



Review of Training Packages and Accredited Courses – Discussion Paper

Livestock SA wishes to make some brief comments specifically in relation to wool harvesting, and in particular training for those who want to work in shearing sheds as a shearer, shed hand or wool classer.

Our main concern is that the training packages must at least cover the skills detailed in Awards.

In relation to wool classing, in addition to specific training in wool classing, there are also other skills needed to be a woolclasser such as some marketing skills, some people management skills and the ability to deal with industrial matters. These three skills are mentioned in the Award and employers expect that a competent wool classer should be able to achieve these documented tasks.

There is a need to listen to industry and their requirements. When consulting about training packages there must be wide consultation and this must include input from employers and people who actually perform the job.

If there was also a 'wish list', it could be argued there should be a wool marketing course run for growers. This would cover how to value their wool and understand wool measurement. Growers produce a commodity and then have to find a market to sell rather than producing a pre-ordered product. Growers are then subject to market fluctuations. This course needs to also examine wool selling options. There is more to marketing wool than remaining year after year with the traditional brokers, taking what the market gives, and then paying large selling and testing costs. Maybe the Industry Skills Fund could deliver a course for growers at a Federal Level.

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