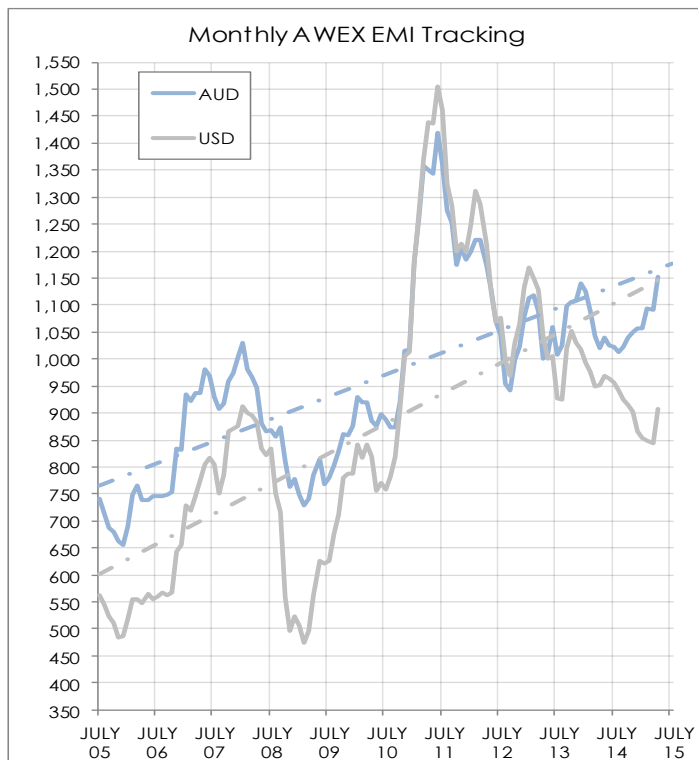




Offering		AWEX EMI				Currency movements		
Bales offered	44,301	CCC	1172 c/kg cln	+19 c/kg	+1.65%	AU:USD	0.7981	+3.01%
Passed-In (%)	2.9%	USD	935 c/kg cln	+42 c/kg	+4.70%	AU:CNY	4.9518	+3.13%
		CNY	58.04 ¥/kg cln	+2.67 ¥/kg	+4.83%			
Bales Sold	42,996	EUR	8.44 €/kg cln	+0.09 €/kg	+1.11%	AU:EUR	0.7198	-0.53%



AWEX Auction Micron Price Guides.

Sales held on Wednesday & Thursday

MPG	North	South	West
17	1404 +22	1392 +25	-
18	1372 +16	1369 +21	1323n +5
19	1313 +22	1319 +27	1294 +13
20	1269 +15	1265 +20	1263 +21
21	1248 +21	1252 +26	1242n +20
22	1202 +10	1196n +10	1222n
23	-	1165n -1	-
24	-	-	-
25	-	-	-
26	971n +20	959n +1	-
28	858 -2	847 -7	-
30	799 -10	797 -6	-
32	698n -5	693n -7	-
MC	994 +11	1008 +10	991n +5

Riemann Wool Forwards - TRADES this week

Maturity date	Type	Price	Sum of kgs
13th May '15	21.0 micron	1200	4,500
13th May '15	21.0 micron	1215	5,000
27th May '15	21.0 micron	1200	3,750
27th May '15	21.0 micron	1205	5,000
24th June '15	21.0 micron	1190	2,500
24th June '15	21.0 micron	1210	5,000
8th July '15	21.0 micron	1180	2,500
5th Aug '15	19.0 micron	1270	2,500
26th Aug '15	21.0 micron	1174	5,000
26th Aug '15	21.0 micron	1175	2,000
26th Aug '15	21.0 micron	1180	2,500
9th Sept '15	21.0 micron	1175	5,000
23rd Sept '15	21.0 micron	1175	2,000
11th Nov '15	21.0 micron	1175	2,500
25th Nov '15	21.0 micron	1175	7,000
9th Dec '15	21.0 micron	1175	7,000
Total			63,750

Upcoming Wool Auction Sales

Sale week	2014/15 forecast	2013/14 actual
Week 45	45,026 bales	31,911 bales
Week 46	39,593 bales	40,453 bales
Week 47	38,600 bales	30,628c bales

Australian wool auction sales continued this week in the very positive sentiment built up over the past month or so. The Merino sector was the major recipient of the price gains this series, managing to rise a general 25ac/ clean kg in face of a substantially less attractive Australian dollar rate against the US dollar. A little stutter appeared at the broad edge of the crossbred sector which shaved a minor 5ac/ clean kg off the established quotes, but prices remain at historically high price levels. The EMI (Eastern Market Indicator) recorded a further 1.65% gain in value to finish the selling week at a level of 1172ac/clean kg, up 19ac/clean kg.

