

“Towards Non-Mulesed Sheep”

Supporting sheep producers transition to non-mulesed flocks.

Project Aim

This project will support sheep breeders to utilise existing tools and management strategies available to transition to a non-mulesed flock.

Project Duration

January 2021 to June 2024

Project Objectives

To assist group members to:

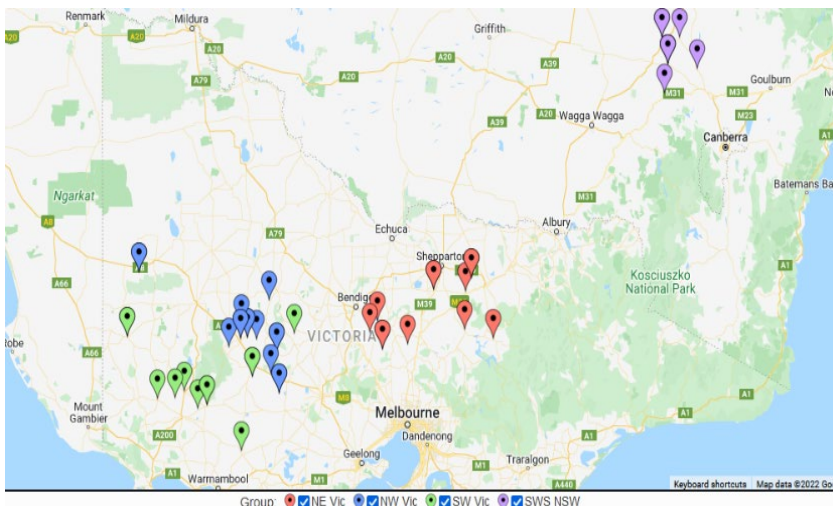
- Identify their breech strike risk factors (environmental, genetic and management),
- Demonstrate and evaluate cost/benefits of possible options for reducing risk, and
- Develop their own management strategy (5-year plan) to transition to a non-mulesed flock.



How the project works

‘Towards non-mulesed sheep’, utilises the principles of a PDS to guide producers through the design of a property-specific plan using existing tools and management strategies to reduce the reliance on mulesing.

This project involves 4 groups of producers located in different regions in Victoria and southern NSW, representing different production systems, environments, and flystrike risk factors. The groups are supported by the project team and leading producers (“Producer Advocates”) from their district. The Producer Advocates have successfully transitioned to running non-mulesed flocks and have many years of experience and data to support producers participating in this project.



The program includes discussion groups and on-farm demonstrations to allow producers to identify genetic and management changes they might need to ultimately be able to cease mulesing.

The group program runs across two years and groups meet throughout the year, on-farm, for sessions to improve knowledge and skills, discuss seasonal issues and use a range of industry tools to develop and implement their plans.

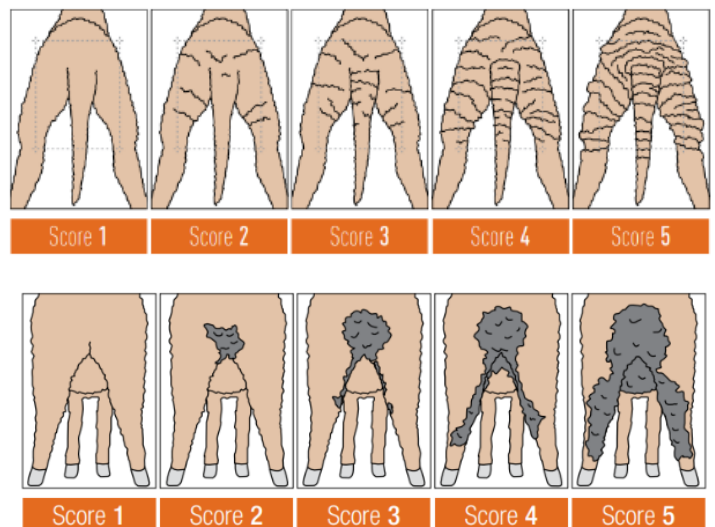
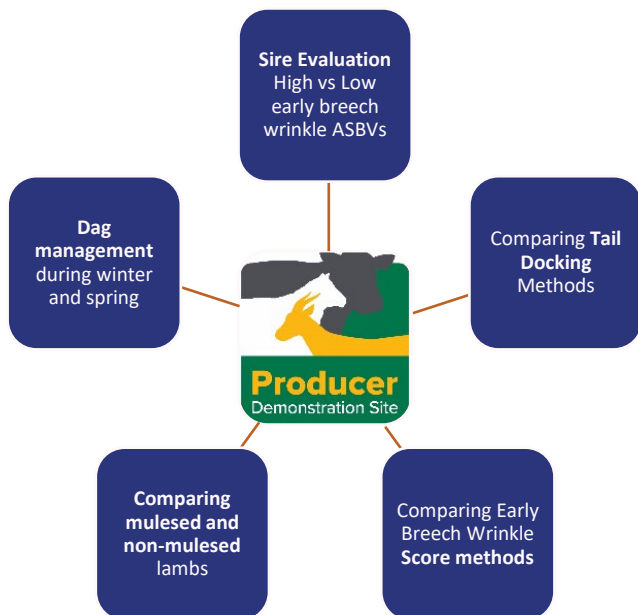
Workshops/session content includes:

- ✓ identifying factors contributing to risk of breech flystrike for your flock.
- ✓ management and genetic strategies to combat the main risks for flystrike in your region.
- ✓ using visual breech scores, Australian Sheep Breeding Values (ASBVs) and DNA Flock Profile to assist breeding less susceptible sheep.
- ✓ use of Flyboss, Wormboss and Ag360 tools.
- ✓ calculating cost benefit of ceasing mulesing for your business.

The project team has developed a one-day workshop on

“Managing flystrike & Developing a NM management plan for your property”.

Producer Demonstration Site topics



Project Team

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Resources

Fly and worm control: FlyBoss and WormBoss tools, <https://www.paraboss.com.au/>

Flystrike and Worm risk alerts: Ag360 tool, <https://ag360.com.au/>

Genetics: <https://www.sheepgenetics.org.au/>

Visual sheep score booklet (2019): available from AWI & MLA and as a PDF file on their websites.

Flystrike publications: <https://www.wool.com/sheep/welfare/breech-flystrike/>

Like to receive Demo Site updates or get involved?

Contact one of the project team or use QR code to register your interest

