

19 July 2021

National Wool Declaration V9.0 - Finalised

The 2021 NWD review has been completed.

The focus of the review was the identification of wool from sheep treated with liquid nitrogen. In addition, consideration has been given to the categories (Property and Mob Status) of the NWD, and how they relate to each other.

This review was complex and the AWEX Board appreciates the frank feedback received from the organisations and individuals who contributed to this review.

The attached NWD V9.0 template includes the categories, their definitions and supporting explanations.

The approved changes to the NWD V9.0 are:

- Introduction of Liquid Nitrogen as two categories:
 - LA – use of liquid nitrogen using an APVMA approved Analgesic product, and
 - LN – use of liquid nitrogen without the use of an Analgesic product.
- Both questions related to Ceased Mulesing (CM) Status now have a 12 month time frame.

IMPORTANT:

Industry stakeholders developing documents or stationery must not change any of the wording or definitions in the NWD V9.0. This is to ensure consistency of the NWD and maximise the integrity of all Australian declarations, and to provide our customers with clarity on each NWD category enabling them to make informed purchasing decisions.

In finalising the 2021 NWD review, the AWEX Board is announcing that the next review will be conducted within two years, and it will consider the potential of removing CM. This time-frame will allow stakeholders ample opportunity to consider the future of CM.

The NWD V9.0 will come into effect on 1 January 2022. All selling agents are encouraged to quickly adopt the NWD V9.0 to allow all declarations to be made using V9.0 by 1 January 2022.

Implementation:

The implementation and communication strategy is:

1. July/August 2021:
 - Release of NWD V9.0 to industry stakeholders,
 - Provide Business Rules (translation and combination rules),
 - Advise IT system requirements and new code(s),
 - Commence communications campaign, and
 - NWD brochures, templates and FAQ documentation to be updated and released to industry and published on the AWEX website www.awex.com.au
2. 1 January 2022:
 - All declarations made after 1 January 2022 must be made using NWD V9.0.
 - NWD V8.0 or earlier Versions received prior to 1 January 2022 will remain valid.

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National Wool Declaration (NWD) Definitions/Supporting Explanations

Please use the most accurate definition that applies to each mob. That is, even if the mob is Non Mulesed, if it has been treated with Liquid Nitrogen, it must be declared as either LA or LN.

Definitions

Non Mulesed (NM)	No sheep in this mob have been mulesed [^] .
Liquid Nitrogen with Analgesia (LA)	Sheep in this mob have been treated with liquid nitrogen [#] with an analgesic product registered by APVMA.
Liquid Nitrogen (LN)	Sheep in this mob have been treated with liquid nitrogen [#] , without use of an analgesic product registered by APVMA.
Analgesic &/or Anaesthetic (AA)	Sheep in this mob have been mulesed and treated with an analgesic &/or anaesthetic product registered by APVMA.
Mulesed (M)	Sheep in this mob have been mulesed [^] without the use of a APVMA registered analgesic &/or anaesthetic product.

Supporting Explanations

[^]Mulesing	The removal of skin from the breech <u>and/or</u> tail of a sheep using mulesing shears. <i>Source: Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines for Sheep prepared by Animal Health Australia, V1.0 2016.</i>
[#]Liquid Nitrogen	The application of liquid nitrogen where ultra-low temperatures are used to degenerate tissue and result in the removal of skin from the breech <u>and/or</u> tail of a sheep.
Mobs of Mixed Status	For <u>mobs of mixed status</u> , use the lowest applicable status according to this hierarchy, NM > LA > AA > LN > M. For example, declare AA for a mob containing NM and AA sheep, or declare M for a mob containing LN and M sheep.
Ceased Mulesing (CM)	No lambs born on this property in the last 12 months have been mulesed [^] , <u>and</u> No mulesed [^] (or mulesed with AA) ewes or wethers have been purchased in the last 12 months.


Shedding Breeds Definitions

Shedding Breeds	Breeds that shed fibre (e.g. Afrikaner, Australian White, Awassi, Damara, Black Headed and White Dorper, Karakul, Meatmaster, Persian, Van Rooy, Wiltipoll, Wiltshire Horn).
Contact with Shedding Breeds	Mated to, or run together since the previous shearing, with shedding breed sheep or their crosses (includes lambs from shedding breed sheep or their crosses).

Completing the NWD

- The Owner/Manager is responsible for ensuring the NWD is completed correctly.
- To complete the NWD:
 - Answer the two Property questions.
 - Record the PIC.
 - Complete the Mob Details (Mob No., Mob Status, Age/Shearing Code, Breed Code, Sex Code, Contact with Shedding Breeds and Shearing/Crutching History).
 - The Owner/Manager must Sign and Date the Declaration.
- The Wool Classer will complete the remainder of the Classer's Specification, including filling out the Bale Range for each Mob, and the Mob Numbers for all lines of wool.

NWD Codes

Age/Shearing Code		Breed Code		Sex Code	
1 st Shearing	1	Merino	M	Ewes	E
2 nd Shearing to 2 years	2	Afrino	FO	Wethers	W
3 years	3	SAMM	SM	Rams	R
4 years	4	Corriedale	CD	Mixed (E/W/R)	M
5 years	5	Polwarth	PW		
6, 7, 8 years etc.	6, 7, 8...	Crossbred	XB		
Mixed age, e.g. 4 to 6 years	4 – 6 or 4, 5, 6	Downs	DN		
		Shedding Breeds	SB		
		Carpet Wool	CW		

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In addition to completing this NWD, the Owner/Manager is also responsible for participation in the Integrity Program, which includes random desk audits and on farm inspections. The Owner/Manager acknowledges and agrees that they will participate in the on farm inspection process in a way that is compliant with health and safety rules, and will advise AWEX if a scheduled inspection would be unsafe.