

IWTO

Specifications for

Wool Sheep Welfare

November 2016

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1. Foreword

Wool is increasingly seen by consumers as a sustainable lifestyle choice in fashion textiles and interior solutions. Retail buying managers need to be assured of the provenance and sustainability credentials of the products they select in their ranges. If raw materials are sourced from animals, the welfare and environmental credentials need to be above any scrutiny and supporting documentation should be available for the Corporate Social Responsibility audits of their respective brands.

The transformation from raw wool into textile products crosses many borders and is part of a global industry. From a production perspective, the legislative frameworks, best practice guidelines and technical specifications vary depending on country specific production systems, environmental legislation and wool sheep types. IWTO is the recognised global authority for production practices and manufacturing standards in the wool industry. Transparency in each step of the wool pipeline is key and animal welfare and sustainable environmental practices are governed by the National Committees of each individual country.

The wool grower is governed by local environmental laws and animal legislation. For his own economic benefit, it makes complete business sense to handle his resources with the utmost care and to the best of his capabilities, as scarcity in food or water or any stress related incidents, would cause his most valuable asset to diminish in return. That would apply to the animals and the land they graze on, as a healthy ecosystem ensures optimum growth of the livestock that lives on it.

The intent of this document, is to clarify the many rules and regulations guarding the wool industry, from pasture to shop floor and highlight the specifications our responsible and law-abiding members use to conduct the business of growing wool. This document is a living resource that will be updated regularly to include the latest science, research and development in the field of wool sheep husbandry.

Peter Ackroyd

President

International Wool Textile Organisation (www.iwto.org)

2. Introduction

The term 'animal welfare' is best described by the World Organisation of Animal Health in Chapter 7 of the Health Code for Terrestrial Animals,

(http://www.oie.int/index.php?id=169&L=1&htmfile=chapitre_aw_introduction.htm)

“Animal Welfare is how the animal is coping with the conditions that surround it. The welfare of an animal (evaluated according to scientific evidence) is considered satisfactory if the following criteria are met; Good Health, Sufficient Comfort, Good Nutrition, Safety, Possibility of expression of Natural Behaviour, Lack of suffering such as pain, fear or distress.

Animal welfare requires the following; Prevention and appropriate Treatment of Diseases, Protection, Management, Nutrition, Manipulations performed humane, Slaughter or killing carried out in decent conditions.

The concept of Animal Welfare refers to the state of the animal”

In recent years, there has been a rapid evolution of what constitutes good animal welfare practice, reflecting rising societal awareness of the importance of good animal husbandry. Originating in the UK during the 1960's, the so called '5 Freedoms' started out as a list of required provisions for farmed animal wellbeing. These now underpin modern welfare standards and Chapter 7 was based on these codes. From a legal perspective, each country has sovereign responsibility of its laws and regulations pertaining to animal welfare practices. For this reason, IWTO communicates a global stance on what this institution has agreed with its members to constitute good wool sheep welfare practices and list the specific laws and regulations pertaining to each wool growing member country.

3. Overview of the wool sheep industry

Primitive man has been sourcing his clothing and home textiles from animals for centuries and traces of domestic sheep have been found dating back to 10.000 BC. Sheep were kept for their milk, wool, fleece and meat. Herders soon realized that it was more profitable to keep sheep for their wool, as the fresh growth could be harvested every year. By the time the Romans invaded the United Kingdom in 55 BC, the local farmers had already developed a wool industry and were trading in textiles made from wool and fleece.

Breed registries are mostly kept by developed countries and from these we learn that there are more than 1.000 distinct sheep breeds with different body, wool and temperament types. Coats can be short

and fine or long and coarse and each breed has specific needs relating to the best environmental and animal husbandry conditions for optimum health and welfare. Wool farmers will choose a particular breed of sheep according to the historical data available for that particular area relating to topography, rainfall and market driven indicators.

Argentina

Argentina is small global producer of wool accounting for around 2% of global raw wool production. Argentina has 30,000 farmers whom grow wool from 12.2 million sheep. The most common breed of sheep in Argentina are Merino, followed by Corriedale. The average farm size is 600 hectares with an average of 350 sheep. In Patagonia the average farm size is 10,000 hectares with an average of 3,000 sheep. Seventy percent of Argentinian wool is 24.5 microns and used for apparel, the remaining 30% is used in a wide range of other textiles.

Animal health and welfare in Argentina is supervised by the National Service of Agrifood Health and Quality Service (SENASA). SENASA is a decentralized organization with economic, financial, technical and administrative autonomy, with its own legal status, under the National Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries. A wide range of aspects related to animal health, welfare and cruelty to animals have been addressed by Argentine national legislation and the resulting regulations from 1954. Degrees of responsibility have been established as well as penalties for non-compliance or breaches of procedures. Specific procedural guidelines are in place to ensure that animal welfare criteria are duly carried out. A Joint Advisory Committee on Animal Welfare within the sphere of SENASA has been created to coordinate all the efforts towards animal welfare. This Committee comprises experts from the areas of animal health, veterinary medicine faculties and agricultural innovation entities. Consultations continue with organisations throughout the world in order to maintain an updated position.

Australia

Australia is the largest producer of wool globally (24%), Approximately 55,000 farmers grow wool, from 72 million sheep. The majority of sheep in Australia are the Merino breed grown for fine wool used in apparel clothing. The average farm enterprise size in Australia is 3,100 hectares. While the average wool grower runs 3000 sheep. Australia is the largest producer of apparel wool, producing around 75% of wool going into clothing and fashion. The majority of Australian wool is under 24.5 microns.

