

FLYSTRIKE RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, EDUCATION, EXTENSION AND COMMUNICATION STRATEGY 2019/20 TO 2024/25

VISION

ENSURE THE LIFETIME WELFARE AND PRODUCTIVITY OF SHEEP AND REDUCE THE RELIANCE ON MULESING.

BREEDING AND SELECTION

THE AIM: Long term solutions to advance lifetime welfare.

- Understand the performance and economic impacts of breeding for reduced flystrike.
- Investigate the, as yet unknown, factors that cause flystrike.
- Improve the accuracy of selection for flystrike resistance traits through phenotyping and genotyping.
- Better understand how to reduce the incidence of dags and urine stain through breeding.
- Track genetic trends for breech wrinkle, breech cover, dags and higher productivity.

BREECH MODIFICATION PROCEDURES

THE AIM: Breech modification procedures to improve lifetime resistance to flystrike.

- Undertake further R&D of the animal welfare impacts of breech modification procedures.
- Undertake further R&D to refine the application protocols for breech modification procedures.
- Support best practice mulesing training.

NON-INVASIVE MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

THE AIM: Improved management practices to reduce the risk of flystrike.

- Monitor and define blowfly resistance to chemicals.
- Refine blowfly chemical resistance best practice management advice.
 - Invest in early trials of new potential actives and parasitic control treatments and vaccines.
- Complete a population study of blowflies to identify potential genetic differences to inform blowfly management programs.

EDUCATION, EXTENSION AND PROMOTION

THE AIM: Adoption of best practice strategies to improve the lifetime welfare of sheep, reduce reliance on mulesing and support transparency in the supply chain.

- Develop and implement education, training and extension strategies to improve lifetime welfare of sheep.
- Monitor, evaluate and improve the success of education, training and extension strategies.
- Engage with woolgrower advisors on the RD&E program.
 - Ongoing engagement with domestic and international stakeholders to ensure they understand best practice management of flystrike and the welfare implications.

ANALGESIA AND ANAESTHESIA

THE AIM: Improved provision of analgesia and anaesthesia for surgical husbandry practices.

- Investigate longer acting, cost effective anaesthesia and analgesia options.
 - Extend advice on analgesia and anaesthesia to woolgrowers.

