

# ASSESSOR REFERENCE CARD

# **SLAUGHTER SHEEP** (Current as at January 2020)

# STOCK CATEGORY

**Suckers** Unweaned lambs No permanent incisors Lambs Weaned lambs No permanent incisors in wear

Hoggets Any sex Up to 2 permanent incisors

**Ewes** Females

Ewes & Females with Lambs lambs at foot Wethers Castrated males

Ewes & Mixed sex 1 or more

Wethers permanent incisors

Rams Entire males

Goats Any age, any sex

# **BREED COMPOSITION**

Description	Sire	Dam
Pure	Merino	Merino
1st Cross	Border Leicester	Merino
2nd Cross	Poll Dorset	Border/Merino
Other	Dorper	F3 Dorper

#### STOCK HISTORY

Vendor Bred—yes or no?

If no-where & when were stock purchased, how long on property.

# **GRAZING CONDITIONS**

Nominate prior to and following assessment.

#### **CARCASE QUALITY GRADE**

ETQ	Excellent/top quality
GAQ	Good average quality
FAQ	Fair average quality
PLQ	Plain quality

# **DRESSING % GUIDELINES**

% guidelines based on 3 hours off feed, bare shorn & not preg. NO SKIN—Standard Aus-Meat Carcase

Fat Score	Lambs (X/B)	Ewes	Wethers
1	41%	37%	39%
2	43%	40%	41%
3	46%	42%	43%
4	48%	44%	45%
5	49%	46%	47%

Note: Adjust above + or - for seasonal/feed conditions, time off feed, breed, skins (shorn, woolly, wet, dry), pregnancy

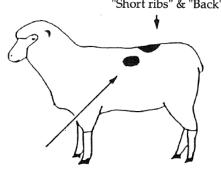
# **FAT SCORES**

0-5 mm "Short ribs" & "Back" 2 6-10 mm

3 11-15 mm

4 16-20 mm

5 21 mm and above

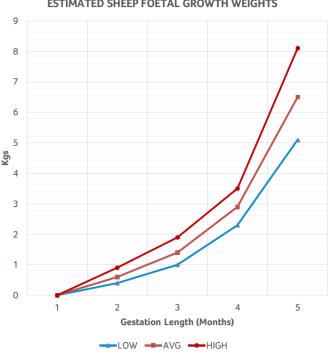


# STANDARD DRESSED WEIGHT RANGES

Class	Weight kg	Class	Weight kg
8	Below 8	20	18-20
10	8-10	22	20-22
12	10-12	24	22-24
14	12-14	26	24-26
16	14-16	28	Over 26
18	16-18		

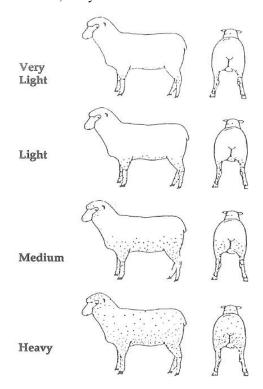
# FOETAL GROWTH WEIGHTS

#### **ESTIMATED SHEEP FOETAL GROWTH WEIGHTS**



# BURR & SEED - identification points & coverage

- 1. Brisket, Shoulder, Neck
- 3. Hind Leg, Breech
- 2. Lower Rib, Belly
- 4. Head



Note: These standards apply in all areas.

# SKIN LENGTH

Inches	MM
0.0 - 0.25	0 -0 5
0.25 - 0.5	6 - 13
0.5 - 1.0	14 - 25
1.0 - 1.5	26 - 38
1.5 - 2.0	39 - 51
2.0 - 2.5	52 - 64
2.5 - 3.0	65 - 76
3.0+	77+

Measure mid back position.

Note: Skins are usually traded in imperial measurements, not metric.

# GENERAL SKIN/WOOL COMMENT

Shearing Flystrike
Wool Quality Coloured sheep
Ribbing Dermatitis

#### ASSESSOR COMMENTS

Assessor Comments are the one area of the assessment that varies depending on the target market. They are an opportunity to provide objective comments & further details on specific areas such as:

- Carcase Quality
- Breeding
- Weight
- Muscling
- Fat Distribution
- Trade/Export Suitability

#### LIVE WEIGHING

- 1. Test scales for accuracy prior to every assessment.
- 2. Record weights of a representative sample: Recommended minimum of: 20% of the whole lot
- 3. Record time off feed and water

#### LIVEWEIGHT GAIN OR LOSS

Enter anticipated weight gain or loss following delivery, in kg/day.

Consideration factors: Grazing Conditions & Nutrition, Age & Weight, Weaning, Sex, Disease, Weather, Pregnancy, Evidence of Performance etc.

# DELIVERY ADJUSTMENT %

Adjustment % required to allow for a curfewed weight at delivery when this varies from hours off feed at assessment.

# **NOTES**