

<b>Title</b>	<b>Blade shear sheep</b>		
<b>Level</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>15</b>

<b>Purpose</b>	People credited with this unit standard are able to: set, adjust and edge shearing blades for shearing to meet sheep variability; adjust shearing technique to meet sheep variability, maintain quality output, and handle sheep humanely during blade shearing; and monitor and maintain blade performance during blade shearing.
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<b>Classification</b>	Wool Harvesting > Shearing
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<b>Available grade</b>	Achieved
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### Guidance Information

- 1 Legislation relevant to this unit standard includes but is not limited to:
  - Health and Safety at Work Act 2015;
  - Animal Welfare Act 1999;
 and any subsequent amendments.
  
- 2 Resource documents include but are not limited to:
 

*Harvesting of textile animal fibres, chapter 4 Fibre harvesting techniques*, available from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations at <http://www.fao.org/3/v9384e/v9384e00.htm>

*Safe Sheep Shearing Good Practice Guidelines*, available from Worksafe at <https://worksafe.govt.nz/dmsdocument/122-safe-sheep-shearing-good-practice-guidelines>

*Shearing and Clip Preparation Code of Practice*, available from the NZ Wool Classers Association at [https://www.woolclassers.org.nz/images/resources/NZWCA\\_2016\\_Clip\\_preparation\\_document.pdf](https://www.woolclassers.org.nz/images/resources/NZWCA_2016_Clip_preparation_document.pdf)

*Code of Welfare: Sheep and Beef Cattle*, available from the Ministry of Primary Industries at <https://www.mpi.govt.nz/dmsdocument/1450-sheep-and-beef-cattle-animal-welfare-code-of-welfare>.
  
- 3 Definitions
 

*Minimum industry output requirements* – 10 sheep to be shorn in one hour’s continuous shearing.

*Minimum industry quality requirements* – the minimum number of skin cuts, tassels, second cuts, and ridges output.

*On-farm procedures* – refer to the verbal or written instructions to staff on procedures for animal care, welfare, and management.

*Sustained output* – ability to consistently shear at or above minimum industry output.

requirements, to the pattern, and with minimum stress to the sheep.

*Variability* – sheep breed, class, temperament, condition, wool density, temperature, timing, wool faults and staple length.

## Outcomes and performance criteria

### Outcome 1

Set, adjust and edge shearing blades for shearing to meet sheep variability.

#### Performance criteria

1.1 Set and adjust shearing blades and edges in accordance with sheep variability and on-farm procedures.

Range sheep variability includes but is not limited to – fibre density and length, sheep condition, temperature.

### Outcome 2

Adjust shearing technique to meet sheep variability, maintain quality output, and handle sheep humanely during blade shearing.

#### Performance criteria

2.1 Catch and tip sheep in preparation for blade shearing in accordance with industry requirements.

2.2 Adjust shearing technique to meet individual sheep variability.

Range variability may include but is not limited to pre-lamb belly, cotts, wool pull; evidence of two technique adjustments is required.

2.3 Adjust the number of blows to meet individual sheep requirements and maximise shearing output.

2.4 Adjust footwork and body positioning to achieve shearing rhythm consistent with the shearing pattern.

2.5 Shear sheep at a sustained output in accordance with minimum industry output and quality requirements.

2.6 Handle sheep during shearing in accordance with legislative requirements

### Outcome 3

Monitor and maintain blade performance during blade shearing.

Range shearing conditions include but are not limited to – wool type, skin type, fleece contamination, temperature.

**Performance criteria**

- 3.1 Monitor blade performance in accordance with shearing conditions.
- 3.2 Monitor and adjust equipment to maintain performance, optimising yield and shearing output.
- Range includes but is not limited to – grinding, stoning, set, bows.
- 3.3 Maintain points to match shearing conditions, and optimum shearing performance.

<b>Planned review date</b>	31 December 2024
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**Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions**

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	26 July 2003	31 December 2023
Review	2	21 August 2009	31 December 2023
Review	3	12 December 2019	N/A

<b>Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference</b>	0052
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This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

**Comments on this unit standard**

Please contact the Primary Industry Training Organisation [standards@primaryito.ac.nz](mailto:standards@primaryito.ac.nz) if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.