

c/kg for the week.

And it seems the better rates will not be short-lived.

Cedar Meats export manager Dick Merton said better prices would last for at least the next four to six weeks.

"With the rain, we expected the

These buyers would now have to fork out more money to get mutton through winter.

"Good wethers made 280-290c/kg (carcass weight) in Bendigo this week and that's somewhere near where the market will be, we believe."

stock back from selling in anticipation of an improved season ahead."

Mr McRae said this year was similar to 2010, when an extended dry was followed by a big rain.

But big supplies this year mean the price is tracking below each of

though most of those contracts have been filled earlier in the year when processor activity was high," he said.

This week, Rabobank predicted a positive outlook for sheepmeat but acknowledged the industry had been "riding a rollercoaster of returns".



Practical education: Junee High School year 10 student Brad Heard plans to apply his school lessons to the family farm.

Students flock to stud class

By FIONA MYERS

THE newest Border Leicester stud in Australia has class.

Junee Run was officially registered only last month but a team of sheep will head to the Holbrook Sheep show next week with the hope of taking a major prize.

Based at the Junee High School in NSW, the stud is being pushed by agriculture teacher Paul

Anderson who started buying sheep last year to form it.

Paul said the students chose Border Leicester sheep, but he backed their decision.

"I think that students can learn about wool and meat with this breed, rather than just opting for one or the other with other breeds," he said.

Locals have come on board, offering feed and paddocks to assist

the flock, which consists of 15 stud ewes and one ram.

They have also had help from Temora breeder Jeff Sutton, who supplied genetics and expertise.

The ewes have been artificially inseminated, with the first lambs to drop on the ground in July.

Paul said the enthusiasm of the students was high, and numbers electing to study agriculture were growing.

"Just because a school is in the country doesn't mean that the students have an association with agriculture," he said.

"We are trying to expose the students to agriculture with the hope that some may take it up as a career."

Student Brad Heard is studying agriculture in year 10 and hopes to one day take his new skills back to his family farm.