



Tool 11.19

Check list of on-farm animal welfare compliance

Procedure	Comment	✓ or X
Read and adopt code of practice for welfare of sheep	Have all guidelines been followed for your farm? Copies of all the national welfare codes can be downloaded at www.publish.csiro.au/nid/22/sid/11.htm	
Read and adopt code of practice for transport	Have all guidelines been followed for your farm including not exceeding the time sheep are off water for transport?	
Read and adopt code of practice for animals at saleyards	Have all guidelines been followed for your farm including not exceeding the time sheep are without access to water?	
Read and adopt MLA "Fit to Load" guide	Have all guidelines been followed and do you ensure sheep unsatisfactory for transport are not loaded?	
Do your sheep meet or exceed condition score minimum targets?	Meeting minimum targets is a core requirement for production and welfare of sheep.	
Do you provide adequate quality and quantity of water to your sheep?	Refer to tool 11.6 for water quality for sheep.	
Are sheep free of important diseases (or managed)?	Eradication of virulent footrot and lice, control programs for worms, flies, fluke and OJD.	
Response to health problem	Do you monitor the production of your sheep, including nutrition, deaths and other signs (such as scouring) and have trigger points to investigate disease before they cause significant problems? Mortality rate <4% for adults and <5% for weaners	
Adopt efficient husbandry procedures	Combine management events to minimise handling, follow Codes of Practice. Adopt management systems that prevent impact of diseases.	
Mulesing, tail docking and castration	Follow recommended procedures and ensure mulesing contractor is accredited.	
Management of lambing ewes	Provide adequate nutrition, separate singles and twin lambing ewes, provide good shelter. Invest in long-term plans to improve shelter if exposure is an issue.	
Management of shearing	Have you developed a plan to provide shelter for all sheep off-shears to prevent off-shears losses?	
Management of disasters, fire, flood, drought	Have you developed contingency plans for severe climatic events?	
Management of intensive feeding systems	Do you follow industry guidelines from AWI and MLA websites and Codes of Practice?	
Livestock handling systems	Do your handling systems incorporate features of animal behaviour to minimise stress?	
Stockmanship	Do you and staff continue to develop expertise in animal handling and management?	