

## SustainaWOOL Integrity Scheme Grower Declaration

This is a 'self-assessment' document which should be completed only after reading the **SustainaWOOL** Integrity Scheme Manual and Audit Checklist, issued separately. Wool growers who fulfil the requirements detailed in the Manual and Audit Checklist and who have paid the membership fee will receive **SustainaWOOL** Integrity Scheme certification.

By completing this declaration, you acknowledge that you are authorised to complete the form, and accept that you will be subject to random desktop and/or on-farm audits for the declaration items listed below.

Please return **completed and signed** Grower Declaration to: **Email:** [sustainawool@awex.com.au](mailto:sustainawool@awex.com.au)  
**Post:** PO Box 651, North Ryde NSW 1670

### Grower and Property Detail

Full name of Owner/Operator		Existing SW No. (if known)	
Property Trading Name		Mobile	
Property Address (the "property")		Landline	
Postal Address (if different address)		Email Address	
PIC (8-digit Property Identification Code)		Farm Size (hectares)	
Farm Brands (list all used)		Bales Produced annually (approx.)	
Brokers (list all used)		Date Declaration Completed	

### Grower Eligibility (please tick the appropriate box)

GENERAL INTRODUCTION	YES	NO	DECLARANT COMMENTS
Have you received and read the <b>SustainaWOOL</b> Manual and Audit Checklist and understand the Scheme's requirements for certification?			
Has the owner or manager of the property ever been successfully prosecuted under the Animal Welfare Act applicable to your State or Territory? If <b>YES</b> , give details.			
Has the owner or manager of the property ever been successfully prosecuted under the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act applicable to your State or Territory? If <b>YES</b> , give details.			
Has the owner or manager of the property been successfully prosecuted under the Workplace Health and Safety/Occupational Health and Safety Act applicable to your State or Territory? If <b>YES</b> , give details.			
Has the owner or manager of the property been successfully prosecuted under any National or State employment legislation Acts? If <b>YES</b> , give details.			

## Important revisions to SustainaWOOL Integrity Scheme

Reflecting the continual evolution and improvement of the SustainaWOOL Integrity Scheme, a number of refinements to Scheme operations are embodied in this new Grower Declaration.

For example, reflecting the commercial availability now of registered pain relief products relevant to the tail docking and castration operations, we have clarified our standards regarding use of pain relief for these operations. We have also recognised that there are multiple methods for breech modification, and recognised these in our Declaration.

The most critical developments for you to note as a participating grower relate to certification standards:

- Following our achievement of ISO9001-2015 certification for SustainaWOOL and the National Wool Declaration Integrity Schemes, AWEX is now an internationally recognised certifying organisation, and we offer certification for member growers and supply chain partners.
- Consistent with the language used by other Integrity Schemes, we are now offering two levels of certification for our member growers:
  - o Individual farm certification - where growers elect to have physical audit each year. This highest level of individual enterprise integrity standard is now an option available to member growers, and represents a new 'tier' in our brand hierarchy - SustainaWOOL **GOLD**.
    - SWIS **GOLD** will be accessible only to those accredited SWIS growers who do not modify the breeches of their sheep and who do provide pain relief for tail docking and castration procedures. This means the sheep are bred and managed to minimise trauma at lamb marking.
    - SWIS **GOLD** represents the level of most directly equivalent to enterprise-level RWS Certification
  - o Group certification - where growers elect to have a 20% chance of physical farm audit each year. This low cost, mainstream integrity standard is what we have always offered and will continue to offer to our grower members as:
    - SustainaWOOL **GREEN** (non-mulesed or ceased mulesed), which is the level most equivalent to RWS Group Certification. We now propose to transition to requiring our **GREEN** member to use pain relief for tail docking and castration operations from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021.
    - SustainaWOOL **BLUE** (mules, with pain relief). We now propose our to transition to requiring our **BLUE** members to use of pain relief for tail docking and castration operations from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021.
- The following table shows the certification types and revised SustainaWOOL grower membership categories.

Certification	Farm audit	Key practice requirements	RWS equivalent	SustainaWOOL Membership
Individual farm	Annual	Non-mulesed, <u>mandatory</u> use of PR for tail docking and castration. Moving toward electronic classers specification via AWEX WoolClip and AWEX eBale tags (at no cost).	Yes	<b>GOLD</b>
Group	20% of members per year (55% in the first year of membership)	Non- or ceased mulesed, moving toward mandatory use of PR for tail docking and castration from 1/7/21	Yes	<b>GREEN</b>
		Mulesing with PR permitted, moving toward mandatory use of PR for tail docking and castration from 1/7/21	No	<b>BLUE</b>

In completing this Declaration, you now have the option to identify on page 8 of this declaration your preferred membership type.

