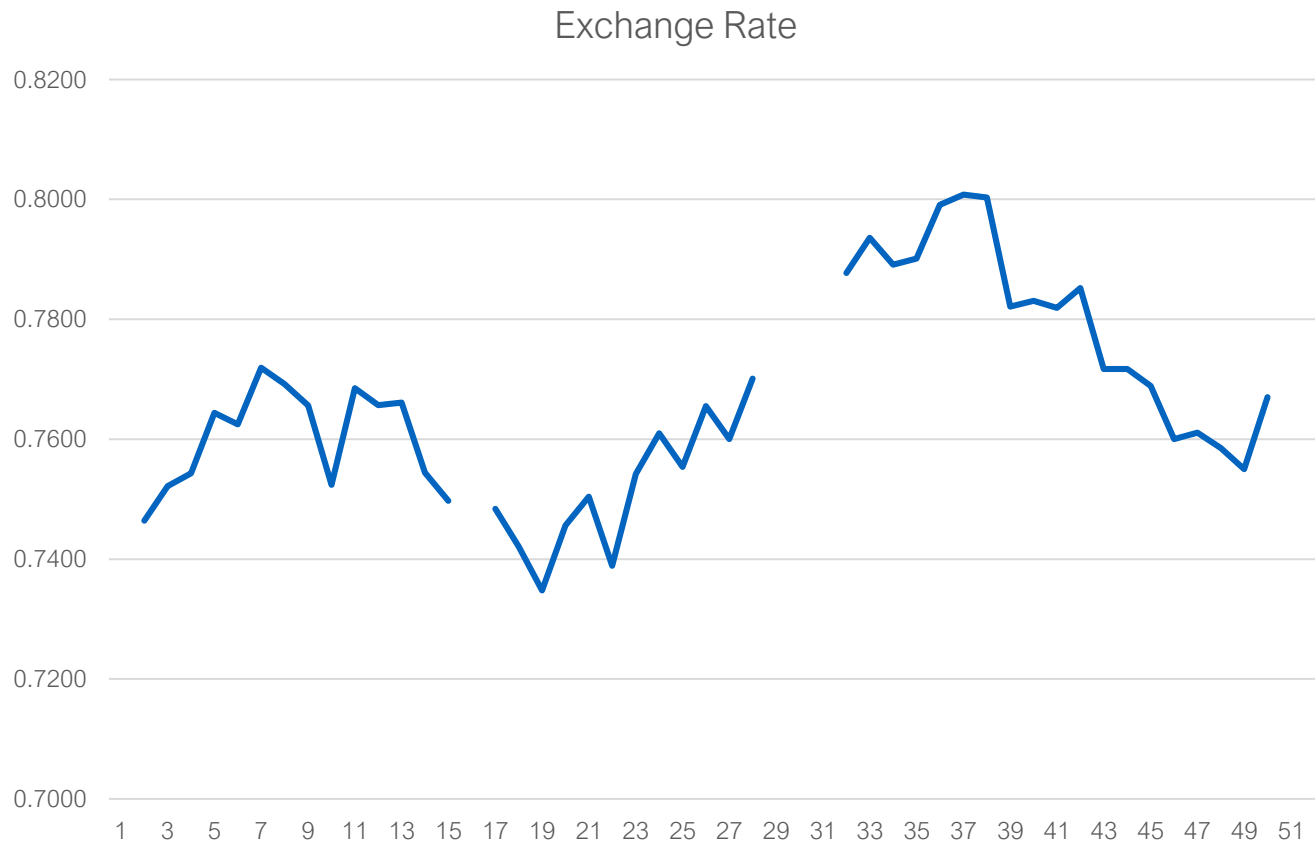
- Wools with little to no defect were bringing over 80 percent of Australia this year. Many were in the 85-90 percent range.
- Cleanup sales in November and December saw higher defects and prices closer to 70-75 percent of Australia.
- Shearing is currently taking place in the west.
- Wool clearances this year were high, with very little carryover on warehouse shelves.

