



Australian Government

Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

AHCWOL405A Class fleece wool

Release: 1

AHCWOL405A Class fleece wool

Modification History

Not Applicable

Unit Descriptor

Unit descriptor	This unit covers the process of classing fleece wool from merino and crossbred sheep and defines the standard required to: arrange layout of bins and wool table; label bins and containers to ensure optimum operational efficiency and quality management; check and prepare wool to ensure freedom from contamination and stain and optimum skirting ratios; assess pigmented fibre risk; identify wool of higher and lower market value and different processing requirements; class fleece into lines that meet the requirements of the Code of Practice for the Preparation of Australian Wool.
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Application of the Unit

Application of the unit	This unit applies to wool classers who class wool as a professional service after consultation with the grower or shed manager. Responsibility for the work of others is an important component. Classing fleece wool requires the ability to adjust strategies to different clip types and market requirements and to coordinate and monitor activities efficiently and effectively.
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Licensing/Regulatory Information

Not Applicable

Pre-Requisites

Prerequisite units		

Prerequisite units		

Employability Skills Information

Employability skills	This unit contains employability skills.
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Elements and Performance Criteria Pre-Content

Not Applicable

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENT	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

ELEMENT	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA
1. Prepare for wool classing	1.1. The layout of the shed, equipment and facilities are arranged according to the determined classing strategy for efficient wool flow, quality management and pressing. 1.2. All personal protective equipment and other safety requirements are selected, used and maintained according to Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) guidelines. 1.3. Bins and containers are placed correctly and clearly labelled according to the classing strategy, quality management system and enterprise requirements. 1.4. Ensure sufficient staffing ratio is established and maintained.
2. Carry out classing of fleece wool	2.1. Any bending and lifting that is required is done according to safe working practices and using the available safety equipment. 2.2. Fleece wool is handled and skirted to the standards outlined in the classing strategy. 2.3. Wool is checked to ensure freedom from contamination and stain. 2.4. Wool is checked to ensure adequate and optimum skirting. 2.5. Pigmented fibre risk is assessed and wool is kept separate as required. 2.6. Wool is appraised for its characteristics. 2.7. Wool is classed to standards of the enterprise classing strategy in accordance with codes of practice, or as required by alternative selling methods. 2.8. Wool of higher and lower market value and processing requirements is identified and lines made, which maximise return to the wool owner.
3. Place wool in bins for pressing	3.1. Wool is correctly and consistently placed in the correct bins ready for pressing, ensuring that cross contamination does not occur. 3.2. Wet wool, stain and coloured wool is identified and kept separate according to the requirements of the organisation and code of practice. 3.3. Any bending and lifting that is required is done according to safe working practices and using the available safety equipment.

Required Skills and Knowledge

REQUIRED SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

This section describes the skills and knowledge required for this unit.

Required skills

- identify hazards and apply safe work procedures
- arrange layout of bins and wool table for optimum efficient wool flow and pressing in a variety of sheds
- label bins and containers correctly
- monitor clip preparation and skirting
- assess pigmented fibre risk and separate wool as required
- identify and appraise wool characteristics
- class wool to standards in accordance to Code of Practice or as required by alternative selling methods
- identify wool of higher and lower market value and lines made which maximise return to grower.
- separate wools of different processing or end user requirements
- use literacy skills to read, interpret and follow organisational policies and procedures, follow sequenced written instructions, record accurately and legible information collected and select and apply procedures for a range of tasks
- use oral communication skills/language competence to fulfil the job role as specified by the organisation, including questioning techniques, active listening, clarifying information and consulting with supervisors as required
- use numeracy skills to estimate, calculate and record routine workplace measures
- use interpersonal skills to work with and relate to people from a range of cultural, social and religious backgrounds and with a range of physical and mental abilities.

Required knowledge

- shed layouts which promote efficient wool flow and handling
- breeds of sheep and their characteristics
- types and sources of contamination
- wool production areas of Australia and clip characteristics
- inherent wool characteristics - diameter, length and strength, colour, yield, VM type, curvature, and comfort factor
- Fleece Measurement Criteria - techniques used to measure wool characteristics
- processing methods - woollen and worsted, stages of processing
- raw wool characteristics and their effect on processing and final product
- wool growth, skin and fibre biology, and effect of genetics and environment on fibre characteristics
- requirements for handling shedding and pigmented fibres

REQUIRED SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

- interpretation of test results
- principles of classing (mob/flock concept, variability for fibre diameter and staple length, soundness, defects, etc.)
- classing scenarios requiring detail of clip break-ups
- clip feedback and reports
- understanding of and preparation of documentation of wool clips
- Code of Practice for the Preparation of Australian Wool Clips and other relevant quality standards.

Evidence Guide

EVIDENCE GUIDE

The evidence guide provides advice on assessment and must be read in conjunction with the performance criteria, required skills and knowledge, range statement and the Assessment Guidelines for the Training Package.

Overview of assessment

Critical aspects for assessment and evidence required to demonstrate competency in this unit

The evidence required to demonstrate competency in this unit must be relevant to workplace operations and satisfy holistically all of the requirements of the performance criteria and required skills and knowledge and include achievement of the following:

- arrange layout of bins and wool table
- label bins and containers to ensure optimum operational efficiency and quality management
- check and prepare wool to ensure freedom from contamination and stain and optimum skirting ratios
- assess pigmented fibre risk
- identify wool of higher and lower market value and different processing requirements
- class fleece into lines that meet the requirements of the Code of Practice for the Preparation of Australian Wool.

Context of and specific resources for assessment

Competence requires evidence of the ability to apply work practices under work conditions. Selection and use of resources for some worksites may differ due to the regional or enterprise circumstances.

Range Statement

RANGE STATEMENT

The range statement relates to the unit of competency as a whole.

Classing may include:

- the classing of Merino and Crossbred wools to the standard required for the Australian auction system.

Unit Sector(s)

Unit sector	Wool
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Co-requisite units

Co-requisite units		

Competency field

Competency field	
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