Wool industry
Issues and research
to 2013

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Definition of welfare

5 freedoms

– Hunger & thirst
– Discomfort
– Pain / injury / disease
– Fear / distress
– Express normal behaviour
Wool industry issues to 2013

• Social contract – new T&Cs
• Husbandry acts:
  – Commission
  – Omission
• 3R appraisal:
  – Reduce the need
  – Refine the procedure
  – Replace with a better alternative
AWSC
Research planning mtg
5.12.2008

Likely issues - 5 yrs
- Husbandry practices
  - Invasive
    - Castration
    - Tail docking
    - Artificial breeding
  - Stressful
    - Identification
    - Mustering
    - Preg scanning
    - Horn trimming
    - Foot paring
    - Parasite control
  - Reproductive inefficiencies
    - Endo (e.g. drenching)
    - Ecto (e.g. dipping)

- Husbandry omissions
  - Drought
  - Shelter
  - Nutrition
  - Predation

Research required
- Welfare assessment
  - Pain?
  - Discomfort?
  - Stress?
  - Intensity?
  - Duration?
  - Impact?
  - Practices
    - Pain relief production benefits
    - Wool harvesting alternatives

- Assessment methodology
  - Practices
Research required

• Consensus on methodology:
  – How many parameters?
    • Pain
    • Discomfort
    • Stress
    • Intensity
    • Duration
    • Impact
  – How measured?
    • Cortisol
    • Behaviour
    • Monofilament
    • Haptoglobin
    • Other?

• Practices:
  – Production benefits of pain relief
  – Wool harvesting