



# The National Council of Wool Selling Brokers of Australia Inc

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## NEWSLETTER

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14<sup>th</sup> August 2020

2020/27

### From the desk of Chris Wilcox, Executive Director

- Wool prices stabilise in Australia
- COVID restrictions for Melbourne open-cry auctions?
- Australian wool production in 2020/21 steadies
- US imports of clothing plummet
- NCWSBA Wall Chart now available
- Upcoming industry events



### US clothing imports drop like a stone under the weight of COVID-19

The latest data shows that US imports of clothing plummeted in the first six months of 2020 as the large decline in retail sales of clothing (see the *Weekly Newsletter* of 10<sup>th</sup> July) has hit hard. US imports of clothing in the January-June period this year were down by 28% in quantity and down by 30% in value. It is the lowest total volume in the first half a year since 2009 (as the Global Financial Crisis hit) and the lowest total value since 2002. All fibres have been hit similarly by the decline. Imports of cotton clothing was down by 18%, imports of synthetic fibre clothing were down 14% and imports of wool clothing were 16% lower.

**Full details, including a chart showing the trends in US imports of clothing by fibre (wool, cotton and synthetic fibre), are provided in this week's NCWSBA *Weekly Newsletter*. Available to NCWSBA members.**

#### INDUSTRY EVENTS

**Wool Week** has been cancelled for this year.

The **NCWSBA Annual General Meeting** will be held on for Thursday, 27<sup>th</sup> August by Zoom (<https://zoom.us/j/93454906061>).

**AWTA** will hold its Annual General Meeting on Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> October 2020.

#### WOOL SALES WEEK BEGINNING 17<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2020 – week 8 (roster as at 12/8/2020)

##### Sydney

Tues, 18<sup>th</sup> Aug; Wed, 19<sup>th</sup> Aug 8,299 bales

##### Melbourne

Tues, 18<sup>th</sup> Aug; Wed, 19<sup>th</sup> Aug 21,097 bales

##### Fremantle

Wed, 19<sup>th</sup> Aug 5,856 bales

*Information in the Weekly Newsletter is intended to provide general information only and is not intended to constitute advice for a specific purpose.*