

Australian Fleece Competition



AUSTRALIAN SHEEP & WOOL SHOW
BENDIGO, VICTORIA 17th - 19th JULY 2026



Photo: Gingerhouse Photography

KEY PARTNERS



www.sheepshow.com



www.nutrienagsolutions.com.au



www.awta.com.au

PROUDLY SUPPORTING



Prostate Cancer
Foundation of Australia

www.pcfa.org.au

Total Prize value over \$18,000
Major Prize - Grand Champion Fleece - \$2,000 Travel Voucher
Closing date for fleece entry and delivery Friday 5th June 2026

Enter online
www.sheepshow.com

COMPETITION OBJECTIVES

- To conduct a commercial fleece competition utilising current technology to assist both the objective and subjective measurement criteria.
- To conduct a fleece competition which provides educational outcomes to competitors, wool growers and the industry at large.
- To conduct a fleece competition encompassing all main wool types.

AUSTRALIAN FLEECE COMPETITION CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

- Each fleece must be accompanied by the fleece bag ticket, specifying the name of the exhibitor, phone contact, section entered, etc., Additional fleece bag tickets are available from Nutrien wool personnel - contacts listed on the back of this brochure.
Entry forms can be obtained from the Australian Sheep Breeders Association, Nutrien Wool Staff (In each State) or from the following websites:
www.nutrienagsolutions.com.au or www.sheepshow.com
- The judges' decision is final and no discussions will be entered into.
- Any fleece that does not satisfy the competition conditions of entry will be disqualified at the judges discretion.
- Fleeces must be shorn from the current season; ie July 2025 - June 2026.
- Fleeces will only be accepted from sheep which have been the bonafide property of the exhibitor for at least 6 months prior to being shorn.
- Fleeces should be intact and conventionally skirted and rolled to current industry standards.
Any fleeces that are insufficiently skirted will have excess removed by stewards. Judges reserve the right to deduct points for colour & uniformity of length. Fleeces containing brands should not be submitted. Fleeces with brands will be penalised for colour.
- Nutrien wool staff shall act as collection points for fleeces. Please contact your local representative for assistance with transport arrangements.
- Please note that all fleeces will be covered by insurance from property to show and return.
- Online entry is available on the ASBA website: www.sheepshow.com
- All fleeces must remain on display in the fleece exhibition area until the conclusion of the show. **Exhibitors will be able to collect fleeces on Sunday 19th July but NOT BEFORE 4pm.**
- Exhibitor contact details may be provided to media or show sponsors as part of show promotion or structured sponsorship agreements.
- Winners of major fleece sections and State Champions will be kept for display purposes at a public viewing area - Victorian Wool Centre - Melbourne during the next 12 Months. (State Champions to be displayed in home State.)
- The Committee reserves the right to not issue Champion awards in any section subject to the overall judging criteria.
- Trophies for the Most Successful Stud Exhibitor and Most Successful Commercial Exhibitor will be awarded to the exhibitor with the greatest number of aggregate points in each breed section, providing each individual fleece scores a minimum of 75 points.
- All fleeces will be weighed and tested for yield, fibre diameter, staple length and strength under the standard procedures of AWTA and based on IWTO regulations.
- Fleeces will be allocated to their respective class according to test results.
- Vegetable matter - A default value of 1.0% will be applied for all fleeces. For any fleece visually greater than 1.0% VM, the appraised value will be substituted for the default 1.0% value and the clean weight adjusted accordingly.
- All benchmarks will be surveyed annually and adjusted in June each year.
- Implied values will be based on AWEX wool types Eastern Market indicator averaged for the July 2025 to June 2026 selling season.
- Stud breeders (owners of a registered sheep stud) are not permitted to enter commercial fleece sections.
- Entries in the commercial classes are to be shorn from sheep run under paddock conditions. Any fleeces from rugged or housed sheep or those showing evidence of non-commercial feeding practices will be entered into stud classes.
- All fleeces from outside Australia will only be accepted if they comply with relevant regulations. Refer to the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources - Biosecurity for more information.
- Fleeces exhibited by a school, tertiary institution, student or other person under 21 years of age are eligible for the 'Ag Colleges and Schools Awards' and can be entered in classes 32A and 33A.
- Fleeces in the non-Merino sections will not be eligible for the major Australian Fleece Competition awards, on the basis that the TEAM formula is not used in scoring these fleeces.
- Exhibitors may donate additional fleeces or substitute fleeces if they wish to retain their exhibited fleece. Fleeces to be donated only and not included in the competition are to be clearly marked and labeled prior to delivery.
- Entry fees are:
 - ASBA Members - \$16.50 incl. GST per entry
 - Non-ASBA Members - \$22.00 incl. GST per entry
 - **No entry fee payable for donated fleeces.**

