

13 January 2020

2019 Review of the National Wool Declaration

The 2019 review of the National Wool Declaration is almost complete.

“We want to thank the 58 Australian and international stakeholders who provided written submissions to commence this review and those who have been in contact with AWEX since.” said Mark Grave, AWEX, CEO “The number of submissions indicates the high level of support and interest in the NWD. It also demonstrates that the NWD is globally recognised as a trusted declaration that adds value to wool through the supply chain by providing greater traceability and integrity.”

Mr Grave added “The review is a thorough process and the AWEX Board has considered and accepted a number of recommendations,

- Replacing Mulesing Status code ‘PR’ with ‘AA’ (Analgesic and/or Anaesthetic) where a registered AA product has been used, and
- Ceased Mulesing to be reformatted into two questions to improve understanding and reduce errors. The definition of CM has not changed, and

In addition, some minor changes have been made to the NWD template for ease of completion.”

Identification of Alternative Methods to Mulesing

“The most interest in this review has been in relation to whether; and/or how, alternative methods to mulesing should be recognised in the NWD. The AWEX Board has given this matter significant consideration and felt it appropriate to consult further with industry for feedback and comment.”

It is proposed the current Mulesing Status of NM be replaced with the following two categories:

NM1	No sheep in this mob has been mulesed, and an alternative* method to mulesing <u>has not</u> been used.
NM2	No sheep in this mob has been mulesed, and an alternative* method to mulesing <u>has</u> been used.

**Methods using any of the following: Liquid Nitrogen, Clips, Intra-dermal Injections.*

The proposal:

- Recognises that both categories identify wool from sheep that have not been mulesed,
- Maintains the value of NM status,
- Provides continuity of reporting (of method), and
- Provides customers of Australian wool with greater depth of information.

“The 2019 NWD review has been challenging in that it has considered issues which were not conceived in 2008. This demonstrates that the NWD will continue to evolve over time as the needs of industry change and new and innovative opportunities present themselves.” Mark Grave, CEO, AWEX

“Consultation with industry stakeholders is critical to keeping them informed and maintaining their confidence and trust in the NWD.”

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Consultation and Feedback Period

AWEX is seeking feedback on the DRAFT NWD v8.0.

The proposal and Draft NWD v8.0 can be accessed through the AWEX website [here](#).

The consultation period is now open and submissions *must be received by:*

Close of Business on Friday 31st January 2020.

Submissions must be in writing and include the name and address of the author/organisation. Emails are welcome and encouraged to ensure submissions are received by the closing date.

Feedback is to be returned by COB 31 January 2020 to:

Mark Grave
Chief Executive Officer
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By post: PO Box 651, North Ryde, NSW 1670

For further information or to discuss the NWD review, please contact:

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END.