

Members' update



22 March 2013



2013 marks AWEX's 20th year. The Australian Wool Exchange Limited, or AWEX as we are more widely known today, was established in 1993 as an independent service provider to the wool industry and to facilitate self-regulation amongst market participants.

"AWEX would not have been able to achieve all that it has without the support of the AWEX Members and the broader wool industry." said Mark Grave, AWEX CEO

AWEX commenced operation as a key member organisation providing auction sale infrastructure, associated administration services, monitoring wool quality and as the principal market reporting agency for the Australian wool industry.

AWEX's focus has evolved to include the development of wool industry standards as they relate to wool preparation, wool packs and description systems of greasy wool characteristics. Quality assurance programs, in particular the fundamental role that woolclassers play, is critical to the confidence in trading and in maintaining Australia's reputation in the global wool community.

"AWEX's independence and integrity are crucial to the industries confidence in the services we provide – whether it is the market information or the development and implementation of quality standards and programs, the needs of industry both domestically and overseas, must be reflected and the standards must be relevant."

The "20 Years AWEX" logo will be used throughout 2013 to recognize the significant contribution of AWEX Members and the role they have played in developing the Australian wool industry.

AWEX Members will be able to use this logo on their web sites and promotional material to show their support for the wool industry and their ongoing contribution over the past 20 years. Please contact Mark Grave for more information.

The success of AWEX's service delivery comes down to having well trained, attentive and motivated staff. The challenge is to ensure that AWEX is adequately resourced and structured to deliver relevant services now and in the future.

Australian Wool Exchange Limited

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Some of AWEX's key achievements:

- Sustainable funding of quality activities developed in consultation with industry,
- National Graduate Woolclasser Competition,
- Development of national woolclasser training resources,
- Ongoing Development of Woolclassers and Classing Houses code of practice,
- National Wool Declaration,
- NWD Integrity Program (on-farm),
- Introduction of Masterclasser,
- Introduction of the Sheep Breed Compendium,
- Development of trading infrastructure,
- AWEX-ID,
- 1PP Certificates,
- Ongoing development of Clip Inspection monitoring and reporting,
- Centralisation of "wool clearing houses" into a national model,
- AWEX Online, "live" market information,
- AWEX Online app, for market reporting,
- e², market information tool,
- Woolclasser seminars, forums and communication,
- Bale Label for identification of wool bales,
- Wool Pack standard review and trials,
- Use of technology for hand held computers to the showfloor,
- Online registration of woolclassers.

For further information contact:

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