



# EXERCISE ARGONAUT

## EXERCISE REPORT

8–9 October 2020

WOOLPRODUCERS  
AUSTRALIA

 animalhealth  
AUSTRALIA

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# 1 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 BACKGROUND

Exercise Argonaut (the Exercise) followed the whole-of-supply chain emergency animal disease (EAD) discussion workshop conducted by Animal Health Australia (AHA) and WoolProducers Australia (WPA) in October 2019. The main focus of that workshop was to highlight the roles and responsibilities of governments – including the Commonwealth and states and territories, industries (with a particular focus on WoolProducers Australia as the signatory to the Emergency Animal Disease Response Agreement (EADRA)), AHA and other wool industry organisations in an Emergency Animal Disease (EAD) response.

Feedback from the discussion exercise identified the need for the post-farm supply chain to better understand their roles and responsibilities, as well as those of other agencies and organisations, during an EAD response. The present exercise looked to address this feedback and also identify information and resource needs of the post-farm gate supply chain within the context of an EAD response.

## 1.2 AIM AND OBJECTIVES

The Exercise aimed to enhance the wool industry and government's understanding of EAD response roles and responsibilities, and identify and inform development of resources required to support the post-farm gate wool industry in the event of an EAD response.

The exercise aim was to be achieved by meeting the following objectives:

- Exploring the roles and responsibilities of government agencies and wool industry bodies during an EAD response.
- Raising awareness of control measures that would apply to wool and wool-handling facilities in response to an EAD outbreak, using foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) as an example.
- Developing a shared (government and industry) understanding of business continuity issues that would arise in an EAD response and disrupt wool supply chain and exports.
- Identifying gaps in the preparedness of wool industries for dealing with an EAD response that disrupt wool supply chain and exports.
- Identifying resources, procedures and a communication strategy needed for post-farm gate personnel in the event of an EAD response.
- Testing WPA's crisis communications and EAD response plans.

## 1.3 SCOPE

As the project manager, AHA led an Exercise Planning Team in developing a one-day EAD exercise (held over two half-days) for wool industry stakeholders. This encompassed:

- Establishing the context for response activities using an FMD scenario in a wool producing area. This included providing an overview of the:
  - Disease control responsibilities of state governments.
  - Role of the Australian government, particularly with regard to international trade.

- Movement control measures applied by affected and unaffected jurisdictions.
- What restrictions would be applied to exported wool by the Australian government.
- Discussing the roles and responsibilities of wool industry representative organisations and state farming organisations in a cost-shared EAD response.
  - Providing an overview of the Role of WPA as the signatory to the Emergency Animal Disease Response Agreement (EADRA).
  - Exploring what roles and responsibilities government has in a response and what their needs are from the wool industry.
  - Identifying what information the wool industry needs from government.
- Highlighting the importance of communication between industry bodies and government agencies.
- Exploring the impacts of an EAD outbreak on the wool supply chain.

## 1.4 ATTENDEES

Participants		
Peter Morgan	Australian Council of Wool Exporters and Processors	ACEWP
Sally Thomson	Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment	Aus. Gov.
Mark Grave	Australian Wool Exchange	AWE
Bridget Peachey	Australian Wool Innovation	AWI
David Crow	Australian Wool Testing Authority	AWTA
Chris Wilcox	National Council of Wool Selling Brokers of Australia	NCWSBA
Erin Lukey	National Farmers Federation	NFF
Bruce Tran	National Farmers Federation	NFF
Blake Nicholson	New South Wales Government Department of Primary Industries	NSW DPI
Kristy Saul	New South Wales Government Department of Primary Industries	NSW DPI
Jodie Dean	New South Wales Farmers Association	NSW FA
Andrew Biddle	New South Wales Government Local Land Services	NSW LLS
Henry Clutterbuck	New South Wales Government Local Land Services	NSW LLS
Patrick Kluver	Victorian Farmers Federation	VFF
Jo Hall	WoolProducers Australia	WPA
Adam Dawes	WoolProducers Australia	WPA
Edward Storey	WoolProducers Australia	WPA
Bianca Heaney	Wool Industries Australia	WIA



<i>Facilitators</i>		
Kathy Gibson	Animal Health Australia	AHA
Hayley Wilson	Animal Health Australia	AHA
Siobhan Gibbons	Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment	Aus. Gov.
Jemma Martin	Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment	Aus. Gov.
Jarrad Sanderson	Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment	Aus. Gov.
David Mitchell	Australian Wool Handlers	AWH
Therese Wright	New South Wales Government Department of Primary Industries	NSW DPI
David Champness	Victorian Government Agriculture Victoria	AgVic