For further information on the judging process and guidelines, please refer to the Australian Fleece Competition Judging Schedule document.

ALLOCATION OF POINTS	MAX
CLEAN FLEECE WEIGHT	38
COMMERCIAL PROCESSING PERFORMANCE	38
COLOUR	6
EVENNESS	8
STYLE / CHARACTER / HANDLE	10
TOTAL POINTS	100

MERINO PERFORMANCE SECTION CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

These are stand alone classes and entries will not be eligible for the major Australian Fleece Competition awards

- Fleece entries will be accepted only from growers who shear their flock in 6-8 month cycles as a commercial practice. At least one bale of wool must be produced.
- The dates of the current and previous shearing are to be stated by Exhibitor.
- Shearing intervals must be no less than 24 weeks and no more than 37 weeks.
- The committee or judges have the discretion to request wool test results of the flock from which the fleeces were selected.
- **Fleece weights will be assessed against a percentage of the current AFC benchmarks based on weeks of growth.**
- Processing performance will be assessed against the AFC benchmarks for hauteur, CV of hauteur, noil, position of break and mm growth per week.
- A visual appraisal will determine points awarded for colour, evenness, style, character and handle.
- If an exhibitor owns a registered stud all fleeces will be entered in stud classes.
- Ram fleeces will not be accepted in the performance section.
- Exhibitors, wool industry participants and the public are invited to provide written feedback and input into how to improve or grow this section and provide relevant information to the wool industry.

PROUDLY SUPPORTING



Prostate Cancer
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MAJOR AWARDS

GRAND CHAMPION	<i>Sponsored by Nutrien Ag Solutions & Endeavour Wool Exports</i>	Travel Voucher	\$2,000
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION		<i>Sponsored by Elanco Animal Health</i>	\$1,400
CHAMPION COMMERCIAL		<i>Sponsored by Farmbot</i>	\$1,000
RESERVE CHAMPION COMMERCIAL	<i>Sponsored by Modiano Australia & Boehringer Ingelheim</i>		\$750
MOST SUCCESSFUL STUD EXHIBITOR		<i>Sponsored by AWTA Trophy & Testing</i>	\$250
MOST SUCCESSFUL COMMERCIAL EXHIBITOR		<i>Sponsored by AWTA Trophy & Testing</i>	\$250

SECTIONS & CLASSES

ALL FLEECES WILL BE FULLY TESTED, INCLUDING FOR LENGTH AND STRENGTH

RIBBONS WILL BE AWARDED FOR FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD PLACES IN EACH CLASS. HIGHLY COMMENDED RIBBONS ARE AWARDED TO FLEECES MEETING THE STIPULATED CRITERIA.

