



# National Wool Declaration

## Business Rules for Mulesing Status

Issue: 4

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### ***Release Note/Introduction***

This document applies to the National Wool Declaration (NWD) Version 7.0 (see Appendix 1 and AWEX website [www.awex.com.au](http://www.awex.com.au)). This version was released on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2017 and is effective from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2017.

The National Wool Declaration is an industry recognised form that allows a wool grower to declare their on-farm animal husbandry practices on mobs of sheep, and in this instance, specifically in relation to mulesing. The Declaration values on this form are in turn translated into Mulesing Status values on Sale Lots of wool. This document details the technical business rules for both on farm and post farm use.

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## SECTION A: ON FARM

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### 1. Definition of Mulesing

The removal of skin from the breech and/or tail of a sheep using mulesing shears.

Source: Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines for Sheep.

### 2. Declaration Criteria

- The Mulesing Status of a mob may be declared on all Sheep Breeds (Merino, Crossbred, Downs etc.) and Ages on a recognised NWD document.
- A recognised NWD is one that complies with the industry agreed definitions and audit requirements and is associated with an accompanying wool classer's Specification (see Section 5 (a)).

### 3. Third Party Quality/Registration Schemes

There are a number of third party Quality/Registration Schemes that include husbandry practices (such as mulesing), which may be recorded on the wool classer's Specification. These Scheme Names can be published using the Quality/Registration Scheme fields in the printed and electronic catalogues.

The Sale Lot Mulesing Status can only be generated from a recognised NWD. Mulesing Status is not to be derived from a third party scheme.

### 4. NWD Property and Mob Mulesing Status Codes and Definitions

Mulesing Status declared using the NWD is based on two levels of definitions; viz. Property level and Mob level, with these defined in the table below.

Property Mulesing Status	Name	Definition/Meaning (If Yes)
<b>CM</b>	Ceased Mulesing	Wool from sheep where mulesing has ceased on the property. No lambs born on this property in the last 12 months have been mulesed. No purchased sheep are mulesed.
Mob Mulesing Status	Name	Definition/Meaning (if Code used)
<b>NM</b>	Non Mulesed	<u>No sheep</u> in this mob has been mulesed.
<b>PR</b>	Mulesed with Pain Relief	<u>All sheep</u> in this mob have been <u>mulesed using a registered Pain Relief product</u> . <b>Note:</b> PR must be declared separately for each mob (it is <u>not</u> a property declaration).
<b>M</b>	Mulesed	<u>Some/all sheep</u> in this mob <u>have been</u> mulesed.

## 5. **The National Wool Declaration**

- (a) The National Wool Declaration (NWD) is the responsibility of the Owner/Manager of a property.

When signing the NWD, the Owner/Manager warrants that: “(a) I am authorised to complete this declaration and confirm that all details contained in it are true and correct, (b) I authorise the selling agent to submit this document to AWEX (if requested) for the purpose of the Integrity Program and (c) I understand that I may be subject to random desk audits and on farm inspections, the results of which may be made available to the buyers of the declared wool and the selling agent. Details of the AWEX Integrity Program and Privacy Policy are available on the AWEX website: [www.awex.com.au](http://www.awex.com.au).”

The NWD is voluntary and may be recorded/collected in varying ways depending on Seller preference. Some Sellers may use a combined Woolclasser Specification and NWD form (AWEX website [www.awex.com.au](http://www.awex.com.au)), while others may use a separate NWD form (see Appendix 1).

Regardless of the cosmetic presentation of the NWD, to be recognised as a valid Mulesing Status Code, the Definitions and Conditions (as specified above) must be used by all Sellers (i.e. a Seller cannot modify the industry agreed Definitions or Conditions).

- (b) Mulesing Status should be declared, as applicable, at both the Property (CM) and the Mob (NM, M, PR) levels.

## 6. **Property Level Declaration: Ceased Mulesing**

It is necessary to re-submit the Property level declaration of CM for every shearing. It is possible that a property that previously declared CM has recommenced the practice of mulesing (or vice versa).

