

NATIONAL SHEEP HEALTH MONITORING PROJECT

WHAT IS IT?

- The National Sheep Health Monitoring Project (NSHMP) monitors sheep in abattoirs for a range of health conditions.
- Qualified meat inspectors monitor lines of sheep for a number of different conditions that reduce farm profit through productivity losses or increased meat processing wastage.
- Producers can receive reports on direct lines of sheep sent through selected abattoirs.
- The data from the monitoring is collected and entered into a national database (the Endemic Disease Information System). The data can be analysed to highlight regional variation and trends in the monitored conditions over time.

WHY MONITOR SHEEP HEALTH CONDITIONS AT THE ABATTOIR?

- Enhance productivity by improving the quality of product entering the supply chain.
- To support market access and to demonstrate the high quality and health status of Australian sheep meat product.
- To increase profitability and enhance biosecurity.

CONDITIONS MONITORED:

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| • Arthritis | • Lung worm |
| • Bladder worm | • Nephritis |
| • Bruising | • Pleurisy |
| • Cheesy gland | • Pneumonia |
| • Cirrhosis | • Rib Fractures |
| • Dog bites | • Sarcocystis |
| • Fever/ Septicaemia | • Sheep measles |
| • Grass seeds | • Vaccine Lesions |
| • Hydatids | |
| • Knotty gut | <i>Ovine Johne's disease on request by the producer</i> |
| • Liver fluke | |

WHERE DOES THE MONITORING OCCUR?

State	Abattoir
New South Wales	Cowra
	Dubbo
	Gundagai
	Tamworth
South Australia	Lobethal
Tasmania	Cressy
Victoria	Ararat
	Cranbourne
	Geelong
	Melbourne (JBS)
Western Australia	Narrikup

THE FIVE MAIN BENEFITS OF SHEEP CARCASE MONITORING:

1

The project has generated comprehensive data that provides a good indication of the animal health status of the Australian flock.

2

Governments, industry groups and processors use this information to provide solid evidence in support of market access and to demonstrate the high quality of Australian sheepmeat product.

3

Individual sheep producers can use this information to improve their flocks' productiveness and fine tune their animal health programs.

4

Sheepmeat processors can harness the opportunity to reduce product non-compliance, thereby lifting productivity and reducing costs.

5

Individual reports have been returned to sheep producers in South Australia, Queensland, Victoria and NSW.

How to get feedback carcase data from your flock?

Log onto Meat & Livestock Australia's Livestock Data Link at <https://ldl.mla.com.au> to access your results.

Depending on the abattoir and state, you may also receive a sheep health report via post and email. It is best to contact your relevant state department coordinator for information (see below).

STATE	COORDINATOR	ORGANISATION	NUMBER
QLD	Sandra Adsett	Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, Queensland	(07) 4688 1470
NSW	Paul Freeman	Department of Primary Industries, NSW	(02) 6626 1214
VIC	Rob Suter	Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources, Victoria	(03) 9217 4109
TAS	John Cameron	Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment, Tasmania	(03) 6777 2105
SA	Nigel Baum	Department of Primary Industries and Regions, SA	(08) 8842 6222
WA	Anna Erickson	Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, WA	(08) 9881 0211

For further information please contact your state coordinator or Animal Health Australia at info@animalhealthaustralia.com.au or **02 6232 5522**. Further information, factsheets and annual reports can be found at the National Sheep Health Monitoring Project web site: www.animalhealthaustralia.com.au/nshmp