<i>Observers</i>		
Andrew Henderson	Agsecure	-
Ben Byrne	Animal Health Australia	AHA
Danika Barnard	Animal Health Australia	AHA
Emily Buddle	Animal Health Australia	AHA
Ashleigh Wildridge	Animal Health Australia	AHA
Kim Lane	Ceres Tag	CT
Ann Seitzinger	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation	CSIRO
Wilna Vosloo	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation	CSIRO
Alister Oulton	Sheep Producers Australia	SPA

## 1.5 EXERCISE FORMAT

Exercise Argonaut was conducted as a desk-top discussion exercise, delivered digitally (via videoconference on Zoom) over two consecutive half-days on 8 and 9 October 2020. The Exercise comprised a series of presentation-based sessions mixed with several plenary and breakout room discussions.

The Exercise incorporated an FMD scenario as a means to explore how the wool industry would be impacted by an EAD response, and how the wool industry can support an EAD response.

## 1.6 SCENARIO OUTLINE

The scenario began with suspected (and then confirmed) FMD in a large family-owned sheep and wool enterprise, spread over three properties in the Goulburn district of NSW. In a rising market, wool from one of the affected farms had already been tested and sold and was ready to export; clean-up wools had been sold to a private buyer, and other bales were at various stages along the supply chain.

## 2 GOVERNANCE

### 2.1 EXERCISE SPONSOR, APPROVAL AND REPORTING

WoolProducers Australia (WPA) commissioned AHA to write the exercise as part of a larger project to identify training and other resources needed to better prepare the wool industry for an EAD.

WPA approved the exercise plan and planning team membership. This exercise report is prepared for WPA and a summary report will be prepared for exercise participants.

### 2.2 EXERCISE PLANNING TEAM

Kathy Gibson	Animal Health Australia	AHA
Hayley Wilson	Animal Health Australia	AHA
Siobhan Gibbons	Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment	Aus. Gov.
Jemma Martin	Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment	Aus. Gov.
Jarrad Sanderson	Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment	Aus. Gov.
David Mitchell	Australian Wool Handlers	AWH
Bridget Peachey	Australian Wool Innovation	AWI
Therese Wright	New South Wales Government Department of Primary Industries	NSW DPI
David Champness	Victorian Government Agriculture Victoria	AgVic
Jo Hall	WoolProducers Australia	WPA

### 3 PROGRAM OF ACTIVITIES

Exercise Argonaut was delivered digitally over two half-days on 8 and 9 October 2020.

#### 3.1 DAY 1 (8 OCTOBER 2020, 1300–1700)

Session	Time	Topics covered
01	1300	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Welcome and introductions</li><li>• Housekeeping</li><li>• Aim and objectives</li><li>• Exercise overview</li></ul>
02	1330	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Scenario overview</li></ul>
03	1400	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Responding to an EAD<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ NSW (affected state) – NSW DPI</li><li>○ Victoria ('unaffected' state) – Agriculture Victoria</li><li>○ Australian government (international notifications and export certification) – Dept of Agriculture, Water and the Environment</li><li>○ WoolProducers Australia</li></ul></li></ul>
04	1500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Communication between Affected Parties</li><li>• Information-sharing</li></ul>
05	1600	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Day 1 summary and key points raised</li><li>• Plan for Day 2</li></ul>
Close	1700	

#### 3.2 DAY 2 (9 OCTOBER 2020, 0900–1300)

Session	Time	Topics covered
06	0900	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Welcome</li><li>• Q&amp;A from Day 1</li><li>• Introduction to Day 2 program</li></ul>
07	0920	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tracing wool – Australian Wool Handlers</li></ul>
08	1035	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Biosecurity measures for trace premises</li></ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Scenario update</li><li>• Proof of Freedom – NSW and Dept of Agriculture Water and the Environment</li></ul>
09	1145	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Short and long-term issues and impacts of market loss</li></ul>
10	1230	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What do we need to do to prepare?</li><li>• Next steps</li></ul>
Close	1300	



## 4 EXERCISE OUTCOMES

### 4.1 OBJECTIVE 1

#### EXPLORING THE ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND WOOL INDUSTRY BODIES DURING AN EAD RESPONSE

##### 4.1.1 Rationale for objective

This objective was **achieved** through the delivery of presentations and through discussions in Q&A sessions and break-out rooms.