## 7. **Mob Level Declaration: Business Rules**

The Mulesing Status of individual mobs should be declared according to the following rules:

- (a) If a mob comprises:
- only NM sheep, it should be declared as NM.
  - only sheep mulesed with PR, it should be declared as PR.
  - any mulesed sheep, it should be declared as M.
- (b) For mobs of mixed Mulesing Status (e.g. the mob is not drafted prior to shearing) where:
- NM sheep are mixed with mulesed sheep, the mob should be declared as M.
  - NM sheep are mixed with PR sheep, the mob should be declared as PR.
  - PR sheep are mixed with mulesed sheep, the mob should be declared as M.

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## SECTION B: POST FARM

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### 8. Definition of Sale Lot Mulesing Status Codes

Sale Lot Mulesing Status Codes published in Catalogues, Certificates or Invoices are determined according to the Property and Mob level definitions in Section 4, which are applied according to the Rules in Section 7. These Sale Lot Mulesing Status Codes are described in the table below.

Sale Lot Mulesing Status Code*	Name	Definition/Meaning
[NM]	Non Mulesed	This Sale Lot contains only wool sourced from sheep/mobs declared as Non Mulesed. The Property level Ceased Mulesing answer may be Yes or No, or is Not Completed.
[CM]	Ceased Mulesing	This Sale Lot contains wool sourced from sheep/mobs declared as Mulesed with Pain Relief or Mulesed, or is Not Completed. The Property level Ceased Mulesing answer is Yes.
[PR]	Mulesed with Pain Relief	This Sale Lot contains wool sourced from sheep/mobs declared as Mulesed with Pain Relief. The Property level Ceased Mulesing answer is No, or is Not Completed.
[ ]	Mulesed	This Sale Lot contains wool sourced from sheep/mobs that are declared as Mulesed. The Property level Ceased Mulesing answer is No, or is Not Completed.
[ND]	Not Declared	This Sale Lot contains wool for which No Declaration at the Property or Mob level has been made. For an Interlot, ND will apply unless a specific mob Mulesing Status (i.e. NM, M or PR) has been supplied by the Seller.

Square brackets [ ] are used in this document to designate a Sale Lot Mulesing Status code (for ease of reading). The [ ] are not published.

### 9. Publication of Sale Lot Mulesing Status Codes

- The Sale Lot Mulesing Status shall be calculated and published in both printed and electronic Private/Public Catalogues and Lot Invoices.
- The Sale Lot Mulesing Status shall be published on the IWTO Test Certificate as declared information.
- The Sale Lot Mulesing Status may be published against all Wool Categories (Fleece, Pieces, Bellies, Lambs, Locks, Crutchings etc.).

### 10. Recommended Methodology for Calculating Sale Lot Mulesing Status

- (a) Determine that the Declaration is valid. The minimum requirements are:
- It must have a Trading Name, and
  - It must have a Brand, and
  - It must be signed by the Owner/Manager.
- (b) Calculate the Mulesing Status for each Sale Lot from component bales and/or mobs.



### 11. **Business Rule where Bale/Sale Lot contains Components of Mixed Mulesing Status**

Where a bale contains mobs of mixed Mulesing Status or a Sale Lot contains bales of mixed Mulesing Status, the lowest Mulesing Status value shall apply.

The values from highest to lowest are: **NM > CM > PR > M > ND**.

