



GOAT INDUSTRY COMMITTEE

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Goat Industry Committee Meeting

The Goat Industry Committee met in Broken Hill on 1 October 2010. The Committee took the chance to visit Mt Gibbs Station in the morning to see firsthand how rangeland goats are harvested in the Western Division.

The meeting gave the Committee a chance to map out its priorities for the coming 12 months which are:

1. NLIS;
2. Chemical Access;
3. National Goat Health Auditing; and
4. Transaction Levy Review.

NLIS Funding

At its meeting on 1 October, the Committee looked at the emerging issue of NLIS funding. There is strong pressure at a national level to increase the level of verification and auditing for NLIS Sheep and Goats. The Committee has recognized that NLIS compliance auditing would mainly concern database uploads. Few costly saleyard audits will be needed. The Committee is proposing that the goat industry investigate funding NLIS compliance from existing levies.

The Committee is proposing that the goat industry separates its share of the funding from the sheep industry to ensure goat producers are not forced to pay for saleyard verification. This proposal is being taken to the Goat Industry Council of Australia when it next meets in November where sources of funding will also be discussed.

Chemical Access

Following the motion from the 2009 Biennial Conference on chemical certification, the Committee has been working with the Agricultural Chemicals Committee to lessen the regulatory burden on goat producers who only want access to fox baits.

As a result of this work we are pleased to report that the Government has changed the requirement for access to 1080 Fox Baits, which will now be available to producers after a 3 hour course rather than full ChemCard accreditation.

Victorian OJD Levy Reprieve

The Victorian Government has passed legislation which will allow NSW goat producers to be reimbursed for their contributions to the Victorian OJD Compensation Fund. Previously, sheep producers selling into Victoria were eligible for the 12 cent rebate but goat producers were not.

Following representations by the Association the Victorian Government agreed to extend the rebate to the goat industry which will result in substantial savings for some producers.

Claims for the 09/10 financial year must be lodged by 31 October 2010.

A claim form is attached to this newsletter and will be available on the Goat Committee page on the Association's website.