

BREECH FLYSTRIKE STRATEGY 2017/18 – 2021/22

THE FIVE KEY PILLARS OF AWI INVESTMENT

The Breech Flystrike Strategy provides direction for AWI investment in sound, scientific solutions for the management of breech flystrike to improve lifetime animal welfare, address supply chain expectations and increase the demand for Australian wool.

BREEDING AND SELECTION

THE AIM: Long term sustainable solutions to reduce the risk of breech flystrike.

- Understand the performance and economic consequences of breeding for reduced breech flystrike.
- Investigate the, as yet unknown, factors that cause breech flystrike.
- Improve the accuracy and robustness of breech flystrike traits along with other welfare traits such as worm resistance and survival.
- Better understand how to reduce the incidence of dags and urine stain through breeding.

BREECH MODIFICATION ALTERNATIVES

THE AIM: Breech modification alternatives to reduce the reliance on mulesing.

- Undertake further R&D to refine the application protocols for breech modification alternatives to support their commercial viability.



IMPROVED MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

THE AIM: Improved management practices to advance lifetime welfare.

- Invest in getting new parasite control treatments and vaccines to market.
- Ensure access to information on parasite management and use of existing chemical treatments.
- Investigate longer acting, cost effective pain relief options for painful husbandry practices.
- Support for further National Mulesing Accreditation Program (NMAP) training.

WOOL INDUSTRY TRAINING AND ENGAGEMENT

THE AIM: Adoption of best practice strategies to improve the lifetime welfare of sheep and reduce reliance on mulesing.

- Develop and implement education, training and extension strategies to improve lifetime welfare of sheep and reduce reliance on mulesing.
- Monitor, evaluate and improve the success of education, training and extension strategies.
- Engage with woolgrower advisors on the RD&E program.

SUPPLY CHAIN ENGAGEMENT

THE AIM: International and domestic stakeholders support the Australian wool industry.

- Regularly engage with domestic and international stakeholders to ensure they understand best practice management of breech flystrike and associated welfare implications.
- Minimise the risk of regulatory measures that may restrict the ability of woolgrowers to select the most appropriate practices for their farming system.
- Consult with Australian wool and sheep industry organisations.