### 12. **Calculation Logic: Sale Lot Mulesing Status (Farm Lots) – See also Section 16**

- (a) Determine if the NWD is a valid Declaration (see minimum requirement in Section 10 (a)). If the minimum requirements are not met, all associated Sale Lots are deemed Not Declared [ND].
- (b) Determine the Mob Mulesing Status (MMS). Where a bale or Sale Lot contains multiple mobs of differing Mulesing Status, the MMS shall be assigned the lowest value (see Section 11), otherwise if only one mob exists (in the bale or Sale Lot), the Mulesing Status of the mob shall be the MMS.
- (c) Where the Owner/Manager declares at the Property level that Mulesing **has Ceased** (answers Yes to the CM question), the following applies:
  - i. If the MMS is NM, the result shall be [NM].
  - ii. If the MMS is PR or M, the result shall be [CM].
  - iii. If the MMS is Not Completed, the result shall be [CM].
- (d) Where the Owner/Manager declares at the Property level that Mulesing **has NOT Ceased** (answers No to the CM question), the following applies:
  - i. If the MMS is NM, the result shall be [NM].
  - ii. If the MMS is PR or M, the result shall be [PR] or [ ], respectively.
  - iii. If the MMS is Not Completed, the result shall be [ ].
- (e) Where the Owner/Manager **has not completed** the Ceased Mulesing Property level declaration, the following applies:
  - i. If the MMS is NM, the result shall be [NM].
  - ii. If the MMS is PR or M, the result shall be [PR] or [ ], respectively.
  - iii. If the MMS is Not Completed, the result shall be [ND].

### 13. **Calculation Logic: Sale Lot Mulesing Status (Interlots)**

Where each component of an Interlot has a Mulesing Status result (based on the calculation logic in Section 12), the following rules are used to define the Sale Lot (Interlot) result:

- (a) If the Mulesing Status is the same for each component of a Family Interlot (i.e. same Brand) or Mixed Source Interlot, the Seller may apply that Mulesing Status to the Interlot.
- (b) If the Mulesing Status is different for each component of a Family Interlot (i.e. same Brand), the Seller may apply the lower Mulesing Status to that Interlot,
- (c) If the Mulesing Status is different for a Mixed Source Interlot, the Seller will apply ND to that Interlot.
- (d) Where no specific Mulesing Status (NM, M or PR) is provided by the Seller, for a Family Interlot (i.e. same Brand) or Mixed Source Interlot, ND will apply to that Interlot.

#### 14. Calculation Logic: Sale Lot Mulesing Status (Bulk Class)

Mulesing Status is to be Not Declared [ND] on Sale Lots certified with a B or Q (Wool Preparation Category) Certificate.

#### 15. National Wool Declaration - Integrity Program

The National Wool Declaration - Integrity Program (NWD-IP) is an extensive program of Desktop Audits/Verifications and On Farm Inspections conducted by the Australian Wool Exchange (AWEX), which was designed to build wool pipeline and consumer confidence in Australian wool. It aims to (i) establish the accuracy of the NWD with respect to Mulesing Status declarations, (ii) provide an independent monitoring and reporting service to industry, and (iii) in the event of Non Compliance, apply corrective actions to prevent recurrence.

The NWD-IP comprises the following components as they relate to Mulesing Status:

##### **Desktop Audit**

Validate that the correct Mulesing Status is published – 1,000 Declarations p.a. randomly selected.

##### **On Farm Inspection**

Inspect Non Mulesed mob(s) and Ceased Mulesing properties – 225 Inspections p.a.

##### **Desktop Pain Relief Verification**

Validate mob(s) declared as mulesed with Pain Relief – 200 Verifications p.a.

The Rules of the NWD-IP can be found in the Brochure “Declaring what the World’s Demanding”, which is available on the AWEX website: <http://www.awex.com.au/>.

#### 16. Quick Reference Mapping Table (Farm Lots)

Has mulesing Ceased on this Property?	NWD Version 7.0	
	Mob Mulesing Status	Sale Lot Mulesing Status
Yes	NM	[NM]
Yes	PR	[CM]
Yes	M	[CM]
Yes	Not completed	[CM]
No	NM	[NM]
No	PR	[PR]
No	M	[ ]
No	Not completed	[ ]
Not completed	NM	[NM]
Not completed	PR	[PR]
Not completed	M	[ ]
Not completed	Not completed	[ND]

##### **For further information contact:**

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# National Wool Declaration

Grower ID:

For Office Use Only

(Mulesing Status and Merino Dark and Medullated Fibre Risk for Sheep Mobs)

Owner Trading Name: .....

