

ANNUAL REPORT

CAPE WOOLS SA CONTRACT: BIOSECURITY AND SUSTAINABILITY

(CONTRACT PERIOD 1 JULY 2020 – 30 JUNE 2023)

REPORTING PERIOD

1 JULY 2022 TO 30 JUNE 2023

PREPARED BY:

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Acting Manager: Commercial Advisory Service

NATIONAL WOOL GROWERS' ASSOCIATION

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1. SERVICE: DELIVERY OF ON FARM ASSESSMENTS

1.1 Description of Service

Deliver information and skills to equip and monitor farmers for sustainable production practices.

1.2 Defined Outcomes and Targets per Agreed Programme

Outcomes:

- Promote and implement sustainable practices in terms of the SCWS.
During each audit visit, the importance of sustainable practices was highlighted to make farmers aware of responsible wool production methods.
- Create awareness by means of interaction with farmers and farmers' days
185 Farmers' days were held to create awareness of the SCWS.
A total of 1711 farmers attended these days.
- Assist farmers with enrolling for self-evaluation
Farmers prefer an audit conducted on a contact basis. Farmers did not show much interest in self-evaluation.
- Conduct on farm assessments as required in terms of the SCWS
85 On-farm assessments were conducted during the reporting period.
- Follow up with farmers on the corrective procedures with regard to non-conformances.
A total of **65 follow-up visits** were done during the reporting period.
- Provide advice and guidance to farmers on all biosecurity related issues
Advice and guidance regarding the importance of biosecurity was given to farmers on a continuous basis during visits. A total of five articles were published regarding biosecurity in the Wool Farmer Magazine and Veeplaas.

Other initiatives of technology transfer via the media are reflected in Annexure B.

Targets:

- Suggestions regarding improvements within the standards.
Five meetings were held with Webroute and Cape Wools, and contributions were made towards improvements on the standards.
- Have 5 advisors available to conduct on farm assessments.
Advisors were available for conducting farm assessments.
- A target of 1180 uploaded completed assessments are set per annum
A total of 85 assessments were completed and uploaded.

- Hold information days to inform farmers about the requirements of the guidelines;
185 Information days were held to create awareness of the SCWS.
A total of **1711 farmers** attended these days.
- Follow up with farmers where items are outstanding and proof needs to be submitted;
A total of **65 follow-up visits** were done during the reporting period.
- Inform farmers via publications of pertinent points in the guidelines;
Five articles on biosecurity were published in the Wool Farmer and Veeplaas.
- Biosecurity information transfer to farmers and vaccination awareness and recording;
Advice and guidance regarding the importance of biosecurity are given to farmers on a continuous basis during visits.
- Implementation of vaccination register into traceability platform.
The traceability platform has not been developed yet.



PPE according to OHS legislation



Access controlled Chemical storage



Water availability to sheep during shearing



Adequate ablution facilities for shearers

1.3 **Challenges experienced with providing the above- mentioned service:**

- Strong negativity from brokers' field staff towards this assessment.
- Farmers view this assessment as inferior to RWS.
- Farmers question the need for another assessment due to the aforementioned misunderstanding.
- Farmers do not see the need for these assessments.

A need for the training of auditors to equip them with the knowledge to evaluate shearing shed facilities and accommodation of shearers was identified.

A comprehensive presentation was compiled and two training sessions were held, one in Bloemfontein and one in Riversdal, Western Cape. A total of 32 auditors attended these training sessions (16 auditors each at Bloemfontein and Riversdal). Positive feedback from the auditors confirmed the need for this type of training.

Although the past year was challenging and the advisors' efforts were met with resistance in some instances, they remain positive and believe that the SCWS will gradually grow and improve in acceptance by producers and other stakeholders in the value chain.

Signed at Bloemfontein on Friday, 18 July 2023

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JL Venter', written in a cursive style.

JL Venter

Acting Manager: Commercial Advisory Services