##### 4.1.2 Observations

In the affected jurisdiction (NSW in this scenario) the response begins on suspicion of an emergency animal disease. NSW has the legal responsibility for disease control within its borders. The national response is coordinated through national committees (CCEAD and NMG) which include representation from governments and livestock industries. The FMD response will be cost-shared under the EADRA and therefore industry is represented by their EADRA signatory peak industry bodies. For the wool industry, this is WoolProducers Australia, working closely with Sheep Producers Australia and other affected peak livestock industry bodies.

During the early stages of the outbreak, information-sharing will be restricted to those with a 'need-to-know', including those organisations represented on CCEAD and NMG.

It is anticipated that the likely cause of events will be International trading partners and the media will likely be informed after these national committees have met, although the information may be released earlier if media become aware of the incident. The Australian government is obliged to inform international trading partners about the outbreak and does this through notification to the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and directly with trading partners.

- Exporters expressed concern that their overseas clients may hear about the incident from the media before being advised by the Australia exporters/vendors. However, exporters will be advised in accordance with the response and communications plan.

Export health certificates that contain FMD attestations for country freedom will no longer be applicable (*'I certify that foot and mouth disease does not exist in Australia'*).

The effect will be that trading partners will no longer accept imports of affected livestock or products (including wool) from Australia.

WoolProducers Australia and Sheep Producers Australia have a joint industry EAD response plan and a crisis communications plan which will be activated. WPA and SPA will convene a 'round table' to exchange information about the incident with relevant industry organisations and will appoint the Liaison - Livestock Industry function. LLI is responsible for two-way information exchange between the coordination/control centres and wool industry organisations.

The state +/- federal government/s will also utilise industry personnel in the specialist advice function to work with the control centres.

Comments and feedback were received on the crisis communications plan:

- Ensure contact details are up to date and generic (by position) if possible.

- Consider whether other organisations, currently identified as secondary stakeholders, should be included in the roundtable e.g. State Farming Organisations/agents and brokers/transport associations.
- Exporters need to be informed so they can provide reliable information to their clients.
- The round table may be a mechanism for keeping Liaison Livestock Industry (LLIs) informed about issues across the wool industry, so they can relay this to government.
- Participants observed that the draft talking point messages in the crisis communications plan may need to be revised. The National Biosecurity Communication and Engagement Network will release approved talking points and these will be used instead of those in the Communications plan.

#### 4.1.3 *Analysis and recommendations*

- WPA and SPA should review the composition of the roundtable following consideration of feedback, and approach relevant organisations that may contribute to effective communication across the wool and sheep industries.
- WPA and SPA to consider a mechanism for involvement of the Liaison Livestock Industry representatives in the roundtable, to enable two-way exchange of information between the roundtable and control centres.
- Appropriate representation from the government department members of the round table will enable communication of issues and information to those making operational and planning decisions in the response.
- Clarify the purpose and content of the 'talking points' in the crisis comms plan and when these should be used – some may conflict with approved talking points issued by NBCEN.
- Non-member organisations to approach WPA/SPA if they consider they should be represented on the roundtable.
- Consider a mechanism for updating the contact details in the WPA/SPA EAD and crisis comms plans using positions rather than individual contact details.

## 4.2 **OBJECTIVE 2**

### **RAISING AWARENESS OF CONTROL MEASURES THAT WOULD APPLY TO WOOL AND WOOL-HANDLING FACILITIES IN RESPONSE TO AN EAD OUTBREAK, USING FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE (FMD) AS AN EXAMPLE**

#### 4.2.1 *Rationale for objective*

This objective was **achieved** through the delivery of presentations and through discussions in Q&A sessions and break-out rooms.

#### 4.2.2 *Observations*

A national livestock standstill (initially 72 hours) will be followed by longer term movement restrictions in the affected state and possibly in other states. The movement controls will apply to susceptible livestock, products, vehicles etc.

Wool, being a non-perishable item, will not be as high a priority for tracing or for issuing of movement permits as live animals or perishable products from susceptible animals (e.g. meat and milk).

Loss of export markets due to Aust government being unable to attest to Australia's freedom from FMD will lead to various short- and long-term impacts on the wool industry (see objective 3).

