

NATIONAL SHEEP HEALTH STATEMENT

Explanatory Notes

NOTE 1: Biosecurity Plan: Agreed actions and activities of farms and/or producers to prevent the incursion of animal disease(s) into a flock or onto a property. It may outline measures including (but not limited to) conditions on sheep movements into the area, vaccine policy and response to disease detection. These plans can be at a property or regional level and can cover a range of diseases. The National Farm Biosecurity Reference Manual for Grazing Livestock Production and regional biosecurity plan guidelines can be used to develop plans.

NOTE 2: SheepMAP: An audited quality assurance program incorporating a property biosecurity plan, animal health risk assessment, testing, and movement controls that provide a source of low risk animals. (Note: level of testing varies depending on status.)

NOTE 3: Faecal 350: A test of 350 representative sheep over 2 years of age (or all sheep over 2 years of age in smaller flocks) by Pooled Faecal Culture (PFC) or equivalent test in pools of up to 50 sheep. The sheep must have been on the property for at least 2 years.

Abattoir 500: At least 500 sheep, over 2 years of age, have been submitted to an abattoir in the past 24 months, in 1 or more lots, have been examined and all found negative for OJD. The sheep must have been on the property for at least 2 years.

Abattoir 150: At least 150 sheep, over 2 years of age, have been submitted to an abattoir in the past 12 months, in 1 or more lots, have been examined and all found negative for OJD. The sheep must have been on the property for at least 2 years.

NOTE 4: Other: Post mortem examination by a SheepMAP vet with no indication of OJD, or other negative test.

NOTE 5: Infected Flocks: A flock which is infected with OJD, and there is evidence of, or likely potential for, transmission of infection within the flock and the flock has not met the requirements for resolution of infection in accordance with the current National OJD Standard Definitions, Rules and Guidelines (SDR&Gs).

Suspected of being infected: A flock is suspected of being infected with OJD if the owner has reasonable grounds to believe that the flock has been exposed to OJD infection or that OJD may exist in the flock, based on:

- trace back or trace forward contact with an infected flock
- contact with OJD contaminated land or facilities
- a positive Johne's disease screening test, e.g. abattoir monitoring or blood (ELISA) test
- is a neighbour of an infected flock unless there is an effective biosecurity barrier
- clinical signs of OJD, or
- advice from the relevant state agricultural department.

AND the flock has not met the requirements for resolution of suspicion in accordance with the SDR&Gs.

NOTE 6: 'T' tag (terminal) lamb: A lamb which is to be slaughtered before it cuts its first permanent teeth and is identified by an NLIS (sheep) 'T' tag. The 'T' tag may be a requirement for trading into some areas.

NOTE 7: Approved Vaccinate: A sheep that is identified by an NLIS (sheep) 'V' tag and is:

- vaccinated with an approved OJD vaccine by 16 weeks of age, or
- vaccinated with an approved OJD vaccine after 16 weeks of age, when the flock:
 - o was in the SheepMAP, or
 - o had undertaken a negative Faecal 350 test in the two (2) years preceding the vaccination, or
 - o had a Negative Abattoir 500 status at the time of vaccination.

NOTE 8: Other: This could include sheep sourced from historical Low Prevalence Areas (LPA), or sheep that previously had an ABC score higher than 4, or were from an area with a regional biosecurity plan.

NOTE 9: Additional information: A producer may wish to add additional information pertaining to the consignment and/or consignment flock that is not covered by answering the listed questions. Examples may include historical tests or prevalence areas for OJD, history of OJD vaccination if not continuous, worm resistance test results, where introduced sheep were sourced from, blood lines, micron, breed society, etc.

NOTE 10: Declaration: Signing this declaration has legal significance. Regulatory authorities may take legal action, and purchasers may seek damages for any information that is incorrect. Before signing you must be satisfied you understand all elements of the document, and these explanatory notes.

For more information on biosecurity or diseases go to www.animalhealthaustralia.com.au