MERINO

CLASS 1 14.5 micron & finer Commercial Merino Ewe or Wether

Champion Sponsored by Gallagher. Product - \$250

Reserve Sponsored by AWTA. Testing - \$150

EXTRA ULTRA FINE 15.5 MICRON & FINER

CLASS 2 Merino Stud Ram - 15.5 micron & finer

CLASS 3 Merino Stud Ewe or Wether - 15.5 micron & finer

CLASS 4 Merino Commercial Ewe or Wether 14.6 - 15.5 micron

Champion Sponsored by Coopers Animal Health. Product - \$250

Reserve Sponsored by Zoetis. Product - \$150

ULTRA FINE 15.6 - 16.5 MICRON

CLASS 5 Merino Stud Ram

CLASS 6 Merino Stud Ewe or Wether

CLASS 7 Merino Commercial Ewe or Wether

Champion Sponsored by Australian Merino Exports. Cash - \$250

Reserve Sponsored by Anipro. Product - \$150

EXTRA SUPER FINE 16.6 - 17.5 MICRON

CLASS 8 Merino Stud Ram

CLASS 9 Merino Stud Ewe or Wether

CLASS 10 Merino Commercial Ewe or Wether

Champion Sponsored by Virbac. Product - \$250

Reserve Sponsored by Zoetis. Product - \$150

SUPER FINE 17.6 - 18.5 MICRON

CLASS 11 Merino Stud Ram

CLASS 12 Merino Stud Ewe or Wether

CLASS 13 Merino Commercial Ewe or Wether

Champion Sponsored by Stockowners Shearing. Product - \$300

Reserve Sponsored by Allflex. Product - \$150

FINE 18.6 - 19.5 MICRON

CLASS 14 Merino Stud Ram

CLASS 15 Merino Stud Ewe or Wether

CLASS 16 Merino Commercial Ewe or Wether

Champion Sponsored by Endeavour Wool Exports. Cash - \$250

Reserve Sponsored by AWTA. Testing - \$150

FINE MEDIUM 19.6 - 20.5 MICRON

CLASS 17 Merino Stud Ram

CLASS 18 Merino Stud Ewe or Wether

CLASS 19 Merino Commercial Ewe or Wether

Champion Sponsored by Coopers Animal Health. Product - \$250

Reserve Sponsored by Anipro. Product - \$150

MEDIUM 20.6 - 22.0 MICRON

CLASS 20 Merino Stud Ram

CLASS 21 Merino Stud Ewe or Wether

CLASS 22 Merino Commercial Ewe or Wether

Champion Sponsored by Virbac. Product - \$250

Reserve Sponsored by FeedTest. Testing - \$150

STRONG 22.1 MICRON & STRONGER

CLASS 23 Merino Stud Ram

CLASS 24 Merino Stud Ewe or Wether

CLASS 25 Merino Commercial Ewe or Wether

Champion Sponsored by Endeavour Wool Exports. Cash - \$250

Reserve Sponsored by Allflex. Product - \$150

DOHNE

CLASS 26 Dohne Stud Ram

CLASS 27 Dohne Stud Ewe or Wether

CLASS 28 Dohne Commercial Ewe or Wether F3+

Champion Sponsored by Aust. Dohne Breeders Assoc. Cash - \$300

Reserve Sponsored by Aust. Dohne Breeders Assoc. Cash - \$200

POLWARTH

CLASS 29 Polwarth Stud Ram

CLASS 30 Polwarth Stud Ewe or Wether

CLASS 31 Polwarth Commercial Ewe or Wether

Champion Sponsored by Dechra. Product - \$350

Reserve Sponsored by Zoetis. Product - \$150

CORRIEDALE

CLASS 32 Corriedale Stud Ram

CLASS 32A Corriedale Stud Ram exhibited by youth*

CLASS 33 Corriedale Stud Ewe or Wether

CLASS 33A Corriedale Stud Ewe or Wether exhibited by youth*

CLASS 34 Corriedale Commercial Ewe or Wether

Champion Sponsored by Heiniger. Product - \$250

Reserve Sponsored by Blundstone. Product - \$200

School Entries (Classes 32A & 33A)

Champion Sponsored by Australian Corriedale Association

Reserve Sponsored by Australian Corriedale Association

* Open to schools, tertiary institutions, students or other exhibitors under 21 years of age.

