



Western Sheep & Beef Producers

Bulletin – 27 March 2015

INDUSTRY FUNDING SCHEMES

On 1 July 2010, the three Industry Funding Schemes (IFSs) commenced to address biosecurity threats relevant to the cattle; sheep and goats; and the grains, seed and hay industries.

These schemes use a contribution collected from producers on the sale of produce, as authorised under the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007* so industry can raise funds to manage the pests and diseases it determines to be a priority.

As per the IFS regulations, the IFSs will cease on 30 June 2015. The Schemes can be extended if their continuation is likely to benefit the relevant Western Australian industries.

Consequently, DAFWA undertook a consultation process to gather information that will enable informed decisions regarding the continuation of the Industry Funding Schemes – particularly, the benefits of the IFSs to the Western Australian cattle, sheep, goat, grains, seeds and hay industries.

The Pastoral and Livestock Committees and the Western Grain Growers committee of the PGA had an extensive dialogue and the President subsequently wrote a joint submission supporting the continuation of IFSs subject to a further review of its rules.

The PGA sees the IFSs as important as a safeguard against the wider application of the *Agricultural Produce Commission Act 1988* to broad acre farming.

Further, the Minister for Agriculture has requested that the President of the PGA participate on the Appointments Committee that makes recommendations for appointments to the three Industry Management Committees that operate the Industry Funding Schemes for Grains, Seeds and Hay; Cattle; and Sheep and Goats. This is a Ministerial appointment and is subject to cabinet endorsement.

BIOSECURITY INDUSTRY FUNDING SCHEME COMMITTEES - NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN

DAFWA have called for nominations for positions on the **Grains, Seeds and Hay** Industry Funding Scheme management committee (4 grain/seed/hay positions) and/or the **Sheep and Goats** Industry Funding Scheme management committee (1 sheep/goat position).

The management committees oversee the biosecurity Industry Funding Schemes, which use authorised funding arrangements for producers to raise funds to tackle priority pests and diseases.

Appointments commence from 1 July 2015, and will be for a period of up to three years, with committee meetings held quarterly and remuneration including sitting fees and travel expenses.

Nominations of a two page (max.) letter addressing the selection criteria plus a two page (max.) resume must be received by Rebecca Heath by **9am 20 April 2015**, by email or mail;
rebecca.heath@agric.wa.gov.au or PO Box 483, Northam WA 6401.

The Terms of Reference for the management committees, the selection criteria and application guidelines are available on the website at www.agric.wa.gov.au/n/1934