## Farm Practices Declaration (please tick the appropriate box)

In the following sections, we require you to answer each of the questions applicable to your enterprise.

For each of the practices, please enter a tick or a cross against the relevant answer column (YES, NO, or WT - which means WORKING TOWARD the outcome), and enter comments in the right most column where appropriate. In some cases, we ask you to write the year when a practice occurred.

1. ANIMAL WELFARE / ANIMAL HEALTH	YES	NO	WT	DECLARANT COMMENTS
1.1 Sheep are regularly monitored for injury, health, predators and general well-being.				
1.2 Corrective action is taken when sheep require treatment for, or relief from, pain and suffering.				
1.3 On farm slaughter of sheep (for either domestic use or animal euthanasia) is carried out humanely, minimizing prolonged pain and/or distress to the animal.				
1.4 Mortality records are kept for all sheep classes.				
1.5 Only Registered Animal Health products* are used, within the use-by dates specified.				
1.6 Records are kept of all Animal Health treatments (and are available on request).				
1.7 Correct doses of treatments have been administered as per written procedures and/or as directed by product manufacturer.				
1.8 Adequate food and water is available for all sheep on the property to maintain good health.				
1.9 Sheep are provided with adequate shelter such as trees and/or structures to mitigate mortality rates during extreme weather events.				
1.10 All reasonable steps have been taken to minimise the effects of fire or flood on the property and its livestock.				
1.11 Body Condition Score (BCS)* is monitored and actively managed to meet BCS targets recommended for each sheep class, particularly breeding ewes.				
1.12 Artificial breeding procedures are carried out by competent operators				
1.13 Dehorning, disbudding and substantial horn trimming are only conducted for animal welfare purposes and carried out by competent operators				
1.14 Sheep dogs are trained, and are muzzled where necessary.				
1.15 All sheep on the property are free to display all natural behaviours.				

1. ANIMAL WELFARE / ANIMAL HEALTH	YES	NO	COMMENT
<p><b>1.16</b> Does all your wool clip come from sheep bred on the property (excluding rams bred elsewhere)? If <b>NO</b>, please provide details of sheep not bred on the property.</p>			
<p><b>1.17</b> Are the breeches of sheep modified to reduce the risk of flystrike, using mulesing* or an alternative procedure*?</p>			
<p><b>1.18</b> If <b>YES</b>, identify the specific breech modification method used (tick the appropriate box).  If <b>NO</b>, go to Question 1.20</p>			Mulesing*
			'Sheep freeze-branding'* (liquid nitrogen)
			Others, including Clips *
<p><b>1.19</b> Effective Pain Relief <u>must be</u> provided for breech modification operations, and proof of application of Pain Relief product must be available.  Please list the product name and the year of first use of the product.</p>			Topical Spray Pain Relief (Trisolfen®)
			Buccalgescic® or Metacam 20®
			Write the YEAR Pain Relief product(s) were first used
<p><b>1.20</b> If the breeches of sheep are <b>NOT</b> modified (1.17 above), when did the practice cease?</p>			YEAR ceased (write)
			Never practiced (tick)
<p><b>1.21</b> Where the tails of sheep are docked, identify the specific method used (tick the appropriate box). Practitioners must be adequately trained and proficient.</p>			Hot (cauterising) knife
			Rubber rings
<p><b>1.22</b> Where castration is undertaken, identify the specific method used (tick the appropriate box). Practitioners must be adequately trained and proficient.</p>			Rubber rings
			Sharp knife
<p><b>1.23</b> Effective Pain Relief <u>should be</u> provided for Tail Docking and Castration procedures, and where used, proof of application of Pain Relief product must be available.  Please list the pain relief product name and the year of first use of the product.</p>			No Pain Relief Provided
			Topical Spray Pain Relief (Trisolfen®)
			Buccalgescic® or Metacam 20®
			Numnuts® (Numocaine® plus applicator)
			Write the YEAR Pain Relief product(s) were first used

2. TRACEABILITY	YES	NO	WT	DECLARANT COMMENTS
2.1 All sheep on the property are identified with a secure form of identification.				
2.2 Mobs are routinely monitored and their location on the property known at all times.				
2.3 The property participates in the MLA National Livestock Identification System (NLIS)*.				
2.4 The property uses the MLA Livestock Production Assurance National Vendor Declaration System (LPA NVD)*.				
2.5 Property is compliant with all Animal Health treatment withholding periods.				
2.6 All fodder and supplements brought onto the farm are documented.				
2.7 The AWEX* National Wool Declaration (NWD) is completed for all mobs/wool from the property offered for sale.				
2.8 A Wool Book (or similar) is kept as a record of all bales for every shearing.				
2.9 Bales are branded/marked so as to allow ready identification of correct ownership and content integrity.				

