



AWSS Grower Self-Assessment



Disclaimer: This document is a working resource being piloted. It has been developed to support growers in assessing whether their on-farm practices align with the requirements of the AWSS Standard. Use of this document is voluntary, not compulsory.

This guide is intended for self-assessment purposes only. It does not form part of the formal audit process and does not replace or override any official audit requirements or documentation.

Feedback from growers on the clarity, usefulness and practicality of this resource is welcomed and will be used to inform future refinements.

How to use this self-assessment

The Australian Wool Sustainability Scheme (AWSS) is underpinned by five key sustainability pillars that reflect the industry's commitment to responsible wool production. This self-assessment guides you through each pillar, helping you evaluate your on-farm practices, demonstrate your stewardship, and see how your operations align with the AWSS Standard.

When completing each requirement:

- 1 Read the requirement statement on the left-hand side.
- 2 Review the self-assessment outcome listed on the right-hand side.
- 3 Tick all boxes that reflect your current on-farm practices and any supporting documentation.
- 4 Consider whether the items you have ticked are documented, consistent, and in use, not just informal or ad hoc.

You do not need to create new documents solely to complete this self-assessment. The purpose is to identify what is already in place and where gaps or improvements may exist.

Interpreting your results:

- **Most or all boxes ticked:** this indicates you are likely meeting the requirements of the AWSS Standard. Ensure any relevant documentation or records are current and readily accessible, where applicable.
- **Some boxes ticked:** this suggests the requirements may be partially met. You may need to strengthen existing practices, documentation, or address specific gaps.
- **Few or no boxes ticked:** this highlights an area where improvement is likely required to meet the AWSS Standard.

Growers are encouraged to complete the self-assessment honestly and use it as a practical tool to support ongoing alignment with the Standard.



Pillar 1 – Caring for our environment



Caring for our environment



Caring for our sheep



Caring for our people, our customers and our community



Caring for our industry



Clip preparation and integrity

SUSTAINABILITY

QUALITY

Requirement	Self-assessment	
OUTCOME 1.1 – Risks to the environment are identified and managed.		
1.1.1 – A comprehensive assessment of enterprise environmental risks for the property has been completed.	(Required to meet the Standard)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– A documented environmental risk assessment is in place.	
	(Tick all that apply)	
	Risk assessment includes:	
	– Vegetation soil and water resource considerations.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Contamination risks.	<input type="checkbox"/>
– Environmental compliance.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
– Strategies for avoidance/mitigation.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
– Other.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
1.1.2 – A documented fire and flood risk management plan for the property has been completed.	(Required to meet the Standard)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– A documented fire and flood risk management plan is in place.	
	(Tick all that apply)	
	Plan includes:	
	– Key contacts in the event of an emergency.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– A map of the property with relevant infrastructure marked.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Evacuation plan and muster point for personnel.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Water resources identified for use in fires.	<input type="checkbox"/>
– Fuel and chemical stores identified.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
– Other.	<input type="checkbox"/>	





