DINGWALL., Dingwall and Highlands Marts Ltd., (8th September) sold 1,674 breeding sheep at its annual sale sponsored by Gow Transport.

<u>Gimmers</u>

1st – L Wink, Dykeneuk, Clatt, £320

2nd – W A & H V Stewart, 1 Newmore, Muir of Ord, £340

3rd – W A & H V Stewart, 1 Newmore, Muir of Ord, £330

Ewe Lambs

1st - F Bradley, Tillyminate, Garty, £260

2nd – Longwool Cheviot Mules, Cononbank, £240

3rd – F Bradley, Tillyminate, Fraserburgh, £250

Cheviot mule gimmers (269) averaged £280.86 (up £60.86 on the year) and sold to £340 gross from 1 Newmore, Muir of Ord.

Texel Cross gimmers (327) averaged £300.68 and sold to £440 gross for Texel crosses from Hilton of Culsh, New Deer.

Cheviot mule ewe lambs (797) averaged £199.30 (up £53.09 on the year) and sold to £400 from Wester Craiglands, Fortrose for charities Mikeysline and the Road Rage Cowboy.

Other breed ewe lambs (269) sold to £195 gross for a Mules from Blackford Farm, Inverness.

"2025 saw Dingwall Marts combined their annual cheviot show and sale of gimmers and ewe lambs with the annual show and sale of HISHA accredited mules to create the new "Mule Monday" event. Also included within the sale was a section of non-accredited mule and top end texel cross gimmers and ewe lambs. This new format proved extremely popular with buyers and vendors alike creating a carnival atmosphere in the arena.

The cheviot mule show, and sale was once again kindly sponsored by Gow Transport, with judging proceedings in the hands of Mr Rod Gillies, Charleston. Another quality show of sheep were presented in front of our judge and it was Aberdeenshire raider Mr Liam Wink, Dykeneuk who was awarded the champion gimmer ticket with his outstanding pen of 20 which were bred by the Tillyminate Stable. They released £320 with our judge backing his decision and purchasing them.

It was the Tillyminate Stable who for the second year running took the ewe lamb championship. Presented by Alan and James a real classy pen of stunners were purchases by last years buyers Willie and Heather Stewart, Newmore for £260 and the Tillyminate consigners of 60 averaged a sizzling £253.33ph, surpassing their previous record which was set last year.

Overall the cheviot mules met a fierce enquiry with many potential purchasers heading home empty handed. Resetting the castle record books however was father and son team Willie and John Brown, Hilton of Culsh whose annual consignment of texel cross gimmers stole the show and setting new centre records.

Storming the ring first was a pen of 11 texel cross park cheviots gimmers which oozed style and class, also having bodies to die for. Bids came from all over the gantry culminating in a new centre record of £425ph with Messrs Sutherland, Sibmister being the victors. The Brown team weren't finished however as the new centre record set only a few minutes previously was obliterated into the stratosphere. Entered the ring was 26 of the finest texel cross cheviot mule gimmers many a man has ever seen, there was only one word to describe them, sublime. Another ferocious frenzy of bidding echoed the ring, eventually being knocked down to Messrs Campbell, Mayfield for £440ph.

A special mention of the generosity of the McKenzie family, Craiglands who offered two cheviot mule lambs to be sold for charity. They were sold to the ever-generous Morris Dalgetty, Mulchaich for £400 with the money being split between Mikeys Line and The Road Rage Cowboy."

Other leading prices per head:

Cheviot mule gimmers – 1 Newmore, £330, (thrice), £320, £310, £300, £290, £280, £275, Dykeneuk, £330, £320, Ballindalloch Home Farm, £310, Coxton, Cornhill, £285, £280, south Bogbain, Keith, £260, Achnabat, £250, Rennieshill, Newmachar, £250.

Other breed gimmers: TexX – Hilton of Culsh, £425, £350, Ballindalloch Home Farm, £370, £320, Smerral Farm, Bower, £320, £260, South Bogbain, £275, £265, 3 Balnabeen, Conon Bridge, £260; Cont – Rennieshill, £280; SuffX – South Bogbain, £270; BeltX – South Bogbain, £270; Mule - Achnamoine, Watten, £255; BTL – Ballindalloch Home Farm, £250

Cheviot mule ewe lambs: – Tillyminate Farm, £260, £250, (twice), Longwood Cheviot Mules, £240, £235, £230, £210, Tombreck, Dallas, £235, £200, Lynbell, East End, £220, (twice), Alvie Estate, Kincraig, £200, Wester Craiglands, £200, Achnabat, Torness, £195.

Other breed ewe lambs – Mule – Blackford Farm, £195, Glenavon Estate, Tomintoul, £190; TexX – Smerral Farm, £190