The Australian government will aim to facilitate bilateral market access with individual trading partners, including clearance of product that may have left Australia before the outbreak occurred.

Re-establishing Australia's (or part of Australia's) freedom from FMD, and renegotiation of market access may take months to years, resulting in long-term market loss and delayed re-entry into wool markets, possibly with changed trading conditions.

At the start of an outbreak there may be limited instructions from government to wool-handling facilities, due to other priorities.

#### 4.2.3 *Analysis and recommendations*

Presentations from subject matter experts greatly assisted participant understanding of

- Nature of and reasons for EAD control measures (e.g. national livestock standstill, movement controls, suspension of export health certificates).
- The responsibilities of governments in responding to an emergency animal disease, and The role of the peak industry/EADRA signatory body in an EAD response.

Regular training/exercising opportunities will contribute to improved understanding of the rationale for response measures, and in turn could lead to greater support from industry for the response.

Several participants suggested that the wool enterprise manual could be updated and could include advice for self-directed containment/biosecurity measures which wool-handling facilities could apply before receiving instructions from government.

- These might include identifying and isolating wool bales/samples from the known affected area; basic facility cleaning measures and which products to use; ensuring records kept of ambient temperature and storage time for bales.

### 4.3 **OBJECTIVE 3**

#### **DEVELOPING A SHARED (GOVERNMENT AND INDUSTRY) UNDERSTANDING OF BUSINESS CONTINUITY ISSUES THAT WOULD ARISE IN AN EAD RESPONSE AND DISRUPT WOOL SUPPLY CHAIN AND EXPORTS**

##### 4.3.1 *Rationale for objective*

This objective was **achieved** through discussions and reporting back from break-out rooms.

##### 4.3.2 *Observations*

Key industry impacts from discussions:

- Increased cost of shearing without a market for the wool.
- There are risks in shearers moving from farm to farm, particularly in the restricted areas – farmers would need to take these risks into consideration if proceeding with shearing.

- Animal welfare issues if shearing was discontinued.
- Financial and social/mental health impacts would be expected for property owners and other businesses.
- Income would be lost across the wool industry due to
  - Inability to sell wool (including exports).
  - Loss of contracts.
  - Loss of employment.
- Wool will continue to accumulate because of continued shearing and may exceed storage capacity on farm and in warehouses in the event of prolonged market loss.
- There may be competition for storage space for other product that is also unable to move.
- Compensation only covers loss of stock, so other avenues might need to be explored to replace loss of income.
- Contractual issues – wool sold but not paid for or not delivered, market changes in price of wool.
- Loss of employment across industry.
- Business continuity issues will be national even if the FMD outbreak is localised.

#### 4.3.3 *Analysis and recommendations*

Guidance on biosecurity measures is required for shearers moving from farm to farm particularly in declared areas as shearing would need to continue.

A traceability system (both wool and sheep) may help to support return to trade from FMD-free (unaffected) regions or zones of Australia.

Investigate increased domestic treatment/scouring capacity.

Investigate increased domestic marketing and market diversification?

Consider adding detail to the section to AUSVETPLAN Operational Procedures - Decontamination manual on decontamination requirements for shearers/equipment/sheds.

Plan on how to treat potentially contaminated wool (only three scouring sites across Australia).

Development of business continuity plans appropriate to each business in the supply chain.

## 4.4 **OBJECTIVE 4**

### **IDENTIFYING GAPS IN THE PREPAREDNESS OF WOOL INDUSTRIES FOR DEALING WITH AN EAD RESPONSE THAT DISRUPT WOOL SUPPLY CHAIN AND EXPORTS**

#### 4.4.1 *Rationale for objective*

This objective was **achieved** through discussions in Q&A sessions and break-out rooms.

#### 4.4.2 Observations

Participants had confidence in the traceability of wool sold through wool brokers and handlers, but less confidence in traceability of mixed bales of unidentified wool, rehandled wool and wool sold through private treaty.

It was also acknowledged that the currently traceability system is extremely convoluted and needs to be streamlined and seamlessly connected through the domestic supply chain.