Requirement	Self-assessment
OUTCOME 1.2 – Animal health and crop and pasture protection chemicals are stored, handled, applied and managed safely and responsibly and in accordance with legal requirements.	
1.2.1 – A member of the business is allocated responsibility for overseeing chemical use.	<p>(All are required to meet the Standard)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A member of the business is allocated responsibility for overseeing chemical use. <input type="checkbox"/> - The responsible person understands their duties regarding safe and complaint chemical handling. <input type="checkbox"/> - The responsible person’s role is documented and communicated to relevant staff. <input type="checkbox"/>
1.2.2 – The person responsible for overseeing chemical use has completed a Farm Chemical Users course within the past five years.	<p>(Required to meet the Standard)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Relevant personnel hold chemical users permit, issued within last 5 years. <input type="checkbox"/>
1.2.3 – An inventory of farm chemicals stored on-farm is maintained, including a minimum of; product name, quantity, batch number, and expiry or manufacture dates.	<p>(All are required to meet the Standard)</p> <p>A chemical inventory is available on-farm and includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All chemicals held on-site (animal health, fertilisers and herbicides). <input type="checkbox"/> - Product name, quantity on-hand, batch number and expiry dates are recorded. <input type="checkbox"/>
1.2.4 – All chemicals used for crop, pasture and livestock treatments are stored securely in accordance with label/ manufacturers’ directions.	<p>(All are required to meet the Standard)</p> <p>Chemical storage areas have the following minimum requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Secure (locked or controlled access). <input type="checkbox"/> - Well ventilated. <input type="checkbox"/> - Equipped with bunding or spill containment where required. <input type="checkbox"/> - Clearly signed e.g. ‘chemical storage’ or hazard warnings. <input type="checkbox"/> - Flammable chemicals stored separately from other chemicals. <input type="checkbox"/> - PPE available. <input type="checkbox"/> - Labels on all chemicals intact and clearly legible. <input type="checkbox"/>
1.2.5 – Fertilisers and pesticides are only applied in accordance with APVMA registrations and label/manufacturer’s directions.	<p>(All are required to meet the Standard)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Application records are available. <input type="checkbox"/> - Spray implements are calibrated to ensure correct chemical application rates. <input type="checkbox"/> - All operators, including contractors, are aware of the APVMA and other legislative requirements and provide required documentation. <input type="checkbox"/>
1.2.6 – All chemicals are disposed of as required by law, and in accordance with label/ manufacturer’s directions.	<p>(All are required to meet the Standard)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chemical drums are triple rinsed and stored, once empty. <input type="checkbox"/> - Rinsed drums are disposed of through recognised programs e.g. Drum Muster. <input type="checkbox"/> - Expired or surplus chemicals are disposed of according to manufacturer’s instructions and/or through Chemclear. <input type="checkbox"/>





Requirement	Self-assessment
OUTCOME 1.3 – Soil health and functionality is enhanced through sustainable land management practices.	
1.3.1 – Soil testing is undertaken to identify any remedial actions required to manage soil health and fertility.	(Tick all that apply) – Periodic soil testing is undertaken. <input type="checkbox"/> – Recent soil analysis reports are available, showing nutrient levels, pH, organic matter etc. <input type="checkbox"/>
1.3.2 – Action is taken when necessary to manage soil health and fertility.	(Tick all that apply) Actions have been taken to manage soil health and fertility. These include: – Fertilisers applied according to recommendations. <input type="checkbox"/> – Lime or other amendments applied to adjust soil pH. <input type="checkbox"/> – Cover crops, green manure, or pasture mixes planted. <input type="checkbox"/> – Reduced tillage or controlled grazing. <input type="checkbox"/> – Application of compost, manure or biochar. <input type="checkbox"/> – Erosion control measures implemented (contour banks, grassed waterways, riparian buffers). <input type="checkbox"/> – Other. <input type="checkbox"/>
1.3.3 – Sustainable land use is supported by calculating carrying capacity of grazing areas to inform stocking rate management.	(All are required to meet the Standard) – Carrying capacity is monitored and calculated, using Dry Sheep Equivalent (DSE) or similar method to inform stocking decisions. <input type="checkbox"/> – Stocking rates are matched to feed availability. <input type="checkbox"/> – Feed on offer in grazing areas is monitored, and supplementary feeding is calculated and used where required. <input type="checkbox"/>
1.3.4 – Ground cover is maintained to prevent soil erosion, maintain soil carbon, and encourage pasture persistence and productivity.	(Required to meet the Standard) – Routine monitoring of ground cover through regular property inspections to assess pasture condition and coverage. <input type="checkbox"/> (Select other practices, where applicable) – Rotational grazing/stock management practices implemented. <input type="checkbox"/> – Pasture species selected to promote and preserve ground cover. <input type="checkbox"/> – Photo monitoring sites established to monitor ground cover changes. <input type="checkbox"/> – Drought management strategy in place to manage for periods of extended dry. <input type="checkbox"/> – Other. <input type="checkbox"/>





