

Other Extension Key Messages, and R&D Priorities

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Extension Websites

- **FlyBoss – Sheep CRC**
www.flyboss.org.au
www.sheepcrc.org.au
- **Sheep Genetics AWI & MLA**
www.sheepgenetics.org.au
- **Making More From Sheep AWI & MLA**
www.makingmorefromsheep.com.au
- **AWI Website**
www.wool.com/Grow_Animal-Health_Flystrike_prevention
www.wormboss.com.au



Extension Websites

- **State DPI Websites**

i.e. Non-mulesing network agric.wa.gov.au/PC_91855.html

- **AWI Extension Networks** wool.com/grow_awi-grower-networks.html

Sheep Back WA, Icon Agriculture

Bestprac Pastoral (SA,WA,NSW,QLD), Rural Directions

Sheep Connect SA Rural Solutions

BESTWOOL BESTLAMB VIC Vic DPI

Sheep Connect TAS Uni Tas & State Gov

Sheep Connect NSW NSW I&I

Leading Sheep QLD QPI

c 500 growers each, newsletters, 8 workshops ea pa

Extension Websites

- **AWEX**

www.awex.com.au

- **WoolProducers - Animal Health Quarterly**

www.woolproducers.com.au

- **Bayer, Leader, Cobbett websites, field days**

www.betterchoices.com.au

www.leaderproducts.com.au

www.cobbett.com.au

Extension - other

- **Statement of Wool Industry Response on Breech Flystrike Prevention**

A NSW Investment and Industry initiative

An Industry working group producing a 10 page document listing lead Australian Wool Industry organisations, activities and websites

To be released in coming months

Key Messages

AWI is committed to;

1) Pursuing targeted R&D and extension to assist woolgrowers manage flystrike risk in their sheep without mulesing through breeding and / or use of alternate management or breech modification strategies.

This is likely to see more and more growers able to successfully manage their sheep without the procedure over time, with growing volumes of non-mulesed and ceased mulesed wool in the marketplace.

2) Supporting welfare improvements to the procedure where-ever it is still undertaken in the meantime

3) Supporting differentiation and choice in the marketplace via the NWD and assisting supply chain and retail partners source wools that meet their requirements

Key Messages

AWI is committed to;

- 4) Engaging with stakeholders, partners and the community to educate, inform, monitor and report on progress - It is imperative that stakeholders, partners and the community have a well informed understanding of the issue and realistic expectations
- 5) Provide science in support of policy decisions at national and international level to protect and enhance market access.
- 6) Promoting the wider industry efforts and progress to address welfare concerns and engender trust and confidence in the Australian Wool Industry

Long Standing Key Messages

- Breeding is the long term solution and interim options are required until this solution is fully effective
- When ceasing surgical prevention, it needs to be well planned and well executed
- Clear sheep breeding goal are required and the ram supplier needs to have similar objectives and competitive advantage
- Reducing dags, breech wrinkle, breech and tail wool cover will reduce breech flystrike
- Woolgrowers can reduce wrinkle and increase productivity

Long Standing Key Messages

- By using a combination of sheep classing, clips and additional management such as preventative chemical, crutching etc many growers can get close to the breech flystrike control provided by surgical prevention

Key Messages from 2010 R&D Update & R&D Priorities

Breeding – Key Messages

- “Different” but “consistent” results by environment and sheep type were presented
- Breech indicator traits are “moderate” indicators of flystrike, but still “good” for indirect indicators
- Indicator traits tend to be more important in high flystrike years
- The heritability of indicators are moderate to good so good rates of progress are possible
- Reducing dags via breeding and management is important and doable
- Large differences exist between sires for flystrike – 10% progeny tested to date are as good as “mulesing”

Key Messages from 2010 R&D Update & R&D Priorities

Breeding – Key Messages

- There is good new evidence of the link between wrinkle, breech cover and fertility at both sites
- Rule of Thumb – Aim for a combination of “Dags 2 Score or less, Wrinkle 2 or less, and Breech Cover 3 or less”
- It is important to select for staple strength when selecting for increased staple length
- When selecting for increased breech flystrike resistance and productivity, the right balance is needed between selecting for increased fleece weight and increased fertility. The right balance will vary between sheep type and environments
- There is a very good new Animal Search function on Sheep Genetics Website. 50% of Merino semen sold has “ASBV’s”
- In flock selection is safe but very limiting. Across flock selection provides higher rates of gain but with higher risk so it is important to use ASBVs

Key Messages from 2010 R&D Update & R&D Priorities

Breeding R&D Priorities

- Release indicator trait ASBVs for dags, cover and colour
- Reduce standard errors for the genetic parameters, for better advice and multi trait ASBV analysis
- Ongoing work with SheepObject (indexes), TakeStock (assessing rate of gain), Genomics (DNA enhanced breeding values), Young Sire Programs
- Further R&D on highly resistant and susceptible animals to better explain the as yet unexplained variation in breech flystrike; wax:suint, odour, immune response, bacterial enteritis other bacteria, dags?
- Further R&D on how mulesing provides protection from flystrike; perhaps lower breech and tail wool follicle density?
- Industry flystrike progeny test?