The offering of ultrafine (finer than 16.5 micron) Merino fleece types continues to be at minimal availability for sale at auction. The few better styled and strength lots finer than 16.5 micron appreciated greatly this week, with the opening day adding 20ac/clean kg followed by a 60ac/clean kg jump on the final day to close out the week at levels approaching 100ac/clean kg dearer. Both Italian operators competed strongly, but strong support was also forthcoming from the forward operators and top makers. The lower edge types were not neglected and managed a 15 to 20ac/clean kg price gain, with some LB (light burr– 1.1 to 2.5vm) fault lots being the most sought .

A good selection of Superfine (16.6 to 18.5 micron) Merino fleece types came under strong attention from most users this week, and prices continued the climb upwards, albeit from a reasonably shallow level. Whilst the general market types put on a rise of 15ac/clean kg, the better specified sale lots were chased hard by Chinese buyers causing a 30 to 35ac/clean kg increase in price by the close of selling for the week.

The fine wool (18.6 to 20.5 micron) and medium (20.6 to 23 micron) Merino fleece maintained the strength apparent in the last few week's and gains of upwards of 25ac/ clean kg were achieved. Buying strength on the first day came mainly from 2 Chinese indents, but the final day saw forward sellers executing buying pressure to take most of the quantity to try and alleviate outstanding positions.

In general, the Merino skirtings again tracked similarly to the fleece sector, but the final day witnessed some erratically very high prices. Buyers whom had missed out early in the week decided to put the foot down and seemingly "buy at best" to achieve some quantity out of the selection. All wool types suitable for carbonizing were well sought, but healthier demand for the better broken and pieces types was also evident. In general terms, a 15 to 20ac /clean kg dearer market resulted, but some individual sale lots were 40ac/clean kg dearer on the final day.

The Merino Cardings market segment continue to attract the most interest with wool industry commentators, and rightfully so, as prices surge further each week to previously unseen levels. The Southern MC indicator (merino carding) pulled through the 1000ac/clean kg mark to finish the week at 1008ac/clean kg. By the end of the week, the merino carding sector had gained 5 to 10ac/clean kg for the series, with all types being affected to the same degree.

The strong demand for all Open/broken top types and descriptions continues unabated with a further 20ac to 30ac/clean kg being added to their market rates this week. The market initially rose by just 5 to 10ac/clean kg, but a new Chinese indent on the final day pushed these types a further 20ac upwards. Some types around 17.5 micron were seemingly being bought "at best" and prices were not that far off a full fleece equivalent of the same micron.

Whilst the fine edge of the Crossbred and comeback (25 to 32micron) types were being well sought, the general offering started to wane a little in buying strength. As a result, most types were being quoted at levels of 5 to 10ac/ clean kg cheaper for the sale series.

A volume of just over 43,000 bales will be available to buyers next week. In USD terms, the market gained a general 40usc/clean kg this sale, so a slowing may be evidenced from some markets, but if the offshore buying interest remains similar, buyers will need to look upwards.

Industry News

Interest in sourcing apparel from sub-Saharan Africa might be on the rise, yet the results of a new survey suggests few players have current plans to tap into it's potential. 40% of buyers sees sub Saharan Africa becoming increasingly important within the apparel industry in the next five years, which is up from just 24% in a 2013 survey. Even more impressive is that purchase managers responded with an intent to increase buying from the region by tenfold by 2020.

Yet dig deeper, and you find that this seemingly remarkable growth in sourcing from the region will see the market share go from a negligible 0.3% to an also unremarkable figure of just 2.8%. China is expected to remain the powerhouse for the foreseeable future, whilst suitable alternatives are explored in other parts of the world. Just-style.com

Industry News

After three years of weak growth, the global economy has its best chance for a mild upturn in 2015 on the back of lower oil prices, a modest but steady US recovery, and a kick from quantitative easing (QE) for a weak Euro recovery. During the 2000 decade, the world added about US\$4-6tr to current GDP each year. Since 2012, when it added just \$1.4tr, the world has struggled to add more than \$3tr a year. We start 2015 with the US (23% of world GDP this year) running at two-thirds speed, the Euro area (17%) barely out of recession, and China (15%) dropping to its slowest growth in 25 years. The impact of low global demand growth is readily apparent in sliding commodity prices, a swing towards deflation, weak global trade growth, the spread of negative sovereign bond yields, and a hunt for yield across global capital markets. Source IMA Asia

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