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Number's up for wool sales

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WOOL GROWERS are playing a numbers game in the auctions.

Three weeks ago, AWEX's Eastern Market Indicator shot up 50c/kg to 1243c/kg clean, which triggered over the past fortnight a rush to sell more wool.

Last week 49,584 bales were offered, against an initial roster of 41,400 bales. Read more

But with trade's weekly digestion rates at around 38,000-40,000 bales, the inevitable happened.

The EMI came tumbling back and the national pass-in rate rose to 20.9 per cent. Fremantle passed in nearly 30 per cent of its offering.

This week another large weekly offering of 49,494 bales has been catalogued, although C&C would be safe in predicting some hefty withdrawal and pass-in rates in the wake of last week's market retreat.

He's back

CHICK Olsson, the Kevin Rudd of wool industry politics, wants to be part of the action again after accepting a nomination from the Australian Wool Growers Association as its nominee for the proposed WoolPoll panel.

The very public and loquacious Mr Olsson resigned from the board of Australian Wool Innovation last May.

"I'm a goal-oriented person and I want to move on to do other things," he told C&C at the time.

There is no guarantee his nomination will be accepted.

C&C hears that the WoolPoll panel will once again be chaired by Queensland Merino stud breeder Will Roberts, but unlike the previous panels which included seven industry-nominated representatives, this year's panel is comprised of only four industry representatives.

Short marriage

THE 12-month-old merger of wool brokers Quality Wool and the Australian Wool Network is off.

According to a statement issued by the two brokers, both companies have decided to remain separate entities for the best interests of their future operations and clientele.

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