Australia is a federation made of up of one national government, in addition to six state and two territory governments. The Australian Constitution determines that animal health and welfare is the responsibility of the six state and two territory governments. Each of these jurisdictions has specific, but separate legislation governing animal health, welfare and cruelty. If anyone contravenes these laws, they will be prosecuted. Codes of Practice and Standards and Guidelines have been developed on a national basis for all livestock industries, including sheep. These help guide or inform lawmakers how to interpret the legislation. The federal government of Australia has no direct responsibility in relation to animal welfare, however it supports the state governments to ensure a coordinated approach by facilitating the development of the Australian Standards and Guidelines for Sheep. This regulatory tool helps the state governments ensure their legislation is based on fact and the latest developments in R&D and production.

The relevant state government departments responsible for animal welfare are as follows:

NSW - the Department of Primary Industries

Victoria – Agriculture Victoria

Queensland - the Department of Agriculture & Fisheries

South Australia - the Department Environment, Water and Natural Resources

Tasmania – the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment

Western Australia – Department of Food and Agriculture

New Zealand

New Zealand is the third largest producer of wool globally (10%), and is also the largest producer of strong wool used in Interior textiles. New Zealand has 25,000 farms who grow wool from 30 million sheep, which is over 6 sheep per head of population. The most common breeds of sheep in New Zealand are Romney Marsh, Perendale, Coopworth, Merino and Corriedale. The average farm size in New Zealand is 250 hectares running 3,000 sheep. The overwhelming majority of New Zealand wool is coarser than 24.6 microns, hence is destined for non-apparel textiles and carpet manufacture.

New Zealand has a national animal welfare system. The Animal Welfare Act (1999) sets out the high level of responsibilities for owners and persons in charge of animals to provide for their physical, health and behavioural needs. Codes of welfare provide minimum standards for specific species and situations and contains more detail than is in the Act. The Sheep and Beef Cattle code of welfare is the code which sets the minimum standards for people in charge of sheep and beef cattle. New Zealand is currently consulting on animal welfare regulations that sit between the Act and codes of welfare. The regulations are able to be more specific than the Act and provide direct penalties for non-compliance. In contrast, codes of welfare must currently be enforced via offences in the Act. The Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) and the Royal New Zealand Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RNZSPC) both have responsibilities for animal welfare compliance in New Zealand. The MPI primarily deals with farmed animals while the RNZSPCA is primarily concerned with pets.

South Africa

South Africa is a small global producer of wool accounting for around 2.5% of global production. South Africa has 35,000 farms who grow wool from 24.9 million sheep. The most common breeds of sheep in South Africa are Merino, Dorper, Dohne and Mutton Merino. South Africa's wool is particularly well suited to apparel production with the majority between 18.5 and 21.5 micron.

The welfare of animals in South Africa is regulated under the Animal Protection Act (1962) and Performing Animals Protection Act (1935). The Societies for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act (1993) governs the organisation of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. The

animal welfare legislation falls under the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Directorate Veterinary Services.

United Kingdom

The UK is a small global producer of wool accounting for around 2% world greasy wool production. The UK has approximately 40,000 farmers, grow wool from 34 million sheep. The UK has the most diverse and extensive range of sheep breeds with over 60 breeds of sheep, including Swaledales, Welsh Mountains, Romney Marsh, Lincolns, Border Leicester, Suffolk, Cheviots and Scottish Black Face. Their uses range from; making fine cloth, blending in apparel, knitwear and yarns, insulation and carpets. The average farm size in the UK is 120 hectares with a flock size of 300.

Animal welfare in the UK is governed by well documented national legislation. The welfare of sheep is protected by the Animal Welfare Act (2006) under which it is an offence to cause unnecessary suffering to any animal. The Act also contains a Duty of Care to animals – to ensure all reasonable steps are taken so that the animal's needs are met. These general requirements are supplemented by detailed requirements set out in the Welfare of Farmed Animals (England) Regulations 2007 (SI 2007 No 2078).

The government department responsible, DEFRA and the Devolved Assemblies, are advised by the Farm Animal Welfare Committee (FAWC) on the welfare of farmed animals. FAWC has identified five freedoms to provide for animals physical, health and behavioral needs. The Five Freedoms form a logical and comprehensive framework for analysis of animal welfare and are enhanced by the Cross Compliance requirements, as required under European rules to access CAP payments. To qualify you must follow Statutory Management Requirements (SMRs) of which SMR 18 aims to protect the welfare of all farmed animals by setting minimum standards for their care and husbandry.

United States

The US is also a small global producer of wool accounting for around 2% world greasy wool production. The US has approximately 88,000 farms, grow wool from approximately 5 million sheep. The most common breeds of sheep being the Rambouillet and Columbia. The average farm size in the USA is 60 hectares with a flock size of 60. Just over half of USA wool is finer than 24.6 microns so directed towards apparel.

