



NATIONAL WOOL RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND EXTENSION STRATEGY (RD&E)

Wool industry consultation on a national strategy for RD&E

Wool growers are required to participate in the development of a National Wool Research, Development and Extension (RD&E) Strategy through consultation and workshops coordinated by Australian Wool Innovation (AWI) and Department of Agriculture and Food WA, supported by State Agriculture departments, CSIRO and the university sector. The strategy will direct the long term priorities and resource allocation for the wool research organisations in terms of a national vision and priority outcomes. The strategy will cover the following agro-climatic zones (workshop locations listed):

Sheep/Grain zone: Wagin, WA: 5-6 March 2010
Clare, SA: 14 July 2010
Bendigo, Vic: 16 July 2010
Merredin, WA: 10 August 2010
Young, NSW: 1 September 2010
Pastoral zone: Broken Hill, NSW: 3 September 2010
Charleville, Qld: 6 September 2010
High rainfall zone: Armidale, NSW: 9 September 2010
Hamilton, Vic: 4 August 2010
Campbelltown, Tas: 20 July 2010
Katanning, WA: 11 August 2010

Workshops will include a small focus group and open forum. Locations have been selected on the basis of the distribution of the national wool sheep flock within each State and agro-climatic zone. Growers have been invited at the combined suggestion of AWI and State primary industry agencies.

All growers can provide input by visiting www.wool.com/events or emailing nationalstrategy@wool.com

The Government request for a national approach to all agricultural RD&E

In 2005, State Government members of the Primary Industries Ministerial Council (PIMC), agreed to develop a national collaborative approach to all agricultural research, development and extension. The aims are efficient use of funds and other resources and to improve industry uptake of innovation. Basic and strategic research can be provided from any organisation or locality; adapted and developed regionally, then passed on locally to producers.

Guiding principles for the national strategy:

1. Agency and industry co-operation and leadership to increase national RD&E capability.
2. RD&E agency collaboration through formal sharing of information, plans and priorities for investment.

3. The maintenance (at least) of RD&E funding levels for primary industries and the redirection of investments to improve the capability of the national system in priority areas.
4. Facilitated (and increased) access to national research capability (people, infrastructure and information) by industry and RD&E partners across Australia.
5. Increased efforts to refresh rural RD&E priorities and encourage more consistent and rigorous monitoring of performance of RD&E targeting and delivery.
6. Increased emphasis on regional development and local extension to facilitate rapid uptake of innovation.
7. Regular monitoring of, and reporting against, progress in the development of the national RD&E system and priorities for action.

Development of the national RD&E strategy for wool

Responsibility for delivery of the National Wool RD&E Strategy has been delegated to the Department of Agriculture and Food Western Australia (DAFWA). AWI is responsible for facilitating the industry consultation on the strategy and is partnering with state primary industry agencies in Western Australia, Queensland, NSW, Victoria, Tasmania and South Australia, the CSIRO and the university sector to develop the strategy document. The wool and sheep meat sector strategies will align.

Timetable for development of the National Wool RD&E Strategy

PROCESS	SCHEDULE
Sector review	April 2010
Sector analysis/capability assessment/gap analysis	May 2010
Industry consultation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - woolgrowers - post farm organisations 	March to September 2010 2010
Change strategy/communication plan	August 2010 to January 2011
Approvals/ agreements	January to March 2011
Implementation	March 2011 onwards

How will the strategy be used?

The National Wool RD&E Strategy will provide RD&E agencies with a 2030 vision and interim strategic objectives to meet that **vision**. The **objectives** are high level essential needs for the industry that drive the research **strategy**. In turn those strategies must be supported by further development of the research outcomes and extended to the industry through **technologies, products, tools and delivery methods (ie. the activities)**.