A number of gaps were identified regarding the preparedness of wool industries for dealing with an EAD response. These included:

- Understanding on- and off-farm storage capacity for wool in the event of long-term market loss or interstate movement restrictions.
- Understanding biosecurity measures required for contractors and shearers moving from farm to farm especially in declared areas.
- Biosecurity measures applying to transporters of wool (and sheep).
- Traceability of live sheep, rehandled/mixed bales of wool and wool sold through private treaty.
- Biosecurity procedures for routine and emergency use in wool-handling facilities.
- Further research is underway to determine what storage conditions are required for inactivation of viruses in wool stored on farm or in warehouses, and how these conditions can be documented to satisfy buyers/ trading partners.
- Uncertainty/lack of clarity around communication protocols for businesses in the supply chain – especially those who need to be able to inform/reassure buyers.
- The current composition of the roundtable is not inclusive enough and may result in delays in information exchange.
- Industry may need more trained response personnel - (e.g. as Liaison - Livestock Industry and technical advisors).

#### 4.4.3 Analysis and recommendations

- Guidance related to biosecurity measures around contractors/shearers entering and leaving properties in the restricted area could be developed and agreed.
- Traceability of wool and sheep could be improved to reassure trading partners – especially if zoning is proposed to re-establish trade from unaffected areas of Australia.
- Review findings of WoolProducers Traceability Project upon completion to implement relevant changes to improve wool traceability.
- Review and refine current AUSVETPLAN Enterprise Manual to make it more concise and easier to understand.
- Explore and document practical and evidence-based protocols for deactivation of viruses in wool bales and wool-storage facilities pre- and post-farm gate.
  - This may require further research to be funded and conducted.
- Develop procedures for communication of information between parties in the supply chain, for clients that require additional information (e.g. brokers, export clients) after the incident has become public.

- Consider including representatives from all relevant organisations on the round table to reduce duplication of effort and also ensure that all stakeholders receive the same information at the same time, including talking points.
- Identify and record clear communication channels and contact points (i.e. who is notifying whom) to facilitate efficient and effective communication between key stakeholders.
  - Developing a communications diagram or updating the WPA/SPA crisis communication plan and making it more widely available to wool industry stakeholders or making an extract of the plan available more widely.
- Continue to train more industry response personnel.
- Liaise with counterpart wool producing countries to discuss treatment protocols for wool.

## 4.5 OBJECTIVE 5

### IDENTIFYING RESOURCES, PROCEDURES AND A COMMUNICATION STRATEGY NEEDED FOR POST-FARM GATE PERSONNEL IN THE EVENT OF AN EAD RESPONSE

#### 4.5.1 *Rationale for objective*

This objective was **partially achieved** through discussions in Q&A and plenary sessions.

#### 4.5.2 *Observations*

Participants identified the following resources/resourcing that could assist the wool industry to prepare for an EAD:

- Clear step-by-step biosecurity procedures for wool-handling facilities.
- Reference documents for wool industry specific disease, fridge magnets with contact numbers & organisations.
- Easy access to the Crisis Communications plan to clarify expectations about communication.
- A dedicated hotline for the post-farm gate wool industry to answer queries during an EAD incident. If this was to happen a point of contact in the wool industry would need to be identified.
- Research to document evidence of time and temperature of storage to inactivate FMD in wool; this will require funding.
- Decontamination protocol for shearing shed that will enable resolution of an of an IP.
- Recommend list of 'essential services' or movements for consideration during a response i.e. information sheets around whether shearing can continue, what type of transport can go ahead, what products can be moved in restricted areas. Have guidance materials available for relevant parties as soon as an outbreak occurs.
- Concise instructions about things that need to be included in an Action Plan in the event that a facility is identified as being in a declared area or being a trace premises
- Easy access document/website with clear biosecurity guidelines.



- Training materials to use when the National Council of Wool Selling Brokers of Australia Inc (NCWSBA) members gather for the AGM in 2021.

#### 4.5.3 *Analysis and recommendations*

- Recommended response measures for different emergency animal diseases and species are published in AUSVETPLAN manuals and documents.
  - Movement restrictions are based on the specific circumstances of an EAD outbreak and cannot be predicted with any certainty ahead of time. However, AUSVETPLAN fact sheets can be developed to explain response measures in general terms.
  - In the event of an EAD, more specific directions will be provided by the state government department of primary industry, based on the location and circumstances of the outbreak.
- The FarmBiosecurity website contains biosecurity information and a generic process for developing action plans, which could be adapted for the wool industry including post-farm gate wool facilities.
- Links to available resources could be made available on websites that wool industry participants regularly use, or a new website could be created for this purpose.
- Clarify the process for communication with the post-farm gate wool industry in the event of an EAD that will affect movement or marketing of wool. This might be in the form of a memo or procedure that will provide some certainty to post-farm gate businesses about who will contact them, who will be their contact point, and where they can seek additional information (including relevant websites etc).

