



British Wool – Sale Report

BW164 – 6th June 2023



Key Points

British Wool saw good demand from a wide cross section of buyers in BW164. Core grades saw prices firm to dearer and the British Wool index increased by 3% sale on sale. The offer comprised a large number of end-of-season oddments with relatively few high value lots, this had a negative impact on the average price. Fine types were particularly well sought after and traded more than 5% dearer with Mule, Medium and Cheviot wools also trading higher.

Returns to British Wool's members for the 2022 season were around 30p per kg for core grades with Blackface types around 20p and Welsh / Swaledale around 10p. At these levels UK sheep farmers are a long way off covering the costs of shearing which are typically in the range of £1.50 to £1.65 per ewe.

British Wool's offer in BW164 amounted to 1,402 tonnes spread over 228 lots. 212 lots with a total weight of 1,308 tonnes sold, a 93.2% clearance.

- Average clean price £1.041 / kg Average greasy price £0.690 / kg
- British Wool Index 1.080 vs. 1.050 in BW163.

The clearances by wool type were as follows;

- Fine wool 95%,
- Medium wool 98%,
- Mule wool 88%,
- Hill wool 99%,
- Mountain wool 87%,
- Lamb 100%.

The next sale is scheduled for 11th July and should comprise a mix of the first new season wool alongside a small offering of remaining lots from the 2022 season.

Price movements for key wool types

Prices where comparable to BW163;

Fine: Hogs No1 – firm. Hogs No2 – buyers favour. Ewes No1 – sellers favour. Ewes No2 – fully 5% dearer. Lt Grey – up to 5% dearer.

Medium: Hogs No1 – firm. Hogs No2 – sellers favour to 2.5% dearer. Ewes No1 & No2 – sellers favour. Naturally discoloured – buyers favour. Lt Grey – sellers favour.

Romney: Ewes No1 – firm to buyers favour. Ewes No2 – up to 3% dearer.

Mule: Hogs No – fully 2% dearer. Hogs No2 – 1% dearer. Ewes No1 – 1% dearer. Ewes No2 – fully firm. Soft Cotts – up to 3% dearer. Cotts – sellers favour to 1% dearer.

Cheviots: Hogs No1 – fully firm. Ewes No1 – firm. Ewes No2 – 2.5% dearer. Cross Grades – firm to 1.5% dearer.

Hill: Medium – 1.5% dearer.

Blackface: Medium No1 – up to 4% dearer. Fine – fully firm. No2 – 2.5% dearer. Cotts – firm to buyers favour.

Welsh: No2 – buyers favour to 1.5% cheaper. Coloured Kempy – firm.

Swaledale: Grey – 1% dearer.