

## 5. SHEARERS

### 5.1 Working hours

Wool Producers should organize farm activities in order for a shearing team to work a minimum of six hours per day for at least five working days per week. Provision should be made to keep sufficient sheep under cover/protection from rain for at least one full day of shearing. It is recommended that working hours, where possible, must be divided into two-hour shifts.

### 5.2 Suitable facilities

#### Sleeping facilities

Provision has to be made for well-lit separate sleeping facilities away from the shearing shed. If shearers do not have their own mattresses the producer must supply mattresses that are at least 10cm thick.

#### Ablution facilities

Provision has to be made for washing/showering/toilet facilities for shearers and washing facilities for their clothing. Hot water is not a requirement, but provision should be made for facilities in order for shearers to heat their own water.

#### Cooking facilities

Under cover cooking facilities, cooking utensils and enough firewood must be provided if the shearers have to prepare their own meals.

#### Shearing/Wool Handling facilities

Under cover facilities should be available to house sufficient sheep for at least one full day's shearing. Individual catching and inspection pens for each shearer is recommended, however, the producer must where possible, limit the distance to no further than five meters from the catching pen to the shearing points. Wooden shearing board, it can be a sheet of laminated wood, is recommended. Adequate lighting and fresh air is important. The distance between the shearer and the wool sorting table must preferably not exceed five meters. The distance between sorting tables and the wool bins must preferably not exceed five meters.

#### Meals

Shearing is very demanding physically tough and the following rations **or food of equivalent nutritional value** should be provided per team member to ensure productivity for an eight hour day: 300 grams meat, 800 grams maize meal or "boer meel", 1 liter milk and tea/coffee and at least one cup of sugar per shearer.