## 4.6 OBJECTIVE 6

### TESTING WPA'S CRISIS COMMUNICATIONS AND EAD RESPONSE PLANS

#### 4.6.1 *Rationale for objective*

This objective was **only partially achieved**. The Crisis Communications and EAD response plans were discussed but not tested.

#### 4.6.2 *Observations*

The WPA/SPA crisis communications plan and EAD Response Plans were sent to participants shortly before the exercise. Therefore, participants only had a limited opportunity to examine the plans. Some discussion of both plans occurred during the exercise, but the plans were not tested, and in retrospect this was not an achievable objective within the scope of the exercise.

Under the WPA/SPA crisis communications plan, information flow between wool industry stakeholders during a crisis is facilitated through the convening of a roundtable. As the Chair and secretariat of this roundtable, WPA invited exercise participants to review the membership of the roundtable. In doing so, participants were to consider whether the roundtable had appropriate representation to allow for constructive and effective two-way communication between industry sectors, industry decision-makers and government.

Feedback from participants post-exercise indicated that membership of the roundtable could be reviewed and possibly expanded.

- Roundtable could be used as a means to discuss response-related industry issues and relay concerns to Liaison Livestock Industry.
- Should state farming organisations be on the round table as well as transporters, agents, brokers and exporters?
- Coordination of EAD response plans for when multiple industries are affected by the same response.

#### 4.6.3 *Analysis and recommendations*

Based on these observations, it is recommended that WPA and SPA, with assistance from AHA if required, review the content of the WPA/SPA crisis communications plan and EAD response plan and review the membership of the roundtable. Further suggestions related to the crisis communications plan are documented under other objectives above.

For EADs with multiple affected industries, coordination and consistency of industry response plans is highly recommended. This is a body of work that could include comparison of the existing plans with agreement on amendments required to support a whole of industry response plan that supports the response efforts.

## 5 PROPOSED ACTIONS

- Review WPA/SPA crisis communications plan and clarify the purpose and content of the 'talking points'.
- Review EAD response plan (WPA and SPA with the assistance from AHA).
- Review the composition of the communications 'roundtable' with a mechanism for involvement of other industry stakeholders, including the Liaison Livestock Industry representatives, State Farm Organisations, etc within Industry forum.
- WoolProducers to form an industry EAD Working Group to facilitate two-way communication flow between domestic industry partners in peacetime to enhance industry knowledge and understanding of EAD preparedness and response activities.
- Review and refine current AUSVETPLAN Wool Enterprise Manual to make it more concise and easier to understand.
- Continue to train more industry response personnel and allow for exercising opportunities which will contribute to improved understanding of the rationale for response measures.
- Review findings of WoolProducers Traceability Project upon completion to implement relevant changes to improve wool traceability.
- Consider adding more detail to the wool section of AUSVETPLAN Operational Procedures
  - Decontamination manual on decontamination procedures for

shearers/equipment/sheds or document a separate more detailed decontamination procedure.

- Develop/describe biosecurity measures contractors/shearers entering and leaving properties in the restricted area in consultation with experienced response personnel.
- The updated roundtable will develop procedures for communication of information between parties in the supply chain, for clients that require additional information (e.g. brokers, export clients) after the incident has become public.
- Identify what resources could be adapted on The FarmBiosecurity website specially for the wool industry including post-farm gate wool facilities and apply a designated section/link on the website.
- Identify links to available resources that could be made available on websites that wool industry personnel regularly use or look at the possibility of a new website could be created for this purpose.
  - Identify and record clear communication channels and contact points (i.e. who is notifying whom) to facilitate efficient and effective communication between key stakeholders.
  - Develop a communications diagram or extract from crisis comms plan.
  - Develop short educational/information videos to embed on websites and use as quick snippet resources for industry personnel.
  - Update the WPA/SPA crisis communication plan and make it more widely available to wool industry stakeholders.
  - Reemphasise the procedures to provide certainty to post-farm gate businesses about who will contact them, who will be their contact point, and where they can seek additional information (including relevant websites etc).
- For EADs with multiple affected industries, coordination and consistency of industry response plans is highly recommended. This is a body of work that could include comparison of the existing plans with agreement on amendments required to support a whole of industry response plan that supports the response efforts.