

NATIONAL SHEEP HEALTH DECLARATION - EXPLANATORY NOTES

Overview

Completing this National Sheep Health Declaration (NSHD) will assist prospective buyers to make an informed decision about the health status and management history of these sheep. The NSHD is mandatory for all sheep movements in SA and for sheep being moved into NSW and Tasmania. It is voluntary in other states.

Livestock Production Assurance (1)

Livestock Production Assurance (LPA) program accreditation means that a property must have a biosecurity plan for the property. [The National Farm Biosecurity Reference Manual for Grazing Livestock Production](#) can be used to develop plans or further information including templates is available at: www.animalhealthaustralia.com.au/what-we-do/endemic-disease/farm-biosecurity-plan

Footrot (3 and 4)

3. Virulent footrot is defined differently in each state. For information on this and interstate movements of sheep, producers should visit the relevant state department website or contact animal health staff from that department.

4. If answered Yes, all mobs should have been checked during at least one spread period, and any lameness investigated, with no symptoms of the disease observed. If answered no, producers can add any information about the disease and their management of it; e.g. whether any testing has been carried out, or what treatments may have been used recently.

Lice (5)

All mobs should be checked for lice at least twice each year. Any sheep seen with rubbed fleece or pulled wool should be checked for lice as a matter of urgency. Further information is available at: www.paraboss.com.au

Approved Vaccinate (7)

A sheep that is identified by an NLIS (sheep) 'V' tag and is:

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

SheepMAP (8)

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 - the level of testing varies depending on the status. Date of last test should be recorded in Q9.

Types of tests that may be recorded (9)

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 High Throughput Johnne's (HT-J) PCR 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 JD. 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 JD. The sheep must have been on the property for at least 2 years.

JD management practices (10)

Any other management practices carried out for JD could be recorded here; e.g. types of introductions to the flock, or veterinary investigations.

Other relevant health information (11)

Any other information that a producer thinks may be relevant can be recorded here; e.g. participation in an active grower group, One Biosecurity, or other biosecurity initiatives, mulesing status, pain relief usage, etc.

Declaration

Signing this declaration has legal significance under fair trading and other relevant state legislation. Regulatory authorities may also 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 go to www.farmbiosecurity.com.au