



FMD MEDIA RELEASE

The Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) has indicated that a reply has been received from the General Administration of Chinese Customs of the People's Republic of China (GACC) on clarity sought on the certification of greasy wool exports to China.

DAFF confirmed that the conditions contained in the current health certificate would have to be complied with unless a new health certificate is negotiated. The risks associated to enter into a new negotiation process are that exports could once again cease until a new health certificate has been negotiated and put in place. The risks associated with starting the process to negotiate the health certificate are big, as exports will then once again be disrupted, and it is therefore in the best interest of the wool industry to continue export certification in terms of the current health certificate requirements.

At a meeting held on 23 August, SAWAMBA, in consultation with brokers, agreed to resume the scheduled auctions on 3 and 4 September 2019, starting with catalogue 1.

All brokers are currently implementing measures to heat areas within their stores to implement shipment time periods within 28 days of weigh-in. IT Systems have been updated and improved to assist buyers with shipment requirements and to ensure inspection and certification can be concluded in the quickest possible time.

The first catalogue will be offered on the 3rd and 4th of September, with the option to add volumes to smaller auctions to try and eliminate the backlog in offering as soon as possible.

Industry would like to thank everyone for their understanding during this challenging time and we are confident that the market flow could revert to normal by October 2019, taking into account the progress made on heating the stores by the brokers.

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