BRITISH BREEDS / OTHER BREEDS

CLASS 35 British Long Wool Ram

CLASS 36 British Long Wool Ewe

CLASS 37 Downs Wool

CLASS 38 Commercial Crossbred Fleece (29.5 micron & finer)

CLASS 39 Commercial Crossbred Fleece (29.6 micron & stronger)

Champion Sponsored by Modiano Australia. Cash - \$250

Reserve Sponsored by FeedTest. Testing - \$150

MERINO PERFORMANCE 6-8MTH SHEARING

CLASS 101 Merino Stud Ewe or Wether

CLASS 102 Merino Commercial Ewe or Wether

Champion Sponsored by Endeavour Wool Exports. Cash - \$500

Reserve Sponsored by Modiano Australia. Cash - \$250

Most Valuable

Sponsored by Australian Wool Innovation. Product - \$200

SCHOOL MERINO WETHER CHALLENGE

CLASS 201 Merino Wether

Both sponsored by Victorian Stud Merino Sheep Breeders

Champion Cash - \$300

Reserve Cash - \$200

STATE CHAMPIONS

HIGHEST SCORING FLEECE IN EACH STATE

Sponsored by Nutrien Ag Solutions

CHAMPION NEW SOUTH WALES FLEECE

Nutrien Wool Services - \$500

CHAMPION QUEENSLAND FLEECE

Nutrien Wool Services - \$500

CHAMPION SOUTH AUSTRALIA FLEECE

Nutrien Wool Services - \$500

CHAMPION TASMANIA FLEECE

Nutrien Wool Services - \$500

CHAMPION VICTORIA FLEECE

Nutrien Wool Services - \$500

CHAMPION WESTERN AUSTRALIA FLEECE

Nutrien Wool Services - \$500

FUTURE OF FARMING - AG COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS AWARDS

Awarded to highest scoring fleece in Classes 1-39, Entered by Ag Colleges, schools, students or person under 21 years of age.

Champion Sponsored by Nutrien Insurance. Cash - \$250

Reserve Sponsored by Nutrien Insurance. Cash - \$150

COMMERCIAL FLEECE VALUE

(REFER CLAUSE 19) - WILL BE AWARDED IN SIX GROUPS

Group 1	Most Valuable - from Classes 1, 3, 4, 6, 7
Group 2	Most Valuable - from Classes 9, 10, 12, 13
Group 3	Most Valuable - from Classes 15, 16, 18, 19, 27, 28
Group 4	Most Valuable - from Classes 21, 22, 24, 25
Group 5	Most Valuable - Non Merino <25.9 micron - from Classes 30, 31, 33, 33A, 34, 36, 38, 39
Group 6	Most Valuable - Non Merino >26 micron - from Classes 30, 31, 33, 33A, 34, 36, 38, 39

Each Group Sponsored by Australian Wool Innovation. Woolmark Product - \$200 per group.

All prizes are to be claimed within 12 months of the competition and are not redeemable for cash.

25th Australian Fleece Competition

KEY PARTNERS



www.sheepshow.com

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www.nutrienagsolutions.com.au



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2026 SPONSORS



Australian Corriedale Association



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Australian Merino Exports



AWI



TASMANIA AUSTRALIA - 1870

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Coopers Animal Health



Dechra



Elanco Animal Health



Endeavour Wool Exports



Feed Test



Farmbot



Gallagher



Heiniger



Modiano



Nutrien Insurance



Stockowners Shearing



VSMSBA



Virbac



Zoetis

DELIVERY DEADLINE

FRIDAY 5TH JUNE 2026

**Brooklyn Wool Selling Centre
Melbourne, Victoria**

**Fleeces consigned to any
other delivery points in
Australia must be received by
1st June 2026.**

Competition Enquiries:

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Tasmania

**WESTERN JUNCTION WOOLSTORE /
BRIDGEWATER WOOLSTORE**
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FLEECE BAGS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST