

COLLECTING FLEECE PRODUCTION DATA

BACKGROUND

Measuring fleece production of individual animals within a flock allows improved management and selection decisions to be made. Fleece weight and micron can be measured and used to calculate the gross income generated by each animal.

HOW IS IT DONE?

FLEECE WEIGHT

Equipment required

1. Weigh scale loadbars
2. Weigh scale indicator
3. RFID tag stick reader
4. Barcode printer
5. Barcode reader/scanner



Process

1. Sheep electronic (RFID) tag number scanned with stick reader as animal is shorn
2. Barcode printed and placed in bulldog clip in front of animal until animal is shorn
3. Once shorn, barcode travels with fleece to weigh scales
4. Barcode read and fleece weighed (creates record of fleece weight for each individual animal)
5. Fleece goes for skirting

FLEECE MICRON

Equipment required

1. RFID tag stick reader
2. Barcode printer

Process

1. Electronic (RFID) tag number scanned with stick reader and barcode printed
2. A mid side sample is collected and placed in a bag with corresponding barcode. Mid side samples can be collected prior to shearing in the yards, or when skirting the fleece during shearing (a mark placed on the side of the animal prior to shearing will assist in ensuring that samples are collected from the mid side).
3. Sample is sent for micron testing at laboratory

FURTHER INFORMATION

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