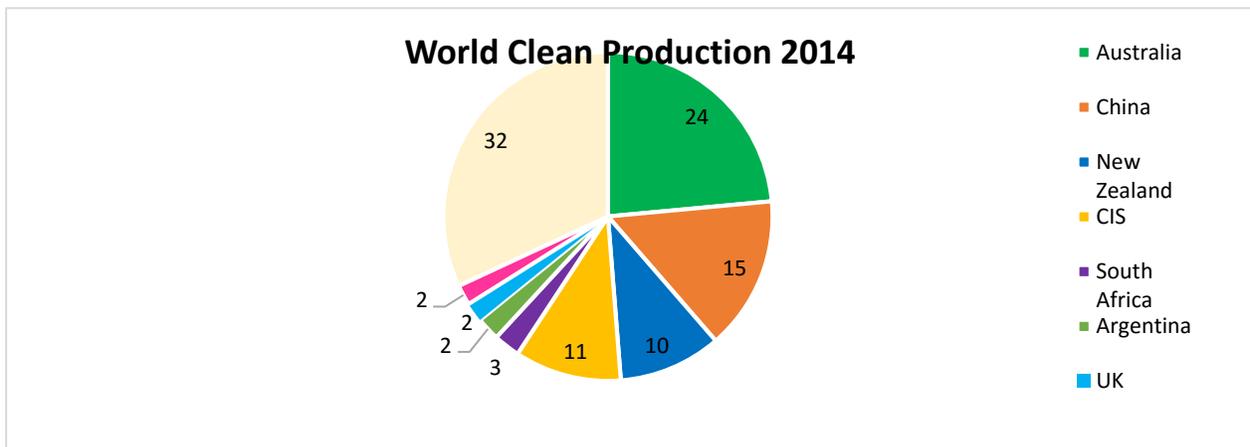
Farm animal welfare is regulated at the state and local levels with laws varying between the 50 states and numerous county governments. The American Sheep Industry Association's Sheep Care Guide was developed in 2005 to serve as a reference for US sheep producers and has been written in recognition of an ethical responsibility for the humane care of animals. It recognises that each sheep producer's professional judgement, experience and training are key factors in providing animal care. Animal Agriculture Alliance and some of the state laws include animal welfare.

Uruguay

Uruguay is a small global producer of wool accounting for around 2% of global production. Uruguay has approximately 19,800 farmers who grow wool from 7.4 million sheep. The most common breeds of sheep in Uruguay are Corriedale, Merino and Polwarth. The average farm size in Uruguay is 535 hectares running 400 sheep. Nearly two thirds of Uruguayan wool are 25-32 microns destined to the interiors market, with the remaining third under 24 microns and hence ideal for apparel and fashion.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MGAP) is in charge of the regulation and control of animal welfare in production species. It also includes an advisory Animal Welfare Working Group which guides policy makers on all aspects of animal welfare.

In Uruguay several voluntary codes of practices are applied by the 17000 farmers for sheep and wool production, including a code of practice for the shearing and crutching of sheep. Both National Institute of Agricultural Research (INIA) and Uruguayan Wool Secretariat (SUL) play an active role in animal welfare, through research projects, partnerships with education, training and communication plans. They have worked together with Agricultural Plan Institute, National Institute of Meat and University of Veterinary and Agronomy to develop a Guideline for sheep welfare in 2016.



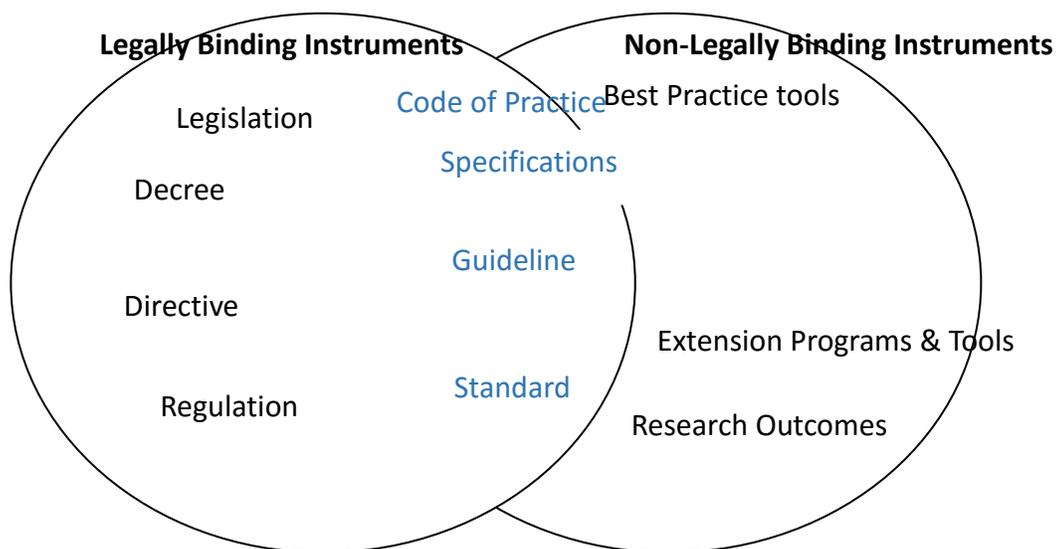
4. Legislative frameworks for Wool Production

Each country has sovereign responsibility for its laws and regulations pertaining to animal welfare practices. The sovereign responsibility may be devolved to states and territories within countries (such as is the case in Australia), or individual countries within a regional aggregation such as the European Union. This legal framework is designed to ensure that individuals and businesses operate within the law of these countries at all times. These legislative tools cover almost every aspect of farm operations including how farmers care for the land and animals, the animal husbandry practices they are allowed to use and specific chemicals and processes banned under local law.

Legally binding instruments (Decrees, Acts, Directives and Regulations for example) form the base line for acceptable practice. They provide the high-level and interpretive requirements for farmers in each wool-producing country to operate within. Meeting the appropriate legal requirements relevant to their jurisdiction is compulsory for farmers and those breaking the law, would be prosecuted accordingly.