3. ENVIRONMENTAL CARE/CHEMICAL HANDLING & STORAGE	YES	NO	WT	DECLARANT COMMENTS
3.1 Total grazing pressure is managed on the property to support sustainable land use (e.g. control of vermin, pest and weed management, drought down-stocking etc.).				
3.2 Ground cover is routinely monitored, and remedial actions undertaken to avoid overgrazing and soil erosion.				
3.3 Soil tests are taken on property to monitor soil fertility and/or potential contamination, where appropriate.				
3.4 This property is part of a local/state/national environmental group (e.g. Landcare™), or it has certified management systems in place for environmental management (e.g. ISO14000 Series).				
3.5 If YES, list group(s), scheme(s) or certifications.				
3.6 List any other relevant scheme(s)/action(s) of BEST PRACTICE undertaken on the property.				

3.7 Reasonable care has been taken to avoid, remedy or mitigate any adverse effects on the environment, and biodiversity.				
3.8 All stock are excluded from any rubbish facilities or disused dips on the property (if these do not exist on the property, also answer YES). If NO or WT provide details.				
3.9 A Farm Chemical Users course has been completed by at least one person on this farm within the past five years and course completion records are available.				
3.10 An inventory of chemicals is kept and is available. If not, a template is available upon request.				
3.11 All chemicals used for pasture and livestock treatments are safely stored in a lockable storage area.				
3.12 Hazardous substances are disposed of as required by law (e.g. Drum Muster recycling program).				

4. SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY	YES	NO	WT	DECLARANT COMMENTS
4.1 Owner and/or manager is fully compliant with all National and State *WH&S/OH&S legislation and guidelines for all staff and family members.				
4.2 All staff have received adequate instruction and training for the responsible use of agricultural machinery and animal handling equipment.				
4.3 Owner and/or manager is fully compliant with all National and State Employment legislation (award wages and conditions) in relation to all staff.				

5. WOOL PREPARATION/SHEARING	YES	NO	WT	DECLARANT COMMENTS
5.1 The clip is prepared according to the AWEX* Code of Practice for the preparation of the Australian Wool clip.				
5.2 A shearing Tally Book (or similar) is used to document relevant information from every shearing.				
5.3 Sheep are crutched and/or dagged before shearing to minimise dag and urine stain in the clip. The crutching history for each mob is recorded in the NWD.				
5.4 A high level of care is taken to keep all contaminants out of the wool clip at shearing time.				
5.5 A registered professional wool classer/owner classer prepares and oversees the wool clip and their stencil is applied to all bales. If NO, please give details.				

5. WOOLPREPARATION/SHEARING	YES	NO	WT	DECLARANT COMMENTS
5.6 All wool is packaged in nylon wool packs in good condition that have been authorised for use by AWEX* (i.e. must carry an AWEX* bale label on the pack flap).				
5.7 All animal markers and raddles are used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and brands are removed from main fleece lines.				
5.8 Shed-hands are briefed before shearing begins by classer/owner/manager on the level of preparation.				
5.9 Shearers have been made well aware, by the contractor, classer, or owner/manager, of their responsibilities under the Animal Welfare Act applicable to the particular State or Territory.				
5.10 Shearers are competent to treat animals for severe cuts.				
5.11 Shearers have their own counting-out pen to allow accountability for the quality of the sheep they shear.				
5.12 Shearing shed and yard facilities are fully maintained to minimise the possibility of accidents and/or injury to operators and stock.				
5.13 Shearing shed environment is safe, healthy, has adequate amenities, lighting and ventilation, and shearing machinery is well maintained.				
5.14 The period of time stock are shedded (without feed and water) prior to shearing is appropriate for the class of stock (e.g. pregnant ewes).				
5.15 Are there any Shedding Breeds* of sheep run on the property? If YES please give details.				
5.16 If YES, have your shedding breed sheep come into contact* with other sheep on the property at any time?				

