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| Title | Handle, sort and prepare strong, fine and mid micron wool clip in the wool harvesting industry | | |
| Level | 3 | Credits | 15 |

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| Purpose | <p>This unit standard is for people working in the wool harvesting context handling strong, fine and mid micron wool.</p> <p>People credited with this unit standard are able to: set up the woolshed and plan a team's work responsibilities; separate wool at the board and maintain quality and output; pick up and throw fleece, store waiting fleeces and maintain quality and output; handle wool across the table and maintain quality and output; and prepare wool and maintain wool clip documentation.</p> |
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| Classification | Wool Harvesting > Wool Handling |
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| Available grade | Achieved |
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Guidance Information

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

Safe Sheep Shearing Best Practice Guideline, available from Work Safe New Zealand at <https://worksafe.govt.nz/topic-and-industry/agriculture/working-with-animals/working-with-sheep/safe-sheep-shearing-gpg/>

Clip Preparation – Best Practice Guideline (May 2016) available from the NZ Wool Classer Association at https://www.woolclassers.org.nz/images/resources/NZWCA_2016_Clip_preparation_document.pdf.
- Definitions

Choice pieces – higher grade of first pieces.

Clip Preparation – guideline to define best practice to ensure three principles for wool preparation are achieved including uniform fit for purpose lines of wool, elimination of contaminants, accurate and complete identification and documentation of the wool clip.

Fine wool – wool with a mean fibre diameter of less than 25 microns e.g. Merino, Polworth.

Flanking – the removal of a small amount of wool from the lower part of the back legs that is generally shorter and stronger than the fleece.

Mid micron wool – wool with a mean fibre diameter of 25-31 microns e.g. Corriedale Halfbred, Cheviot.

Strong wool – wool with a mean fibre diameter of 31 microns or greater e.g. Romney, Perendale, Coopworth and associated crosses of these breeds.

Waiting fleece – any fleece that is not yet processed over the table.

Wool market representative requirements – contract specifications as set out in the workplace by the buyer or grower relating to wool market specifications.

Workplace procedures – operational procedures including those for legislation, industry and customer requirements set out by an employer to be followed while undertaking tasks in the workplace.

- 4 Clip preparation may include board or table handling.
- 5 Assessment must be carried out in a shearing shed with a flow rate of a minimum of 600 sheep per day.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Set up the woolshed and plan a team's work responsibilities.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 Set up woolshed to meet clip preparation requirements.

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| Range | includes but is not limited to – bins, fadges, table, press, shed design, rubbish boxes. |
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- 1.2 Plan wool preparation and handling in accordance with the New Zealand wool industry *Clip Preparation – Best Practice Guideline* and wool market representative requirements.
- 1.3 Plan work pattern with other team members to minimise workflow interruptions.

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| Range | wool pressing and preparation requirements, staff skills and ratio, shearer output. |
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- 1.4 Plan the preparation and separation of wool in accordance with on-farm procedures, wool type variation, and wool market representative requirements.

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| Range | variations within and between mobs, environmental effects, wool clip size, breed, wool characteristics, age groups of sheep. |
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Outcome 2

Separate wool at the board and maintain quality and output.

Performance criteria

- 2.1 Frib, skirt, pizzle and shake belly wool to remove faults in accordance with classer and/or grower requirements.

- Range colour, length, contamination.
- 2.2 Separate crutch wool in accordance with length, colour, and contamination.
- Range urine stain, dags, mud, short wool.
- 2.3 Separate sock wool and eye wool clips in accordance with classer, grower and/or wool market representative requirements.
- 2.4 Separate body wool from oddments and contaminants.
- Range oddments and contaminants include but are not limited to – second pieces and locks, socks, crutch wool, dags, stains, eye clips, skin.
- 2.5 Identify fleece in accordance with on-farm procedures.
- Range includes but is not limited to – fleece weighing, sheep tag recording, side sampling.
- 2.6 Coordinate work pattern with other team members to minimise interruptions to workflow.
- 2.7 Maintain accuracy, speed, and tidiness to maximise output and quality of wool.
- Range teamwork, timing, coordination.

Outcome 3

Pick up and throw fleece, store waiting fleeces and maintain quality and output.

Performance criteria

- 3.1 Identify fleece portions during preparation to pick up and throw in a manner that is efficient.
- 3.2 Pick up fleece in a compact and tidy manner.
- Range includes but not limited to – removing shank wool, locating back legs of the fleece, pulling the fleece back, scooping to the middle, rolling into a bundle ready for throwing.
- 3.3 Throw fleece onto a clear wool table in a manner that allows efficient preparation.
- Range includes but not limited to – stand at the end of the table, throw in a forward and upward motion, fleece is flat across the table and all on the table, back legs are at the base of the table.

3.4 Store waiting fleeces on a clean area in a manner that allows them to be picked up and thrown easily.

Range tidy, compact, back legs of fleece visible, fleece clear of contaminants.

3.5 Maintain accuracy, speed, and tidiness to maximise output and quality of wool.

Range teamwork, timing, coordination.

Outcome 4

Handle wool across the table and maintain quality and output.

Performance criteria

4.1 Remove short wool off the wool table in accordance with on-farm and workplace procedures and wool market representative requirements.

Range includes but is not limited to – crutch wool, socks, second pieces and locks, short backs, eye clips, fleece.

4.2 Remove and separate vegetable matter by type and wool market representative requirements and in accordance with workplace procedures.

Range may include but is not limited to – thistle, burr, seed, hay, moit, wigs, leaves, matagouri, gorse, fern; evidence of four is required.

4.3 Remove first pieces, choice pieces, and flanking in accordance with on-farm and workplace procedures and wool market representative requirements.

4.4 Remove faults in terms of length, colour, and contamination in accordance with on-farm and workplace procedures and wool market representative requirements.

Range includes but is not limited to – cotted wool, neck, short back wool, skin, black wool, raddle, pen stain, blood and other stains.

4.5 Shake roll and place fleeces in designated areas in accordance with classer and/or on-farm procedures.

Range tidy, compact, firm.

4.6 Maintain accuracy, speed, and tidiness to maximise output and quality of wool.

Range teamwork, timing, coordination.

Outcome 5

Prepare wool and maintain wool clip documentation.

Performance criteria

- 5.1 Identify differences in wool characteristics in terms of style, staple length, and colour.
- 5.2 Prepare wool consistently to match specifications for wool clip type, and in accordance with on-farm procedures, and wool market representative requirements.
- 5.3 Identify fleece in accordance with on-farm procedures.
- 5.4 Monitor wool preparation against agreed grower and/or wool market representative requirements.
- 5.5 Maintain wool clip documentation in accordance with on-farm procedures and wool market representative requirements.
- Range includes but is not limited to – shed book, specifications, line descriptions, bale branding, specific contract documents.
- 5.6 Maintain accuracy, speed, and tidiness to maximise output and quality of wool.
- Range teamwork, timing, coordination.

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| Planned review date | 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 |

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| Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference | 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 if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.