Supporting the legislation outlined above are the best practice tools. These tools are based on the latest research and development, welfare expertise and animal husbandry practices. These guidelines are dynamic and ever evolving as new information comes to hand. For example, best practice may recommend that a farmer manages sheep to reduce the risk of pests; however how and when this is done will depend on whether the farm is located in summer or winter dominant environment and the type of sheep present. These management tools are highly specific to the production system, environment and type of sheep. The approach wool-producing countries have taken with these best practice tools also varies. Some countries adopt one programme that covers all facets of wool production (*Best Practice Reference Manual for Wool Sheep Farming - South Africa*), whereas others have different guidelines for each facet of production (*Paraboss, Lifetime Ewe Management, Grain and Graze - Australia*).

Relationship between legally binding and non-legally binding instruments



World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)

OIE is the intergovernmental standard setting organisation responsible for improving animal health. With 178 member countries worldwide, the OIE is recognised as a 'reference organisation' by the World Trade Organisation (WTO). Animal welfare was first identified as a priority in the OIE 2001-2005 Strategy Plan. OIE were mandated by its members to take the lead internationally on animal welfare and provide recommendations and guidelines covering animal welfare practices. The international community views the OIE animal welfare standards as the key guiding principles upon which individual countries develop further detailed tools. (<http://www.oie.int/fr/>)

The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)

FAO's aim is to provide food security for all. It strives to raise the level of nutrition, improve agriculture productivity, better the lives of the rural population and contribute to the growth of the world economy. This objective is achieved by putting information within reach, sharing policy expertise, providing a meeting place for nations and bringing knowledge to the field. FAO has devised the 'Gateway to Farm Animals' to build good farm welfare practices. The Gateway is a single access point for international and national aspects related to animal welfare. It is a participatory platform and allows for the retrieval and submission of information. (<http://www.fao.org/home/en/>)

5. IWTO Specifications for Wool Sheep Welfare

In the establishment of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code, the OIE acknowledges the guidance provided by the internationally recognized 5 freedoms:

1. Freedom from hunger, thirst and malnutrition – through ready access to fresh water and a diet sufficient to maintain full health and vigour
2. Freedom from discomfort – through provision of an appropriately sheltered and comfortable environment
3. Freedom from pain, injury and disease – by prevention, or rapid diagnosis and treatment
4. Freedom to express normal patterns of behaviour – through provision of sufficient space, suitable facilities, and company of the animal's own kind
5. Freedom from fear and distress – ensuring conditions and treatments imposed avoid mental suffering

7. OIE (2013), Terrestrial Animal Health Code, Article 7.1.1

8. Farm Animal Welfare Council, "Five Freedoms", <http://www.fawc.org.uk/freedoms.htm> (accessed 2nd April 2013)

9. FAO (2010), "Legislative and regulatory options for animal welfare", <http://www.fao.org/docrep/013/i1907e/i1907e01.pdf> (accessed 2nd April 2013)

Nutrition

The **OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code** states that:

“Animals should have access to sufficient feed and water, suited to the animals’ age and needs, to maintain normal health and productivity and to prevent prolonged hunger, thirst, malnutrition or dehydration.”

Reference 10

Extending the **OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code** specific to **wool production practice guidelines**:

1. Sheep should have reasonable access to feed and water appropriate to their age and needs.
2. If sufficient feed and water cannot be provided to sheep, options should be considered to relocate, sell, or humanely dispose of the sheep before their welfare is adversely affected.
3. Self-feeders and watering points should be checked regularly to ensure feed and water quality and quantity is maintained.
4. Access to contaminated and spoilt feed, toxic plants and harmful substances should be avoided.
5. Digestive problems should be prevented by gradually introducing sheep to a change of diet.

10. OIE (2012) Terrestrial Animal Health Code, Article 7.1.4 (6)

Environment

The **OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code** states that:

“.. the physical environment should allow comfortable resting, safe and comfortable movement including normal postural changes, and the opportunity to perform types of natural behaviour that animals are motivated to perform. The physical environment, including the substrate (walking surface, resting surface, etc.), should be suited to the species so as to minimise risk of injury and transmission of diseases or parasites to animals. Air quality, temperature and humidity in confined spaces should support good animal health and not be aversive to animals. Where extreme conditions occur, the animals should not be prevented from using their natural methods of thermo-regulation”. Reference 11

Extending the **OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code** specific to **wool production practice guidelines**, the general principal is that sheep should be managed to minimise the impact of threats to their lifetime welfare, including extremes of weather, natural disasters, disease, injury and predation. Specifically:

1. Sheep should be purpose bred and effectively managed so as to enable a high level of physical adaptation to the production environment and to minimise undue stress;
2. Sheep should be inspected at intervals appropriate to risks to their welfare;
3. Consideration should be given to the provision of shelter in the absence of natural protection;
4. When sheep are confined for extended periods, they should:
 - a. have effective ventilation;
 - b. be housed in social groups; and
 - c. have non-slip, non-abrasive and free-draining floor surfaces that avoid the accumulation of faeces and urine likely to compromise their welfare;
5. Handling facilities should be free from protrusions and obstacles that may cause injury.