Property Brand: ..... Phone No: .....

Property Identification Code (PIC):

Location (Town): .....

This **DECLARATION** is for wool from a shearing completed ...../...../.....

Has mulesing Ceased on this property? YES  or NO  (Tick Box)

Mob No. (Refer Spec)	Mob Breaks/ Bale Ranges e.g. 1 – 9, 14, 19, 20, 30	Mulesing Status (circle answer)	Age Code	Breed Code	Sex Code	Contact with Shedding Breeds (Y/N)	Mob Crutched (Y/N)	Crutched within 3 mths prior to Shearing (Y/N)	Office Use Only
		NM M PR							
		NM M PR							
		NM M PR							
		NM M PR							
		NM M PR							
		NM M PR							
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**Age/Shearing Code      Breed Code      Sex Code      How to Complete the NWD**

1 <sup>st</sup> Shearing	1	Merino	M	Ewes	E
2 <sup>nd</sup> Shearing to 2 yrs	2	Afrino	FO	Wethers	W
3 years	3	SAMM	SM	Rams	R
4 years	4	Corriedale	CD	Mixed (E/W)	M
5 years	5	Crossbred	XB		
6, 7, 8 years etc.	6, 7, 8...	Downs	DN		
Mixed, e.g. 3 to 6 yrs	3 – 6	Shedding Breeds	SB		
<b>NWD V7.0, 1<sup>st</sup> July 2017</b>		Carpet Wool	CW		

→ To declare the DMFR and/or Mulesing Status for each mob (and each line of wool) the **Owner/Manager**, in consultation with the **Woolclasser**, must:

- Record the trading details and the **PIC**.
- Answer the question “**Has Mulesing Ceased on this Property?**”
- Complete all the **NWD Mob questions** (Mob No., Mulesing Status, Age, Breed, Sex, Shedding Breeds and Crutching History).
- **Sign and Date the Declaration.**

→ The **Woolclasser** will complete the remainder of the Classer’s Specification, **including filling out the Bales Ranges and Mob Numbers for all lines of wool (both fleece and oddments).**

**National Wool Declaration (NWD) Definitions**

<b>Mulesing</b>	The removal of skin from the breech <u>and/or</u> tail of a sheep using mulesing shears. <i>Source:</i> Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines for Sheep.
<b>Ceased Mulesing (CM)</b>	Wool from sheep where mulesing has ceased on the property. No lambs born on this property in the last 12 months have been mulesed. No purchased sheep are mulesed.
<b>Non Mulesed (NM)</b>	No sheep in this mob has been mulesed.
<b>Pain Relief (PR)</b>	All sheep in this mob have been <u>mulesed using a registered Pain Relief product.</u> <b>Note:</b> PR must be declared separately for each mob (it is <u>not</u> a property declaration).
<b>Mulesed (M)</b>	<u>Some/all sheep</u> in this mob <u>have been</u> mulesed.
<b>Shedding Breeds</b>	Breeds that shed fibre (e.g. Afrikaner, Australian White, Awassi, Damara, Dorper, Karakul, Meatmaster, Persian, Van Rooy, Wiltpoll, Wiltshire Horn).
<b>Contact with Shedding Breeds</b>	Mated to, or run in the same paddock as shedding sheep/lambs or their crosses.

By signing this declaration, I warrant that (a) I am authorised to complete this declaration and confirm that all details contained in it are true and correct, (b) I authorise the selling agent to submit this document to AWEX (if requested) for the purpose of the Integrity Program and (c) I understand that I may be subject to random desk audits and on farm inspections, the results of which may be made available to the buyers of the declared wool and the selling agent. Details of the AWEX Integrity Program and Privacy Policy are available on the AWEX website: [www.awex.com.au](http://www.awex.com.au).

**Owner/Manager Name**.....  
**Signature**..... **Date**...../...../.....