6. HANDLING & TRANSPORT	YES	NO	WT	DECLARANT COMMENTS
6.1 Staff have received adequate instruction and training for the responsible and humane handling of stock.				
6.2 Transport services are provided by organisations or individuals that demonstrate vehicle safety and compliance, and the humane loading, unloading and transport of stock.				
6.3 All efforts have been made to minimize stress and/or chance of injury to the animal during handling and transport.				

**DECLARATION**

By signing this declaration, I warrant that I am authorised to complete this declaration and confirm that all details contained in it are true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I also agree to submit to random desktop and/or on-farm audits required under this Scheme by the authorised auditors as chosen by AWEX Ltd for this purpose. You also agree to comply with all membership obligations contained in the SustainaWOOL Rules. The SustainaWOOL Rules include the SustainaWOOL Manual, the SustainaWOOL Terms and Conditions and any other obligations communicated to you by AWEX which purport to form part of the SustainaWOOL Rules.

Signed Wool Grower/Declarant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please Print Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Note:** This completed, signed and dated document will remain in force as the true and correct record from the above mentioned declarant until such times as an updated, signed and dated version is received by AWEX as a replacement document due to changes in the behaviour and/or activities on the property that make the original document no longer true and correct.

*AWEX adheres to the Privacy Amendments (Enhancing Privacy Protection) Act 2012. No information you supply, other than for auditing purposes, will be offered to a third party without your prior consent.*

**PAYMENT**

**Payment due:** Certification at Group or Individual level under the SustainaWOOL Integrity Scheme is offered on a rolling 12-month basis, subject to annual re-application and payment of the certification fee. Non-financial members will have their certification withdrawn.

**Certification level & applicable fees (tick one option):**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Group Certification (\$150.00 GST inclusive, for applications processed after 1 <sup>st</sup> October 2020)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Individual Certification (\$850.00 GST inclusive, for applications processed after 1 <sup>st</sup> October 2020)

If paying by VISA or MasterCard provide details below:

Card Issuer:  VISA  MasterCard

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Card number:

Expiry date:   /   CVV

Cardholder's signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make Cheque/Money Order payable to:** Australian Wool Exchange Limited.

**Payment by Electronic Fund Transfer:** Please contact the AWEX Office on (02) 9428 6100, and a property-specific invoice will be issued.



AUDITOR COMMENTS (IF CHECKED BY AN AUTHORISED AUDITOR)			
Negative issues identified			
Corrective actions suggested or undertaken			
Auditor Recommendations as per Audit Checklist (tick outcome)		<b>COMPLIANT</b> All items comply - Accreditation maintained.	
		<b>CONDITIONAL COMPLIANCE</b> Issues can be addressed on-the-spot - Accreditation maintained once issues are rectified to auditor's satisfaction.	
		<b>NON-COMPLIANT LEVEL 1</b> Issues to be addressed and re-audit is required - Accreditation put on-hold until negative issues rectified.	
		<b>NON-COMPLIANT LEVEL 2</b> Issues non-compliant - Deregistration and accreditation removed. Further action may be warranted (including legal).	
Signed Auditor:		Print Full Name:	
		Date:	

## A. RELEVANT GOVERNMENT ACTS and CODES OF PRACTICE

### 1. Animal Welfare Acts

#### States and Territories

- NSW** *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979 No 200, Animal Research Act 1985 No 123*
- VIC** *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1986*
- QLD** *Animal Care and Protection Act 2001*
- SA** *Animal Welfare Act 1985; Occupational Health and Safety (SA / TAS) Welfare Regulations 2012*
- ACT** *Animal Welfare Act 1992*
- WA** *Animal Welfare Act 2002*
- NT** *Animal Welfare Act (currently under review)*
- TAS** *Animal Welfare Act 1993 (No. 63 of 1993)*

Farmers are expected to comply with the Codes of Practice and Standards and Guidelines. See also:

- AHA Australian Animal Welfare Standards & Guidelines Edition One, Version 1, 2016
- International Specifications for Wool Sheep Welfare 2016

### 2. Environmental Care Acts

#### National

The Commonwealth's *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* for matters of 'national environmental significance'. Information for Farmers on this Act can be found at <http://www.environment.gov.au/epbc/>

