

30th September 2011

2011 Review of National Wool Declaration

AWEX is commencing the annual review of the National Wool Declaration (NWD). The purpose of the review is to consider the content, extension and uptake of the NWD and how it is being received by industry stakeholders. Feedback considered in the 2010 Review resulted in an (optional) combined NWD and Classer's Specification form (attached) to reduce duplication and simplify the completion of the NWD.

AWEX has conducted pre-sale desktop audits of mulesing status since August 2008. The additional components of the National Wool Declaration – Integrity Program (NWD-IP), viz. on farm inspections for declarations of Non Mulesed and Ceased Mulesing status and the authentication of the use of Pain Relief, commenced 12 months ago. With the benefit of experience, the industry is now in a position to put forward suggestions on ways that both the NWD and its Integrity Program might be improved.

This annual review is aimed at ensuring that the NWD remains relevant and is ready for the new 2012/2013 season. Industry stakeholders are encouraged to make a submission to this review of the NWD and its Integrity Program.

AWEX invites written submissions from industry on any aspect of the NWD. When making a submission, please include the topic(s), the background to the topic(s) and any suggestions that may help enhance the NWD or its Integrity Program.

All submissions will be considered by ISAC in forming their recommendations to AWEX.

All submissions must include the name and address of the author/organisation and must be lodged with AWEX by Close of Business on Friday 28th October 2011. Email submissions are welcome.

To provide feedback to ISAC on the NWD Review, please use the following contact:

Dr Kerry Hansford
Secretary, ISAC
Australian Wool Exchange
Gate 4, Frederick St
TOTTENHAM VIC 3012

Email: khansford@awex.com.au

Fax: 03 9314 5392

Australian Wool Exchange Limited

PO Box 649 Lane Cove NSW 1595 www.awex.com.au info@awex.com.au | t. (+61 2) 9428 6100
Ground Floor 318 Burns Bay Rd Lane Cove NSW 2066 abn. 35 061 495 565 | f. (+61 2) 9420 9633

Definitions, Background and Guidelines

for the National Wool Declaration and Woolclasser's Specification forms

Age/Shearing	Code	Breed	Code	Sex	Code
1st Shearing	1	Merino	M	Ewes	E
2nd Shearing to 2 yrs	2	Afrino	FO	Wethers	W
3 years	3	Dohne	MD	Rams	R
4 years	4	SAMM	MS	Mixed (E/W/R)	M
5 years	5	Corriedale	CD		
6, 7, 8 years etc.	6, 7, 8...	Crossbred	XB		
Mixed (e.g. 3 to 5 yrs)	3 - 5	Downs	DN		
		Shedding Breeds	SB		
		Carpet Wool	CW		

NWD 4.0 – MARCH 2011



Background to the National Wool Declaration (NWD)

- Information provided in the NWD is the responsibility of the Owner/Manager.
- The Owner/Manager **must sign** the Declaration.
- By completing this Declaration, the Owner/Manager acknowledges that:
 - The Vendor's agent will catalogue the wool based on the statements you make, and buyers will in turn rely on those statements.
 - This Declaration may be subject to **random audit or inspection** as part of the NWD-Integrity Program.
- **Note:** If either the DMFR or Mulesing Sections are left blank for any mob, then Not Declared will be applied to the lines of wool.

Definitions

1 Ceased Mulesing	Any sheep born on this property in the last 12 months must not be mulesed at the time of this shearing and there must be no intention to mules in the future.
2 Mulesing	The removal of skin from the breech and/or tail of a sheep using mulesing shears. Source: Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines for Sheep (draft).
3 Pain Relief	A "Yes" must only be applied to the actual mobs of sheep that were mulesed using a recognised Pain Relief product.
4 Record of Chemical Use	If Yes (Y), details of mob, date, purpose and type and amount of chemical(s) must be recorded. If chemicals are not used, a record of this must also be kept.
5 Contact with Shedding Breeds	Mated to, or run in the same paddock as shedding sheep/lambs or their crosses.
6 Shedding Breeds	Breeds that shed fibre (e.g. Afrikaner, Awassi, Damara, Dorper, Karakul, Meatmaster, Persian, Van Rooy, Wiltipoll, Wiltshire Horn).

Guidelines for the Completion of the National Wool Declaration (NWD)

- Determine the order of shearing **prior to** completing the NWD. This should ensure that:
 - Mobs of a different Mulesing Status can be kept separate,
 - Mobs with a higher Dark and Medullated Fibre risk are shorn last, and/or
 - The wool from mobs with similar characteristics can be combined as required, especially; for example, oddment lines.
- In the Mob Numbers column of the Classer's Specification, the **Woolclasser MUST list ALL Mob Numbers** used to make up each line of wool. This applies to both fleece and oddment lines.