6. Measures should be put in place to prevent sheep being harmed or killed by predators.

11. OIE (2012), Terrestrial Animal Health Code, Article 7.1.4 (2, 3, and 5)

Health

The **OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code** states that:

“Diseases and parasites should be prevented and controlled as much as possible through good management practices. Animals with serious health problems should be isolated and treated promptly or killed humanely if treatment is not feasible or recovery is unlikely. Where painful procedures cannot be avoided, the resulting pain should be managed to the extent that available methods allow”. Reference 12

Extending the **OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code** specific to **wool production practice guidelines**:

1. As part of a preventative approach to managing the health aspects of sheep welfare, a health management plan should be designed and implemented under guidance from qualified advisors;
2. Within the health management plans, disease prevention strategies should include vaccination against relevant diseases, monitoring and control of internal and external parasites, and selection toward genetic resistance and resilience to parasites and diseases.
3. Sheep should be inspected regularly, and unexplained disease and deaths should be investigated to formulate appropriate remedial and preventive actions;
4. Appropriate treatment for sick, injured or diseased sheep should be undertaken at the first reasonable opportunity, and sheep suffering that cannot be reasonably treated should be humanely euthanased at the first reasonable opportunity.
5. Surgical procedures should be avoided wherever possible and should only be performed where there is a positive health or welfare benefit for the animal. Where surgical procedures cannot be avoided, the resulting pain should be minimized by selection of the most appropriate method for the age of the animal and the use of anesthesia and analgesia. Genetic, technological, and management interventions should be sought and applied to remove the need for surgical procedures.
6. Good hygiene practices should be practiced in relation to facilities, hands, handling and instruments.
7. Sheep that grow and retain long wool should be shorn at least annually.

12. OIE (2012), Terrestrial Animal Health Code, Article 7.1.4 (7, 8)

Behaviour

The **OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code** specifies that:

“Social grouping of animals should be managed to allow positive social behaviour and minimise injury, distress and chronic fear”. Reference 13

Extending the **OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code** specific to **wool production practice guidelines**: in general sheep should be able to express normal behaviour free from undue stress or constraint:

1. Sheep confined for extended periods should be able to turn around, see, hear, smell and touch neighbouring sheep or have a companion if individually penned;

2. Trough space should be adequate to allow sufficient daily intake of feed and water by all sheep, including shy feeders and to minimise bullying;
3. Sufficient space should be allowed for all sheep to lie on their sternums at the same time in an intensive production system;
4. Sheep should be restrained for the minimum time necessary, and tethered sheep should be able to exercise daily.

13. OIE (2012), *Terrestrial Animal Health Code, Article 7.1.4 (4)*

Handling

The **OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code** specifies that:

“The handling of animals should foster a positive relationship between humans and animals and should not cause injury, panic, lasting fear or avoidable stress”

And;

“Owners and handlers should have sufficient skill and knowledge to ensure that animals are treated in accordance with these [OIE] principles”. Reference 14

Extending the **OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code** specific to **wool production practice guidelines**:

1. Handling practices should be appropriate and minimise risk to the welfare of sheep:
 - a. handling should be minimised during extreme weather;
 - b. extra care should be taken when handling sheep with special needs — for example, young lambs, heavily pregnant ewes, lame sheep and rams;
 - c. sheep should be returned to feed and water as soon as possible after handling;
2. Over-crowding of sheep in pens or yards and on transport vehicles should be avoided. Precautions should be taken to prevent smothering - especially for lambs and weaners.
3. Handling facilities should be appropriate to minimise risks to sheep welfare.
4. The use of dogs and handling aids should be limited to the minimum needed to complete the task. When dogs are used, they should be effectively trained and managed.
5. In the interests of the livestock and all involved in the farm enterprise, farm staff involved in management of livestock should be suitably proficient in their animal management practices.

14. OIE (2012) *Terrestrial Animal Health Code, Article 7.1.4(9, 10)*

6. Glossary

Access to Feed and Water

A reasonable opportunity for sheep to be able to drink water of a suitable quality and quantity to maintain their hydration, and consume a sufficient quality and quantity of feed to maintain appropriate levels of health and vigour.

Animal Welfare

The state of an animal and how well it is coping with the conditions in which it lives.

Crutching or clipping

The removal of wool from the breech of the sheep.

Extremes of Weather

Temperature and climatic conditions (e.g. rain, hail, snow, wind, humidity and heat) that — individually or in combination — are likely to predispose sheep to heat or cold stress.

Facilities

Fences, yards, sheds, raceways, feed and water troughs, portable yards, ramps and equipment, including lamb-marking cradles, dips, sprays and jetting races.

Husbandry

The practice of breeding and raising livestock.

Intensive production systems

An operation where sheep are confined for a period longer than four weeks for the purposes of wool, meat or milk production, and are dependent on the daily supply of feed and or water provided by human or mechanical means. Does not include rams housed for breeding or stud sheep in preparation for showing.

IWTO

International Wool Textile Organisation.

Lamb Marking

A set of procedures commonly done at the same time. May include earmarking, ear tagging, vaccination, drenching, tail docking and castration of lambs.

Lie

Sheep are able to rest on their sternums without restriction (or contact with other sheep or structure).

OIE

The World Organisation for Animal Health (historically the Office International des Epizooties formed in 1924).

OIE Terrestrial Code

Sets out standards for animal health and welfare and veterinary public health worldwide.

Pain Relief

The administration of veterinary medicine that reduce the intensity and duration of a pain response

Sheep

Ovis aries and other members of the genus *Ovis*.

Surgical Procedure

A procedure requiring surgery that is conducted to improve the long term welfare of a sheep. Usually conducted during lamb marking.

Trough

A container for animal feed or water.

Ventilation

Natural or mechanically induced air movement sufficient to provide oxygen and remove excessive heat load and noxious gases.

Weaner

An adolescent sheep that no longer requires liquid feed.

Wether

A castrated male sheep.