#### States & Territories

- ACT** *Environment Protection Act 1997, the Land (Planning and Environment) Act 1991; Nature Conservation Act 1980.*
- NSW** *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (the Act)*
- NT** *The Environment Assessment Act 1994 and the Territory Parks; Wildlife Conservation Act 1996.*
- QLD** *Environmental Protection Act 1994 and the Nature Conservation Act 1992.*
- SA** *Natural Resources Management Act 2004; Environment Protection Act 1993; Water Resources Act 1997.*
- TAS** *Environmental Management & Pollution Control Act 1994; Pollution of Waters by Oil & Noxious Substances Act 1987.*
- VIC** *Environmental Protection Act 1978; Planning and Environment Act 1987.*
- WA** *Environmental Protection Act 1986; Soil and Land Conservation Act 1945.*

### 3a. Farm Chemical Users Course

There is a mandatory requirement for buyers and users of Agricultural Chemical to undergo a registered Chemicals Users Course in the majority of States. This requirement exists under State Government Acts such as the *Occupational Health and Safety Act 2000* (the OHS Act) and the *Occupational Health and Safety Regulation* (OHS Regulation) in NSW and the *Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004* and the *Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2007* in Victoria. Please see legislation applicable to your State or Territory.

### 3b. Chemical Use/Handling/ Labelling Legislation

#### National

The Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicine Authority (APVMA) - administration of the following acts:

- Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992 (Admin Act)
- Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Act 1994 (Agvet Act)
- Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code, which is a schedule to the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Act 1994 (Code Act) see also APVMA info for Farmers: <http://apvma.gov.au/node/1163>

### 4. Social Responsibility & WHS

- Work Health & Safety Act 2011 (ACT/NSW/NT/QLD)
- Work Health & Safety Act 2012 (SA/TAS)
- Occupational Health & Safety Act 2004 (VIC)
- Occupational Safety & Health Act 1984 (WA)

#### Employment

- The Fair Work Act 2009
- The Fair Work Regulations 2009

### 5. Wool Preparation

- AWEX Code of Practice (Latest Version)

### 6. Handling & Transport

- AHA Australian Animal Welfare Standards & Guidelines; Land Transport of Livestock. Edition One, Version 1.1 2015

## B. ABBREVIATIONS, DEFINITIONS & NOTES

- \* **Authorised Auditor** = Auditor(s) chosen by AWEX Ltd for the SustainaWOOL Integrity Scheme.
- \* **AWEX** = The Australian Wool Exchange Ltd.
- \* **Body Condition Score** = The practice of hand assessment of the cover of fat and muscle tissue along the backbone and ends of the short ribs. It is scored on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being emaciated and 5 obese. Sheep in the flock should range from 2 - 4, and breeding ewe BCS should be BCS of 3 or above for joining, mid-pregnancy, and at lambing.
- \* **Mulesing** = The removal of skin from the breech and/or tail of a sheep using mulesing shears.
- \* **Alternative Procedures** = An alternative procedure for modifying the breech of sheep for the purposes of reducing blow fly strike risk or stain and contamination, comprising Sheep Freeze Branding (cryosurgery), or application of constrictive mechanical clips.
- \* **Corrective actions** may include (but are not limited to):
  - treatment for internal parasites (e.g. worms) and external parasites (e.g. lice)
  - treatment for infections (e.g. footrot), and for flystrike
  - treatment of injuries, including removal of grass-seeds from the eyes of animals
  - humane slaughter of suffering animals
- \* **Meat and Livestock Australia LPA NVD/NLIS** for more information visit [www.mla.com.au](http://www.mla.com.au)
- \* **Shedding Breeds** = Breeds that shed fibre (e.g. Afrikaner, Australian White, Awassi, Damara, Dorper, Karakul, Meatmaster, Persian, Van Rooy, Wiltipoll, Wiltshire Horn).
- \* **Contact with Shedding Breeds** = Mated to, or run in the same paddock, as shedding sheep/lambs or their crosses.
- \* **Registered Animal Health Products** = Product must be registered in Australia by the Australian Pesticides & Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) Registration means that the product can be supplied or sold, and used safely according to the label directions.
- \* **Pain relief product** = Anaesthetic or Analgesic registered for use by APVMA for the relief of pain in sheep.
- \* **Topical Spray Pain Relief** - Trisolfen® is the registered topical spray anaesthetic and antiseptic solution for lamb marking.
- \* **Buccalgescic® or Metacam 20®** - registered analgesic products, containing Meloxicam as the active ingredient. While having beneficial impact for 24-48 hours, both need to be delivered 20-30 minutes pre-operatively for pharmacological effect at the time of the lamb marking procedure.
- \* **WH&S** = Work, Health & Safety.

**Acknowledgements** New England Wool Limited, Michael Blake (Bally Glunin)