

PAIN RELIEF UPDATE: **BUCCALGESIC®** FORMALLY APPROVED FOR MULESING

The pain relief product Buccalgesic® has now been approved by the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) **for mulesing, as well as for castration and tail docking in lambs.**

The Meloxicam product Buccalgesic®, from Troy Laboratories, was initially released in August 2016 for the alleviation of pain associated with the routine husbandry procedures of castration and tail docking in lambs. Last month, the

APVMA also approved Buccalgesic® for mulesing, **and in addition removed the 30 minute wait between application and procedure so it can now be used immediately before the procedure.**

Buccalgesic® exerts anti-inflammatory, analgesic and antipyretic effects. Developed in collaboration with AWI and MLA, the product is a prescription only (S4) drug but is delivered without a needle, thereby reducing potential OH&S issues for operators and eliminating any potential skin and muscle damage to the sheep.

It is a viscous gel administered between the inside of the cheek and molar teeth of sheep from where it is absorbed into the blood stream. The buccal (inside of cheek) formulation has a thick consistency so after application (using a modified drench gun) it adheres to the mucous membrane of the mouth. It is also stained to ensure that double dosing does not occur. Its meat withholding period and ESI are 10 days.

The three pain relief products that conform to the National Wool Declaration definition of pain relief (**"All sheep in mob have been mulesed with a registered pain relief product"**) are:



Buccalgesic® being applied to the internal cheek of a lamb during trials. **Buccalgesic®** has now been formally approved for **mulesing**, as well as castration and tail docking in lambs.

- **Buccalgesic®**, pre-operative analgesic NSAID (nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug), buccal application – registered for castration, tail docking and mulesing.
- **Metacam®**, pre-operative analgesic NSAID, sub cutaneous injection – registered for pain and inflammation.
- **Tri-Solfen®**, post-operative topical anaesthetic – registered for castration, tail docking and mulesing.