Requirement	Self-assessment
OUTCOME 1.4 – Biodiverse ecological communities are measured and monitored to ensure they are protected and enhanced.	
1.4.1 – All activities undertaken on the property comply with relevant state and National legislation regarding natural resource management.	(Required to meet the Standard)
	– Natural Resource Management legislation is known and understood for the property. <input type="checkbox"/>
	(Required to meet the Standard where applicable)
	– Relevant permits, licences have been obtained. <input type="checkbox"/>
	– Records of approvals held demonstrating consent are maintained. <input type="checkbox"/>
	– Activities are planned and implemented in accordance with the conditions of consent. <input type="checkbox"/>
1.4.2 – Flora is monitored and managed to ensure diversity of species, and number of plants appropriate to the region, land type and enterprise.	(All required to meet the Standard)
	– Key personnel have knowledge of local plants and vegetation. <input type="checkbox"/>
	– Plants and vegetation are identified and monitored on property. <input type="checkbox"/>
1.4.3 – Potential adverse effects on ecological communities are assessed, avoided, remedied and mitigated.	(Required to meet the Standard)
	– Regular monitoring for invasive species, pests and weeds is conducted. <input type="checkbox"/>
	– Buffer zones are implemented around sensitive habitats e.g. waterways. <input type="checkbox"/>
	– Erosion control measures are in place. <input type="checkbox"/>
	(Select other practices, where applicable)
	– A weed and pest management plan is in place to record, manage and monitor invasive plant and animal species. <input type="checkbox"/>
	– Wildlife corridors are maintained to connect fragmented habitats. <input type="checkbox"/>
	– Areas of native vegetation are fenced off from grazing or other operations. <input type="checkbox"/>
	– Grazing pressure is managed to prevent adverse effects on ecological communities. <input type="checkbox"/>
– Other. <input type="checkbox"/>	





Requirement	Self-assessment
OUTCOME 1.4 – Biodiverse ecological communities are measured and monitored to ensure they are protected and enhanced.	
1.4.4 – Invasive species are managed to minimise their impacts on biodiversity, soil, native plants and animals, and productivity.	<p>(All required to meet the Standard)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mechanical, chemical and/or biological controls are implemented, as required, to manage invasive species, these may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Weed control undertaken through spraying, slashing etc. <input type="checkbox"/> - Baiting or trapping feral animals (e.g. foxes, rabbits, pigs). - Licensed shooters or pest controllers engaged, where required. - Weeds of National Significance (WoNS) are identified and managed according to legislation. <input type="checkbox"/> - Compliance to relevant biosecurity regulations – landowner responsibilities on managing locally declared invasive & endemic species. <input type="checkbox"/>
1.4.5 – Development activities, including clearing, should only proceed in accordance with local, State and National regulations, and with relevant legal consent from local and/or regional authorities.	<p>(All required to meet the Standard)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development and clearing legislation is known and understood for the property. <input type="checkbox"/> <p>(Where required)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Relevant permits, licences have been obtained (where required). <input type="checkbox"/> - Records of approvals held demonstrating consent are maintained. <input type="checkbox"/> - Activities are planned and implemented in accordance with the conditions of consent. <input type="checkbox"/>





Requirement	Self-assessment	
OUTCOME 1.5 – Water resources are used responsibly and efficiently to maintain quality and availability.		
1.5.1 – Strategies are implemented that support healthy waterways and protect them from erosion.	(All required to meet the Standard)	
	– Stock access to waterways is managed.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Runoff is managed to prevent erosion.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Erosion prone areas e.g. gullies, banks are repaired and/or managed.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	(Select other practices, where applicable)	
	– Riparian areas are protected through fencing to prevent livestock access and erosion.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Native vegetation is managed along waterways.	<input type="checkbox"/>
– Other.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
1.5.2 – Strategies are implemented to optimise water use efficiency.	(All required to meet the Standard)	
	– Soil health and ground cover are managed to improve water infiltration.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Contour banks are used to manage water flow.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Adequate water storage on farm e.g. dams, tanks, troughs.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	(Select other practices, where applicable)	
	– Irrigation is managed to prevent run-off and evaporation.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Moisture probes are used to optimise irrigation times and volumes.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Stock days of feed per hectare per 100ml of rain are recorded to assess water use efficiency.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Off-stream watering points are used to optimise water use efficiency.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Other.	<input type="checkbox"/>
OUTCOME 1.6 – Net GHG emissions are managed to minimise climate change impacts.		
1.6.1 – A carbon calculator has been used to estimate net emissions from the property.	(Where applicable)	
	– An approved calculator has been used to assess property emissions.	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.6.2 – Opportunities to minimise GHG emissions intensity per kilogram of clean wool on this property are assessed for implementation.	(Where applicable)	
	– Productivity is maintained at optimal rates to minimise methane output.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	(Select any emission reduction strategies that apply)	
	– Incorporation of legumes in pastures.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Reduced join to wean ratio.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Improved growth rates for increased production.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Feed additives to reduce methane.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Trees and vegetation are protected and/or planted for long-term carbon storage.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Renewable energy sources are installed.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Emission offset strategies including carbon sequestration, renewable energy and reduced synthetic fertiliser inputs.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Other.	<input type="checkbox"/>





Pillar 2 – Caring for our sheep



Caring for our environment



Caring for our sheep



Caring for our people, our customers and our community



Caring for our industry



Clip preparation and integrity

SUSTAINABILITY

QUALITY

Requirement

Self-assessment

OUTCOME 2.1 – Personnel have the skills and resources to plan and implement optimal health and welfare practices.