7. Legislative framework per country

Country	Instrument Type	Details	Links
Australia	Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act (1979) New South Wales	The purpose of the Act is to prevent cruelty to animals and promote animal welfare. It does so by placing specific responsibilities on those in charge of the care of animals.	http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/#/view/act/1979/200/first
	Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Regulation (1979) New South Wales		
	Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1986 (Victoria)	The Act does not permit cruelty to occur. Where people are not complying with the specific requirements of these other Acts, standards or codes they can still face prosecution for cruelty.	http://agriculture.vic.gov.au/agriculture/animal-health-and-welfare/animal-welfare/animal-welfare-legislation/victorian-codes-of-practice-for-animal-

	<p>Livestock Management Act (2010)</p> <p>Code of Accepted Farming Practice for the Welfare of Sheep (Victoria) (Revision Number 2)</p>	<p>The Livestock Management Act provides a framework to achieve nationally consistent animal welfare, biosecurity and traceability standards. The Act will affect anyone owning, managing or working with livestock in any capacity.</p>	<p>welfare/prevention-of-cruelty-to-animals-legislation</p> <p>http://www.legislation.vic.gov.au/Domino/Web_Notes/LDMS/PubStatbook.nsf/f932b66241ecf1b7ca256e92000e23be/421A57E673E4D978CA25770B00160725/\$FILE/10-015a.pdf</p> <p>http://agriculture.vic.gov.au/agriculture/animal-health-and-welfare/animal-welfare/animal-welfare-legislation/victorian-codes-of-practice-for-animal-welfare/code-of-accepted-farming-practice-for-the-welfare-of-sheep-victoria-revision-number-2</p>
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<p>Animal Care and Protection Act 2001 (Qld)</p>	<p>The Act promotes the responsible care and use of animals. It places a legal duty of care on people in charge of animals to meet those animals' needs in an appropriate way. The Act is administered by Biosecurity Queensland. Specially trained Biosecurity Queensland or RSPCA animal welfare inspectors, or the police, investigate complaints about alleged offences.</p>	<p>https://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/LEGISLTN/CURRENT/A/AnimalCaPrA01.pdf</p>
<p>Animal Welfare Act 1985 (South Australia)</p> <p>Animal Welfare Regulations 2012 (South Australia)</p> <p>Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals: The Sheep</p>	<p>The Act applies equally to all animals regardless of their value or status Under Section 13 of the Act, anyone who ill-treats an animal is guilty of an offence. This Act is enforced by the RSPCA, DEWNR wardens, livestock animal health officers, biosecurity officers and the police.</p> <p>This Code is intended as a guide for all people responsible for the welfare and husbandry of sheep. This edition has been revised in line with the most recent recommendations of the Animal Welfare</p>	<p>https://www.legislation.sa.gov.au/LZ/C/A/ANIMAL%20WELFARE%20ACT%201985/CURRENT/1985.106.UN.PDF</p> <p>http://www.publish.csiro.au/nid/22/pid/5389.htm</p>

	<p>Working Group within the Primary Industries Ministerial Council.</p> <p>The Code is intended as a set of guidelines that provides detailed minimum standards for assisting people in understanding the standard of care required to meet their obligations under the laws that operate in Australia's States and Territories.</p>	
<p>Animal Welfare Act 2002(Western Australia)</p> <p>Code of practice for sheep in Western Australia (2003)</p>	<p>The Act and its accompanying regulations provide the legal framework for ensuring that all animals in Western Australia have appropriate standards of care. The Act intends to promote and protect the welfare, safety and health of animals, ensure the proper and humane care and management of animals in accordance with generally accepted standards and reflect the community's expectation that people in charge of animals will ensure that they are properly treated and cared for.</p> <p>This Code has been prepared to assist all persons handling or using sheep in Western Australia, and reference to this Code is made in Regulations provided under Section 25 of the Animal Welfare Act 2002 for the purposes of a defence against cruelty.</p>	<p>https://www.slp.wa.gov.au/pcod/prod/FileStore.nsf/Documents/MRDocument:24792P/\$FILE/Animal%20Welfare%20Act%202002%20-%20[01-f0-03].pdf?OpenElement</p> <p>https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/sites/gateway/files/Code%20of%20Practice%20for%20Sheep%20in%20Western%20Australia_0.pdf</p>

<p>Animal Welfare Act 1993 (Tasmania)</p> <p>Animal Welfare Guidelines – Sheep (2008)</p>	<p>Under the Animal Welfare Act, persons who have the care or charge of animals have a legal “duty of care” for the welfare of those animals, and must take all reasonable measures to ensure their welfare.</p> <p>In the case of sheep, persons with this legal duty of care include the owner, the person with control or custody, the operator or manager of the premises where the sheep are kept and the manager or director of a body corporate which owns them</p>	<p>http://www.thelaw.tas.gov.au/tocview/index.w3p;cond=;doc_id=63++1993+AT@EN+20151222140000;hison=;prompt=;rec=;term=</p> <p>http://dpiwve.tas.gov.au/Documents/Animal-Welfare-Guidelines---Sheep.pdf</p>
<p>Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines for Sheep (2016)</p>	<p>The ‘Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines for Sheep’ has been developed to provide nationally consistent rules for sheep care and management across Australia. They have been endorsed by state and territory Ministers who will use these to guide legislation in their respective states. Under this system guideline are accepted</p>	<p>http://www.animalwelfarestandards.net.au/sheep/</p>

