THAINSTONE, Aberdeen and Northern Marts (Thursday 6th February) Sold 2959 Prime Sheep and Feeding Ewes & Rams.

New Season Prime Lambs (2250) averaged 332p per kg (+16.7p) and sold to 426p per kg for a 38kg Beltex from Westerton, Echt and £203.50 gross for 52kg Texels from Nistagar, Harray.

New Season Prime Lambs SQQ up to 45.5kg (654) averaged 350.2p per kg (+15.1p).

Feeding Ewes & Rams (708) averaged £139.16 and sold to £315 for a Pure Texel from Nistagar, Harray.

"The Prime Lamb trade took another great move upwards with all classes at excellent rates to a very strong ringside of eleven active buyers. Top price was £203.50 for a Pen of 9 Texel's scaling at 52kgs from Nistagar, Harray. All classes of Ewes & Rams sold dearer on the week with a top of £315 for a Pure Texel also from Nistagar. With numbers scarce, more are required for next Thursday's sale."

Leading Prices per Head and per Kg

New Season Prime Lambs: Tex – Albury, Oldmeldrum £198, Nistagar 391.3p; Suf – Cairnton, Techmuiry £195.50, Netherton, Garlogie 335.7p; BelX – Westerton £192, 376.5p; TexX – Albury, Loanhead, Inverallochy £190, Honeyneuk Farm, Maud 387.8p; Cont – Uppermill Farm, Tarves £187.50, Westerton 372.2p; Cross – Tillyboy, Echt £185.50, Nistagar 380.7p; Chv – Cormalet, Cairnie £185.50, Greens of Gardyne, Forfar 352.4p; ContX – Springburn, Kintore £183.50, Tapiken, Tyrie 372.6p; SufX – Sootywells, Fordoun £180, Tillyboy 355.7p; Black – Croftbain, Tomnavoulin £179.50, 408p; Bel – Loanhead £175.50, 381.5p; Mule – Barns, Crathes £168, Newmill, Crathes 337.8p; Cha - Crofeidly, Glassel £167.50, 370p; ChvMule - Mill of Whitehill, New Deer £165.50, Aldie Farm 306.7p; ChvX – Aldie Farm, Cruden Bay £160.50, Dorsell, Alford 357p; BDM - Croftbain £158.50, 337.2p GF - Aldie Farm £156.50, Greens of Gardyne 333.7p; BluTex – South Coldstream, Drumoak £153.50, 348.9p; BF – Sootywells £157.50, 338p.

Leading Prices per Head

Feeding Ewes: Pure Tex – Ardhuncart, Kildrummy £290; Tex – Chapelhill, Forgue £269.50; Pure Suf – Cadgerford, Kingswells £264.50; Suf – Cranna Bridge, Aberchirder £249.50; BelX - Tillyorn, Lumphanan £249.50; SufX – Cadgerford £244.50; Down – Cranna Bridge £237.50; TexX – Albury, Commercial Road, Ardhuncart £234.50; Cont – Tillyorn £229.50; ContX – Wards of Boyndlie, Fraserburgh, Loanhead, Inverallochy £219.50; DownX – Chapelhill £217.50; ChvMul – Auchincrieve, Rothiemay £214.50; Blk – Backhill Nittanshead, New Pitsligo, Broomhill, Methlick £209.50; Chv – Ardhuncart £199.50; ChvX – Lower House, Hillwell £197.50; Hamp – Craigentarph Steading, Blairs £197.50; Zwa – Little Tulloch, Durris £194.50; BluTex – Bridges, Kinnoir £193.50; BluTexX – Kirkton, Mintlaw £189.50; Mule – Auchincrieve £186.50; GF – Rowland, Holm £183.50; BF – Loanend, Lumphanan £147.50; Easy – Salties, Sanday £129.50.

Feeding Rams: Tex – Blackhall, St Ola £249.50; **Chv –** Isbister, North Roe £191.50; **Tex –** Ardhuncart £184.50.