2.1.1 – Staff responsible for handling livestock have and apply the skills to work with animals according to National Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines and state animal welfare regulations.

(All required to meet the Standard)

Staff responsible for handling livestock are:

- Inducted, covering safe handling practices.
- Trained by experienced personnel in the business.
- Assessed and signed off on livestock handling by experienced personnel in the business.

(Select other practices, where applicable)

- Relevant training records and certificates of competency.
- Completed relevant animal welfare and livestock handling training.

2.1.2 – Contractors who handle sheep operate in compliance with the National Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines, relevant state and territory animal welfare regulations, and any directions of the Operator.

(All required to meet the Standard, where contractors are engaged)

- Contractors have adequate livestock handling training and any required qualifications.
- All contractors are inducted to the property requirements.

2.1.3 – Shearing related injuries to sheep are recorded and treated appropriately.

(Required to meet the Standard)

- Shearing cuts and injuries are treated in a timely manner, according to severity and recorded as required.





Requirement	Self-assessment
OUTCOME 2.1 – Personnel have the skills and resources to plan and implement optimal health and welfare practices.	
2.1.4 – Animal health treatments are administered by trained and competent personnel according to product label and/or advice from a veterinarian, and relevant legal requirements.	<p>(All required to meet the Standard)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All animal health treatments are administered by suitably trained and/or qualified staff. <input type="checkbox"/> - Treatments are administered according to the label and/or veterinary advice. <input type="checkbox"/> - All withhold periods are adhered to. <input type="checkbox"/>
2.1.5 – Livestock are excluded from any dangerous or potentially contaminated sites on the property.	<p>(All required to meet the Standard)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Livestock are excluded from any contaminated or dangerous sites (including dips and rubbish pits) through fencing, isolation or removal. <input type="checkbox"/>
OUTCOME 2.2 – Sheep experience low incidence of disease and mortality rates.	
2.2.1 – Health treatments programs are implemented to mitigate instances of disease and infection.	<p>(All required to meet the Standard)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Documented health treatments plans are in place for vaccinations, drenching and other parasite control with a focus on preventative methods to reduce incidences of disease and infection. <input type="checkbox"/> - Treatments are provided to limit spread of disease and infections, once identified. <input type="checkbox"/> - Veterinarians are consulted as required. <input type="checkbox"/> - Notifiable diseases are reported and documented. <input type="checkbox"/>
2.2.2 – Effective treatments for health issues are administered as early as possible.	<p>(All required to meet the Standard)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Livestock are regularly monitored to detect health issues as soon as possible. <input type="checkbox"/> - Treatment is provided in a timely manner and according to manufacturers and veterinarian advice. <input type="checkbox"/>
2.2.3 – Disease and mortality records are maintained to enable trends to be tracked and analysed.	<p>(Required to meet the Standard)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Animal health records are maintained, including disease and mortality rates. <input type="checkbox"/> - Lambing and weaning rates, and ewe mortality numbers are recorded. <input type="checkbox"/>
2.2.4 – Cases of unexpectedly high disease and mortality incidents are investigated, and preventative measures are implemented where necessary.	<p>(All required to meet the Standard)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased, unusual or sudden deaths are investigated and reviewed. <input type="checkbox"/> - Animal health authorities are notified, where required. <input type="checkbox"/>
2.2.5 – Declared pest animals that prey on livestock, are managed in accordance with national guidelines and state and territory regulations.	<p>(Where required)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Records and/or confirmation of pest control activities such as control shooting (e.g. foxes, feral pigs, pest birds) are maintained in accordance with national guidelines and state and territory regulations. <input type="checkbox"/> - Evidence of baiting programs carried out in accordance with national guidelines and local regulations/pest management requirements is maintained. <input type="checkbox"/>





