



# Western Sheep & Beef Producers

## Bulletin – 15 April 2015

### AWI INDUSTRY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (ICC)

Livestock Committee member Clinton Ayers attended the most recent ICC meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of April. He gives the following overview;

- ✓ AWI recognises that the Eastern Market Indicator needs to be above \$11/kg to keep landholders growing wool as opposed to moving to alternative land uses.
- ✓ Fine wool is still 'suffering the most' with 45% of the total clip below 19.5µ, and this represents a much greater proportion of the Australian wool clip than in previous decades.
- ✓ China remains the buyer for 80% of the Australian wool clip. AWI believes this will remain the case in the short to medium term. China now consumes 50% of the wool it imports domestically.
- ✓ Including its drawdown on reserves, in real dollar terms AWI has spent 200% more since 2009.
- ✓ Closing equity is \$61.4M on total revenue (2013 to 2014) of \$68M

### MUCHEA LIVESTOCK CENTRE

Livestock Committee member Chris Patmore is the PGA representative on the Muchea Livestock Centre User Group.

The user group met on the 30<sup>th</sup> of March, and Mr Patmore makes the following report;

Most of the discussion centred on operational issues, like trying to improve the workflow in the sheep and cattle sections, although the cattle drafting and weighing is now working much better.

Some sheep selling pens have had water troughs installed as a trial, with a view to possibly watering all pens.

Livestock Production Assurance has given notice of an upcoming "unannounced" NVD audit on a sale day soon.

With respect to sale date changes;

It was made clear that the time for public submissions and input has passed. The results of this public consultation were completely inconclusive. It seems everybody has different ideas and can give valid reasoning. The decision will be made between WAMIA, Elders and Landmark. We were told that no decision has been made, but an announcement is imminent.

### WOOL POLL

Livestock Committee member Mrs Bindi Murray attended the first WoolPoll panel meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup> of March. WoolPoll gives levy payers the chance to set the rate of wool levy they will pay for the next three years, by voting for their preferred levy rate option. Under Commonwealth regulation, three to five options must be presented to levy payers, including a zero rate. The levy rate that receives the most votes is recommended to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry and will be reflected in the relevant primary industries excise legislation. Bindi will represent all Western Australian woolgrowers.

### OJD INSPECTOR ON LEAVE

DAFWA advises that the inspector employed by Animal Health Australia to carry out OJD inspections in WA, will be on leave from the 10<sup>th</sup> May through to the 10<sup>th</sup> of June.

Producers wishing to get sheep inspected for OJD will need to arrange to have them processed before or after these dates.