		good industry practice that should be complied with and would replace those state based codes highlighted in yellow.	
New Zealand	The NZ Animal Welfare Act 1999	<p>The NZ Animal Welfare Act 1999 establishes the legislative framework for animal welfare in NZ.</p> <p>The Sheep and Beef Cattle code of welfare provides specific minimum standards for the care of sheep.</p> <p>Animal welfare regulations are under consultation that strengthen some requirements.</p>	<p>https://www.mpi.govt.nz/protection-and-response/animal-welfare/codes-of-welfare/</p> <p>http://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/1999/0142/latest/DLM49664.html “]</p>
	Code of welfare	The NZ Animal Welfare (Sheep and Beef Cattle) Code of Welfare 2010 has been developed to provide the minimum standards of compliance with the NZ Animal Welfare Act 1999.	http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/animal-welfare/codes/sheep-beef-cattle
South Africa	<p>Performing Animals Protection Act, 1935, (Act No. 24 of 1935)</p> <p>Animals Protection Act, 1962 (Act No. 71 of 1962)</p> <p>Societies for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1993. (Act No. 169 of 1993)</p>	South African animal welfare legislation falls under the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Directorate Veterinary Services. The welfare of animals is regulated under the Animal Protection Act, 1962 and Performing Animals Protection Act, 1935. The Societies for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1993 governs the organisation of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals	http://www.nwga.co.za/images/2015_COBP_Eng_unedited.pdf
	Best Practice Reference Manual	The National Woolgrowers Association of South Africa developed the Best Practice Reference Manual for wool sheep farming in South Africa.	http://www.capewools.co.za/index.php?option=com_document&task=cat_view&gid=275&Itemid=92
Argentina	NATIONAL LAW 14346 (1954)	Establishes penalties for persons ill-treating animals	http://servicios.infoleg.gov.ar/infolegInternet/anexos/1

		50000-154999/153011/norma.htm
DECREE 4238 (1968)	Regulation on Inspection for products, by-products and derivatives of animal origin	http://servicios.infoleg.gob.ar/infolegInternet/anexos/20000-24999/24788/texact.htm
NATIONAL LAW 18819 (1970)	Establishes procedure for animal slaughter	http://servicios.infoleg.gob.ar/infolegInternet/anexos/195000-199999/196842/norma.htm
DECREE 1733 (1970) – NATIONAL EXECUTIVE POWER	To allow for the Regulation of Law No. 18,819 Procedures for the Slaughter of Animals.	http://servicios.infoleg.gob.ar/infolegInternet/anexos/195000-199999/196848/norma.htm
RESOLUCIÓN-97-1999- SENASA - SERVICIO NACIONAL DE SANIDAD Y CALIDAD AGROALIMENTARIA	Establishing the conditions to be met for the transport of animals,	http://www.senasa.gov.ar/normativas/resolucion-97-1999-senasa-servicio-nacional-de-sanidad-y-calidad-agroalimentaria
RESOLUCIÓN 253/2002	Creation, within SENASA, of the Joint Advisory Committee on Animal Welfare	http://servicios.infoleg.gob.ar/infolegInternet/anexos/70000-74999/73641/norma.htm
RESOLUCIÓN 25/2013	Rules for herding livestock	http://www.senasa.gov.ar/resolucion-252013
RESOLUCIÓN 46/2014	Chapter XXXII of Animal Welfare added to the Regulation on Inspection for products, by-products and derivatives of animal origin, approved by Decree 4238 (National Executive) *** Added above	http://servicios.infoleg.gob.ar/infolegInternet/anexos/225000-229999/226148/norma.htm
RESOLUCIÓN 581/2014	Creation of Health National Register of Live Animals Transport	http://www.senasa.gov.ar/resolucion-5812014

Uruguay	Decreto No 369/983	<p>For the humanitarian slaughter of animals including transport</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Pre mortem (Art.17 to 38) and post mortem (Art. 39 to 86) vet inspection ✓ Pen facilities (Arts. 23), pre mortem (Art.158) and post mortem handling (Art.165) ✓ Transportation (Art. 284, 285, 286, 288, 289) ✓ Loading and unloading (Arts. 287, 290) <p>Stunning and Slaughter (Arts. 79, 178, 179, 180)</p>	http://www.ecolex.org/details/legislation/decreto-no-369983-reglamento-oficial-de-inspeccion-veterinaria-de-productos-de-origen-animal-mgap-lex-faoc143968/
	LAW 18.834 (2011) ARTICLE 160	Gives MGAP the powers to regulate and control Animal Welfare of Productive species	https://www.impo.com.uy/bases/leyes/18834-2011 Article number 160
	Further information about the guideline and general information regarding wool production in Uruguay can be found at "Wools of Uruguay"		http://www.wool.com.uy/animal_welfare.htm http://www.sul.org.uy/sitio/Publicaciones
	Manual Práctico de Producción Ovina (Practical manual for sheep production)		http://www.sul.org.uy/sitio/Publicaciones
	Sanidad en ovinos (Health in Sheep)		http://www.sul.org.uy/sitio/Publicaciones
	El método de esquila Tally Hi (Tally Hi method of shearing)		http://www.sul.org.uy/sitio/Publicaciones
			MGAP (Ministry of Livestock, Agriculture and Fisheries) www.mgap.gub.uy