Key Messages from 2010 R&D Update & R&D Priorities

Clips – Key Messages

- Consistent “midway” results, between mulesed and unmulesed
- Preventative treatment of unmulesed sheep with dicyclanil provided very good flystrike protection similar to mulesing on high wrinkle’ high dag sites in Vic.
- Clips significantly improve stain and dags scores, crutching times and crutching cuts compared to unmulesed
- Every 0.1 reduction in stain and dags scores assisted sheep management
- Clips provided good results on the side of the tail
- Clips need to be on for 7 days and are reusable

Key Messages from 2010 R&D Update & R&D Priorities

Clips – Key Messages

- Clips need to be on for 7 days and are reusable
- There is large variability between sites and variability between “sides” which suggests operator skill is important
- Clips need to be part of basket of tools not a stand alone tool to replace mulesing

Clips R&D Priorities

- **Biodegradability**
- **Publication of results**
- **Trials to assess lifetime flystrike protection**

Key Messages from 2010 R&D Update & R&D Priorities

SkinTraction – Key Messages

- Still in a R&D phase
- Welfare and Efficacy results encouraging to date
- Operator training and equipment maintenance important
- APVMA registration pending

SkinTraction R&D Priorities

- **Applicator variables - need confirming**
- **Sheep variables - age, VM, dag, wool length, need further testing**
- **Commercialisation roll out**
- **Publication of welfare and efficacy results**

Key Messages from 2010 R&D Update & R&D Priorities

Future Welfare – Key Messages

- Need to assess welfare using a basket of indicator tools
- Overall assessment still subjective
- NSAID approved for all other major species but not for sheep. Need registered NSAID for duty of care and trade protection
- Drug combinations show additive impact. Welfare impact of the Carprofen and TriSolfen combined treatment was similar to unmulesed control.

Key Messages from 2010 R&D Update & R&D Priorities

Future Welfare R&D Priorities

- **Assessing impact of NSAIDs past 24 hours**
- **Working with the private sector assessing future pain management options**
- **Selection and registration of the best NSAID**
- **Assisting registration process of any sheep vet medicine or treatment requiring APVMA registration**
- **Science that supports Sheep Welfare Standards and Guidelines**

Key Messages from 2010 R&D Update & R&D Priorities

National Wool Declaration – Key Messages

- There is a world wide trend for increased supply chain information
- Provides Transparency/Traceability/Trust
- Form is reviewed each year by AWEX Industry panel
- Adoption higher with finer wools and Eastern States
- Adoption steady at 37-40% and will continue to be market driven
- Recent change to Ceased Mulesed category definition will enable more wool to be declared as Ceased Mulesed

NWD R&D Priorities

- **On going extension to lift supply chain awareness**
- **Feedback on market signals will drive adoption**

Key Messages from 2010 R&D Update & R&D Priorities

Extension – Key Messages

- There are extensive public and private sector extension initiatives in place along the whole supply chain with focus at both retailer and grower ends
- There is a wide range of delivery mediums
- Creating awareness so the market can drive adoption
- Increasing websites (self help extension) cost driven

Extension R&D Priorities

- **Constant reassessment of the best basket of communication tools for each target sector**
- **Constant reassessment of the messages for each target sector**

Key Messages from 2010 R&D Update

OBJECTIVES

- Update of results of the AWI Breech Flystrike Prevention R&D&E Program
- Communication of Key Messages to growers
- Ongoing feedback into AWIs R&D program, Future Priorities and Operating Plans essential, the first step in increasing rates of adoption

Australian Wool Innovation acknowledges the support and commitment to the Breech Flystrike Prevention R&D&E program



Panel Session Q&A's

Agenda

9.10am Breeding for Breech Flystrike Resistance Project results update

Dr Johan Greeff, Dept of Agriculture & Food (WA) and Dr Jen Smith, CSIRO

10.10am Managing Impact on other Traits when selecting for High Flystrike Resistance

Dr Paul Swan, Paul G Swan & Associates

10.30am Meta analysis of Clip trials

Dr Joan Lloyd, Joan Lloyd & Associates

11.00am Morning Tea

11.20am Comparing Programs for Control of Flystrike in mulesed and unmulesed Merino sheep in South Eastern Australia

Dr John Larsen, Mackinnon Project, University of Melbourne

11.50pm SkinTraction Cobbett Update

Chris Russell & Peter St Vincent Welch, Cobbett Technologies

12.30am Lunch

1.20pm Pain Management - Future pain relief options

Dr Ian Colditz, CSIRO

1.50pm NWD - Update on version 3, Integrity Program & Adoption

Mark Grave, Australian Wool Exchange Ltd

2.20pm Sheep CRC Extension Activities & FlyBoss

Dr Brian Horton & Lu Hogan, Sheep CRC

2.50pm Commercialisation of Indicator Trait ASBVs

Sam Gill, Sheep Genetics

3.20pm Afternoon Tea

3.40pm Key Messages & R&D Priorities

Geoff Lindon, AWI

4.00pm Feedback Session – Q&A – Input into Future R&D&E

5.00pm Close



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