



## August 2021 update/mini newsletter from NZWCA and Registrar

**Final reminder of the NZWCA North Island Industry Professional Development Day**, August 20<sup>th</sup> at the PGGW wool store in Napier. North Island members are encouraged to attend as part of fulfilling their own professional development. All details, including how to register by August 16<sup>th</sup> here:

<https://woolclassers.org.nz/members-area/news/north-island-industry-day-2021/>

The programme for the day is designed for our members but will be of interest and benefit to all involved in the wool and wool harvesting industry, so members please pass this notification on to your work mates and other wool industry connections. Thank you.

**Classer Grader Registration news:** In consultation with the previous and current Registrar, NZWCA has recently updated, streamlined and fully documented the classer and grader registration and registration update process. Full details can now be found in this link:

<https://woolclassers.org.nz/members-area/membership-information/>

Summary for Classers and Graders wanting to upgrade their registration prefix:

- Your shed management inspection and first wool classing/grading report now can be done by one visit from an authorised Inspector, usually the wool growers broker rep. The form for this is on our website <https://woolclassers.org.nz/report-forms/> and the Classer or Grader needs to make sure the Inspector has a copy of this
- It is the responsibility of the Classer or Grader to request the shed management inspection and wool report directly with the wool broker rep, prior to shearing. The form for this can be found on our website here <https://woolclassers.org.nz/report-forms/>
- For upgrading, Classers then need to have two further clips per breed passed and Graders one further clip per breed. To do this Classers and Graders need to provide the relevant clip's test results AND a copy of the clip's wool bale specifications to the NZWCA Registrar by email [reg@woolclassers.org.nz](mailto:reg@woolclassers.org.nz) or by post to c/- 67 Jacks Drive, West Melton 7618

**IMPORTANT 2021/22 SEASON REMINDERS to Classers and Graders**, excerpts from pre-season summaries originally published in NZWCA newsletter June 2021

<https://woolclassers.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/June-2021-Newsletter-1.pdf>

### **Traditional NZ Descriptive System – from Dave Burridge, South Island Auction Manager, PGG Wrightson Wool**

I hope the following helps and provides direction to fine wool classers when presenting merino wool that is destined to be offered and sold via the Christchurch auction room: The main wool brokers offering fine wool via the Christchurch wool exchange would like to suggest that all merino wool be described by using the NZ based descriptive system that has always been in existence and not the AWEX version, being the Australian descriptive system.

All fine wool buyers purchasing merino wool from the Christchurch selling exchange unanimously support fine wool classers to use the NZ descriptive system. The AWEX version is not well understood to wool exporters in NZ as it does not convey clear messages or add confidence to NZ based buyers to how or why a wool clip has been presented.

The NZ descriptive system provides all the additional information to buyers as to why the different lines were made and conveys not only the different lines based on quality (the use of the number of "A"s at the end of the description) but also the micron distinctions (the use of either "Ultra", "Sup", "Ex F", "F", "M" or "Stg") at the start of the description.

The NZ descriptive system also conveys age group messages to buyers by including "Hog" (for woolly hogget's) or "H" (for hogget's shorn as lambs) or "2TH" for two-tooth sheep and even "Wth" for those growers that still retain wether clips. Some examples: ExF Mer AAAA; F Mer AAAAA; M Mer AAAA; Stg Mer AAAA; Mer AA; M Mer 2TH AAA; Mer Bks AAA; Mer NKS AA; Mer BLS AA; Mer Pcs AAA; Mer Lox A; Mer 2PCS A. Any questions your wool rep will be able to help.

All the best for the new season to what is shaping up to be another dynamic season.

**Dave Burridge PGGW**

### **From Roger Fuller of CP Wool**

I encourage all Graders, Classers and shearing contractors to make themselves available throughout the season to visit the Brokers Stores to view the samples up for sale. This can be very beneficial to you all, seeing the preparation of lines in the sample boxes and also any feedback from Exporters who could be valuing wool for sale at the same time. Cots being left in lines of free wool can see the line discounted up to 40 to 50 cents per kg. Thistles can also have the same sought of discount and in some cases more.

CP Wool in Christchurch have the NZ Yarns factory which Dyes and Spins the wool into Yarn. This is a very unique operation and it can give you an appreciation of the processing of wool and issues that are faced with contamination, but also how well prepared wool can make a difference to the flow through the factory. Feel free to contact me to arrange a visit at some stage throughout the season

**ROGER FULLER, CP WOOL, Wool Brokers Representative**

**From Blair Davies, NZ Merino Co**

Professional: A classer is a professional in their field. The classer's handling of staff should always be professional. An important part of our ZQ Ethical Wool Brand is social responsibility, part of that is treating everybody the same, fairly and show respect. We expect all classers to do the same.

Wool Harvesting Supply Chain:

- This is the start of value add for grower by meeting contract spec and gaining whatever auction premiums the commodity mkt is paying for good prep and good classing etc.
- The classer plays a very important link in the supply chain by monitoring the preparation and ensuring an excellent classing standard.
- A key ingredient in good classing is to class what is in front of you, Like Wools with Like Wools. Don't get too hung up with classing the volumes required to meet the contracts, the key is adhering to the preparation required and the classing will look after itself. It becomes too confusing if a classer tries to class out 6 bales to fit a particular contract, class like wools with like wools.

21/22 micron Merino types: Polwarth or ¼ bred clips, please make sure the Merino type wools are classed out separately to any of the half bred type wools. In the traditional Polwarth ¼ clips most will look like Merinos so only take out those fleeces that look more like a half bred. This also applies to any Halfbred clips that may have a Merino genetic influence or are transitioning finer. In those clips class out any fleeces that have a visual Merino appearance. Do not push these lines if in doubt don't put them in.

**Wool Clip Grading Course:** Here is a link to the most recent information on the new Grading Courses in the North and South Islands, supported by NZWCA and the NZ Shearing Contractors Assn, run through the Telford and the Southern Institute of Technology

<https://www.facebook.com/NZWCA/photos/a.494033364337337/1149694058771261>

More information can also be found here:

<https://www.sit.ac.nz/programme/id/11754/course/Wool%20Clip%20Grading%20Training%20Scheme/campus/Telford/xmps/17003>

**Compiled by NZWCA Registrar Marg Forde, 14.08.21**