



# British Wool – Sale Report

## BW173 – 21<sup>st</sup> November 2023



### Key Points

British Wool consolidated the gains seen over recent sales in BW173. Combing types saw good competition trading around 5% higher, better quality carpet wools traded around 2% dearer, but demand for Mountain types and oddments was lacking with many of these lots taken back into stock.

The offer amounted to 1,123 tonnes spread over 157 lots and included the first Organic certified lots of the season. Of this, 949 tonnes spread over 127 lots sold. Across the catalogue British Wool achieved a clearance of 84.5%. 30 lots were taken back into stock, 17 of these were mountain wool, 4 were fault wool, and the remainder were speciality types.

We continue to expect that the supply of British wool will be down by around 10% this year, primarily due to lower fleece weights. Offers are therefore likely to be held around 1m kg per sale over the next few months. British Wool has sold 7.4m kg of the 2023 wool clip so far which is likely to be around 35% of the supply for the year. The next sale is on 12<sup>th</sup> December after which there will be a four-week gap to the first sale in the new year. British Wool's members still need to see significantly better returns to ensure that all growers present their wool for sale. Farmers require an auction price of around £1.20 per kg to cover their costs of shearing.

The British Wool price index was up 2% sale on sale and the average greasy price increased to 96.5p per kg.

- Total weight offered 1.123m kg      Total weight sold 0.949m kg
- Clearance 84.5%
- Average clean price £1.459 / kg      Average greasy price £0.965 / kg
- British Wool Index 1.326, +1.9% sale on sale

The clearances by wool type were as follows.

- Fine wool 100%,
- Romney 100%,
- Medium wool 98%,
- Mule wool 100%,
- Hill wool 100%,
- Mountain wool 35%,
- Lamb 100%.

### Price movements for key wool types

Prices where comparable to BW172;

Fine: Hoggs No1 – 4% dearer. Hoggs No2 – fully 10% dearer. Ewes No1 – 2% dearer. Ewes No2 – firm. Lt Grey – 1.5% dearer.

Romney: Ewes No1 & No2 – firm.

Medium: Hoggs No1 – 5% dearer. Hoggs No2 – up to 5% dearer. Ewes No1 – 1.5% dearer. Ewes No2 – 3.5% dearer. Naturally discoloured – buyers favour.

Mule: Hoggs No1 – 2% dearer. Hoggs No2 – 5% dearer. Ewes No1 – 3% dearer. Ewes No2 – 2% dearer. Cotts grades – firm to 3% dearer. Lt Grey – up to 2% dearer.

Cheviots: Hoggs No1 – up to 4% dearer. Hoggs No2 – 2.5% dearer. Ewes No1 – 4% dearer. Ewes No2 – 4.5% dearer. Cross Grades – 2.5 to 5% dearer.

Hill: Medium No2 – 2.5% dearer.

Blackface: All grades buyers favour.

Welsh: all grades buyers favour to 2% cheaper.

Swaledale: unsold.