

13 October 2014

## Woolclasser Registration reaches 19,000+

### Another milestone reached for the wool industry

AWEX reports today that the number of fully trained and registered woolclassers has exceeded 19,000.

Mark Grave, AWEX CEO, said "Given the decline in wool production, recent poor market conditions and some of the negative commentary over the past few years, for woolclasser registration to have reached this milestone, is a positive story for the wool industry."

Only wool prepared by a registered woolclasser is eligible to receive a 'P' certificate, which is highly sought after and preferred by wool buyers.

"The Australian wool industry gained its reputation by producing the best prepared wool in the world on the back of some strategic foresight of the industry leaders over 50 years ago. Australia has been able to differentiate its wool based on quality, preparation, skills and training".

Some of the benefits of woolclassing include:

- Adding significant value to a wool clip,
- Allowing buyers to buy wool with confidence,
- Providing wool growers with a skill to better understand and improve their product, and
- Providing the opportunity to use this skill as a source of income and further experience.

"Australia is the envy of all other wool producing countries." said Mr Grave. "Other countries have tried to develop their own woolclasser program but they have never been able to match the quality and reach of Australia's."

Australia is fortunate to have available the expertise of dedicated and highly skilled woolclasser trainers who make woolclasser education possible.

Mark said "This is an important milestone and one that should be recognised and supported."

To find out more about woolclassing, woolclasser training and/or registration contact your local TAFE or contact AWEX.

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