	<p>SUL, created by law</p> <p>Ley N°13.602, May 3rd, 1966</p>	<p>SUL seeks to promote sustainable development of the sheep sector, maximizing economic performance through research, technology transfer, training and supply of highly specialized services.</p>	<p>SUL (Uruguayan Wool Secretariat)</p> <p>www.sul.org.uy</p>
	<p>INIA, created by law</p> <p>Ley N° 16.065, October 5th, 1989</p>	<p>INIA seeks to generate and adapt knowledge and technology aiming to contribute to the sustainable development of the agricultural sector and overall to Uruguay economic and social development. Always with a focus on national policies, social inclusion and market demands.</p> <p>INIA plays an active role regarding Animal Welfare, leading several research projects, partnerships with education, training and communication plans.</p>	<p>INIA (National Institute of Agricultural Research)</p> <p>www.inia.uy</p>
	<p>INAC, created by law</p> <p>Decreto-ley N° 15.605, July 27th, 1984</p>	<p>The Institute has a wide scope of action given that it must monitor performance for several species -beef, sheep, pigs, and poultry- and through various links of the meat chain, basically concerning processing, and trading both in the domestic market and abroad.</p> <p>They are in charge of the Animal Welfare Certification Program, including the farm, transportation and the slaughter plant.</p>	<p>INAC (National Institute of Meat) www.inac.gub.uy</p>
	<p>IPA, created by law</p> <p>Ley N° 16.736, January 5th, 1996</p>	<p>The Institute contributes to the innovative and sustainable development of livestock production and farmers, especially small and medium ones, in order to improve their human economical and family situation, through training, extension, generation of information and coordinating with other institutions.</p>	<p>Agricultural Plan Institute</p> <p>www.planagro.com.uy</p>
		<p>Further information about the guideline and general information regarding wool production in Uruguay can be found at "Wools of Uruguay"</p>	<p>www.wool.com.uy/animal_welfare.htm</p> <p>http://www.sul.org.uy/sitio/Publicaciones</p> <p>MGAP (Ministry of Livestock, Agriculture and</p>

			<p>Fisheries) www.mgap.gub.uy</p> <p>SUL (Uruguayan Wool Secretariat) www.sul.org.uy</p> <p>INIA (National Institute of Agricultural Research) www.inia.uy</p> <p>INAC (National Institute of Meat) www.inac.gub.uy</p> <p>Agricultural Plan Institute www.planagro.com.uy</p>
United Kingdom	UK Animal Welfare Act (2006)	The UK Animal Welfare Act (2006) established the legislative framework surrounding animal welfare in UK. It is an offence to cause unnecessary suffering to any animal. The Act also contains a Duty of Care to animals – to ensure all reasonable steps are taken so that the animal’s needs are met.	http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2006/45/contents
	Welfare of Farmed Animals (England) Regulations 2007, 2010 – Statutory Instrument SI 2007 No 2078.	These general requirements of the UK Animal Act 2006 are supplemented by detailed requirements set out in the Welfare of Farmed Animals 2007 Regulations.	http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2007/2078/pdfs/ukxi_20072078_en.pdf
	Cross compliance (SMR) – Code of Recommendation for the Welfare of Livestock		https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/code-of-recommendations-for-the-welfare-of-livestock-sheep/sheep-and-goats-welfare-recommendations
USA	Guidelines	This Sheep Care Guide was developed to serve as a reference for US sheep producer and has been written in recognition of an ethical responsibility for the humane care of animals	<p>http:// ... Sheep_Care_Guide_2006.pdf</p> <p>The following U.S. Sheep Care Guide, Animal Agriculture Alliance and some of the state laws include animal welfare.</p>

		http://www.sheepusa.org/issues/Programs/AnimalHealth/AnimalCareWelfare http://www.fooddialogues.com/headlines/animal-welfare http://nationalaglawcenter.org/state-compilations/animal-cruelty/
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8. **Key wool industry resources**

International

International Wool Textile Organisation - <http://www.iwto.org/>

Argentinian industry

Federation Lanera Argentina (FLA) - <http://www.flasite.com/>

Australian Industry

Australian Wool Innovation - <http://www.wool.com/>

Australian Foundation of Australian Wool Organisations - <http://woolindustries.org/>

WoolProducers Australia - <http://woolproducers.com.au/>

The Woolmark Company - <http://www.woolmark.com/>

Australian Association of Stud Merino Breeders - <http://www.merinos.com.au/>

New Zealand Industry

Wools of New Zealand - <http://www.woolsnz.com/>

South African Industry

Cape Wools SA - <http://capewools.co.za/default>

United Kingdom Industry

British Wools - <http://www.britishwool.org.uk/>

United States Industry

American Sheep Industry Association - <https://www.sheepusa.org/>

Uruguayan Industry

Wools of Uruguay - <http://www.wool.com.uy/>

9. Acknowledgements

The original IWTO Guidelines for Wool Sheep Welfare were developed through a consultative process involving representatives of all the individual grower countries and technical experts in the fields of animal welfare and veterinary science, through the IWTO Sustainable Practices Working Group. (2013)

This guide was updated with the latest legislative frameworks for Wool Production in 2016 and all the relevant wool grower countries were consulted to provide the legal resources for each nation, including Argentina, Australia, United Kingdom, United States of America, Uruguay, South Africa and New Zealand.

The objective of this guide is to clearly define and widely promote animal welfare practices in wool production, relevant to the wide diversity of production environments around the globe. While specifically relevant to the global wool sheep production industry, these good welfare practises are closely aligned with the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code.

DISCLAIMER: Please note that this guidance document is intended for information purposes only. It has been produced by the IWTO in November 2016 to provide informal, non-binding advice on the legal requirements and best practices guiding the wool industry internationally. As the area of environmental and animal welfare legislation is continuously evolving, it is not possible for this Guidance document to cover all possible applicable rules and practices globally. Users should therefore not base their actions on the contents of this report only and carry out their own due diligence where it comes to conducting the business of wool production and providing guarantees concerning sheep welfare. This Guidance should be read in conjunction with local applicable rules and regulations. The legal requirements and practices described in this Guidance should not be taken as an authoritative statement or interpretation of the law, as only the courts have this power. It is ultimately the responsibility of individual businesses to ensure their compliance with the law. The IWTO expressly declines responsibility and liability for any misinterpretation or damage incurred by persons, entities (private or public) or organisations as a result of the contents of this Guidance document.