

11 January 2019

AWEX Wool Classer Integrity Checks a Priority

Following the commencement of the new 2019-2021 Wool Classer registration period, AWEX is furthering its commitment to wool classer and wool bale integrity.

AWEX continues to receive concerned calls from classers who dispute the use of their stencil on clips attributed to them in their wool classer activity report. Some of the reported incidents are administrative errors but others are not.

The misuse of the classer's stencil undermines the wool classer registration scheme and threatens the integrity and reputation of the Australian wool industry. The misuse of stencils, sharing of stencils or stencils being applied off-farm is a clear breach of the Rules of Registration and this is a priority for AWEX.

AWEX will increase the pre-sale contact with classers and Brokers/Sellers seeking proof of presence of a classer in the shed for selected clips. AWEX monitors the activity of wool classers for any abnormalities.

AWEX is improving its reporting to classers, to include pre-sale reports, to ensure that wool being offered for sale has in fact been classed by the nominated classer on farm.

AWEX increased its compliance activity in 2018 with the investigation and suspension of classers due to the misuse of the wool classers stencil. This will continue as a priority in 2019.

Wool Growers are also being urged to ensure that they are engaging/employing a registered wool classer by requesting to see their classer's 2019-2021 Classer-ID card. Classer-ID cards have been issued to each registered AW & MC classer for the 2019-2021 period.

AWEX has strengthened the 2019-2021 Rules of Registration for wool classers to increase the obligation of the classer to support the integrity of the registration system and to strengthen AWEX's compliance reach.

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