Australia Data

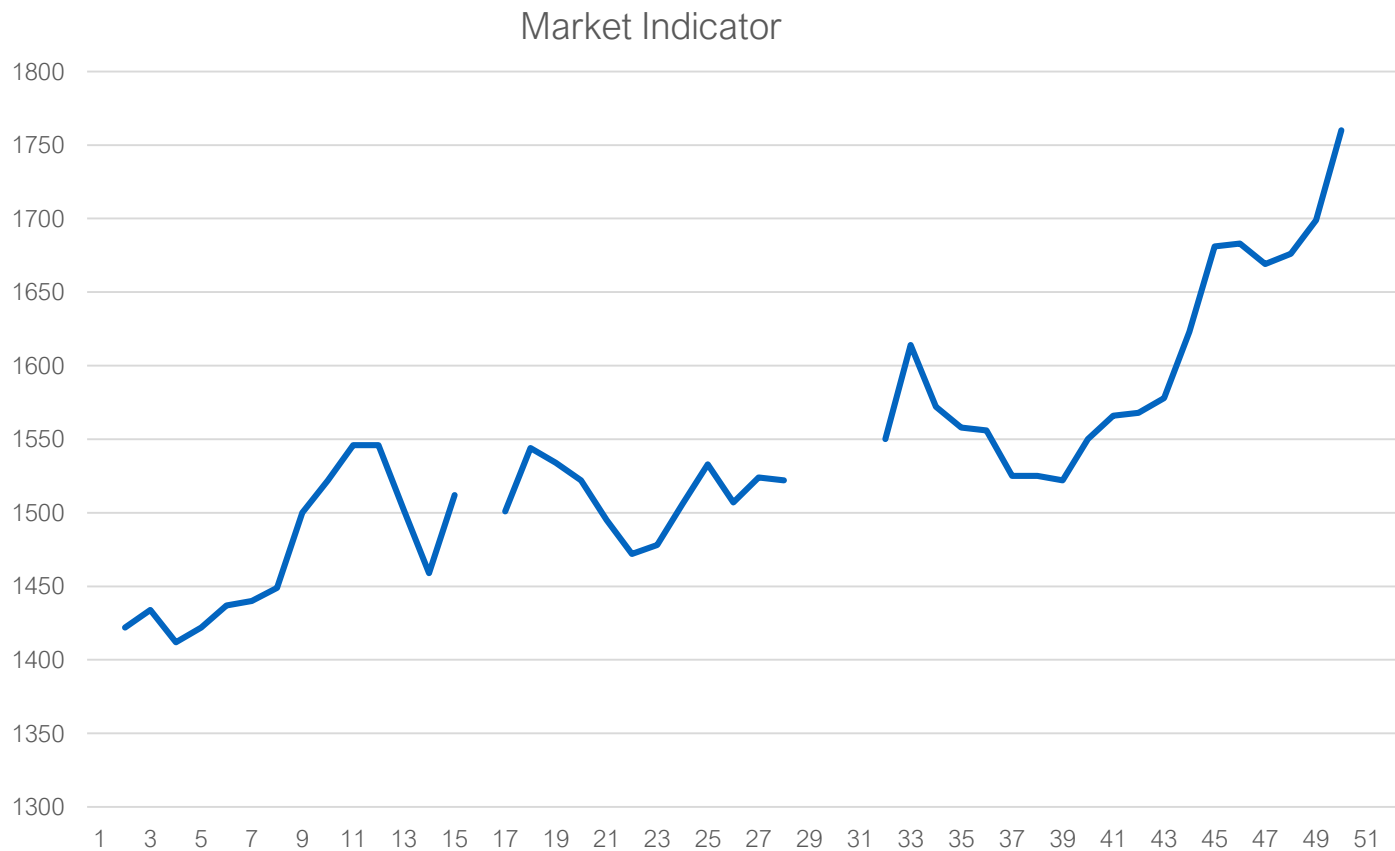
Australia Data

- EMI has hit all time highs. 2017 ended with the highest ever at 1760, and has increased topping out at 1818 in early January.
- This past year had a low of 1412 to the high of 1760 in the last week of the year.
 - It trends up for a week or two, then down for a week or two, but has steadily climbed throughout the year through large gains and only small losses.
 - Mostly follows the same line as currency as compared to the USD.
 - The erratic market movement over the past several years has made it more difficult for warehouses to do much forward contracting.

Australia Data



Australia Data



Global Outlook

Consumption of wool products has remained steady over the past year.

Geographical regions are up in some places and down in others.

No real trends.

Australia and New Zealand production has decreased each of the last couple years due to crossing with meat breeds and capitalizing on an increasing export market.

It should continue to return an increase in demand for wool products with the U.S. economy being the wildcard.

New technologies and market strategies are seeing wool garments hit more shelves.



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Looking for new options to report wool trade

Would a change in report format give opportunity for more wool to be reported?

Is there a better way to report wool?

Fleece states wool is limited in information.

Thank you for your
time!



Questions?