Requirement	Self-assessment
OUTCOME 2.3 – Sheep experience good health and wellbeing and exhibit normal behaviour due to the adoption of evidence-based health and welfare practices.	
2.3.1 – Sheep are provided with food and water of a quality and quantity to meet their physiological needs and maintain good health.	(All required to meet the Standard)
	- Animals have access to adequate nutrition, to meet their physiological needs at all times. <input type="checkbox"/>
	- Livestock have access to suitable water at all times. <input type="checkbox"/>
	(Select other practices, where applicable)
	- Body condition score and feed availability are monitored to ensure animals’ nutritional needs are maintained. <input type="checkbox"/>
	- Supplementary feed is provided where feed on offer is not sufficient to meet nutritional needs of animals. <input type="checkbox"/>
2.3.2 – Sheep are provided with shade and shelter against weather, such as trees.	(Required to meet the Standard)
	- Adequate vegetation or other natural structures present in paddocks to provide shelter. <input type="checkbox"/>
	(Where applicable)
	- Shelter belts are present in key paddocks to protect livestock from extreme weather and/or provide shelter for lambing. <input type="checkbox"/>
2.3.3 – Sheep are free to exhibit normal, healthy behaviours.	(All required to meet the Standard)
	- Livestock are run in mobs and have access to necessary space to exhibit natural behaviours. <input type="checkbox"/>
	- Livestock are handled using their natural instincts to minimise stress. <input type="checkbox"/>
2.3.4 – Containment feeding facilities, where needed, are designed, constructed, and competently operated in accordance with the guidelines contained in the Australian Animal Welfare Standards.	(Where applicable)
	- Containment pens are constructed with adequate space for required stocking rates. <input type="checkbox"/>
	- Containment pens have sufficient watering points to ensure suitable access to water for all livestock. <input type="checkbox"/>
	- Containment pens have adequate feed troughs/pads to prevent livestock from being trampled. <input type="checkbox"/>
	- Flooring of containment pens meets standards & guideline requirements and is installed and maintained to prevent injuries to animals. <input type="checkbox"/>
	- Manure and waste is removed to prevent injury, spread of disease and infections, and managed according to environmental requirements. <input type="checkbox"/>





Requirement	Self-assessment
OUTCOME 2.3 – Sheep experience good health and wellbeing and exhibit normal behaviour due to the adoption of evidence-based health and welfare practices.	
2.3.5 – Sheep must not be shedded or individually penned for the purposes of specialist fine wool production.	<p>(All required to meet the Standard)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No livestock are individually penned for the purpose of fine wool production. <input type="checkbox"/> - Animals requiring individual penning for the purpose of inspection, assessment, treatment or other animal husbandry practices have access to adequate space, feed and water at all times. <input type="checkbox"/>
2.3.6 – Sheep are not subject to long-term close confinement (held in a race or single pen).	<p>(All required to meet the Standard)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Livestock are only held in close confinement in races or single pens for the time necessary to conduct animal handling/treatment practices. <input type="checkbox"/> - Livestock are not unnecessarily confined for any reason. <input type="checkbox"/>
2.3.7 – Personnel are competent in breeding ewe management and sheep body condition score assessments to inform practices to optimise sheep health and wellbeing.	<p>(Required to meet the Standard)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sheep health and wellbeing is assessed by competent, trained staff to determine required livestock handling and management practices. Examples include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Suitability of ewes for joining. <input type="checkbox"/> - Age of weaning. - Requirement for supplementary feeding. - Treatment options. <p>(Select other practices, where applicable)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Personnel responsible for managing sheep and lamb production have completed Lifetime Ewe Management Training or similar (<i>highly recommended</i>). <input type="checkbox"/> - Other. <input type="checkbox"/>
2.3.8 – Practices are implemented to optimise reproductive efficiency, minimise reproductive losses, and ewe, lamb and weaner mortality.	<p>(Tick all that apply)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ewes are scanned and grouped to provide adequate nutrition and pregnancy management. <input type="checkbox"/> - Use of lambing paddocks with adequate feed. <input type="checkbox"/> - Nutrition is matched to livestock needs. <input type="checkbox"/> - Other. <input type="checkbox"/>





Requirement	Self-assessment
OUTCOME 2.3 – Sheep experience good health and wellbeing and exhibit normal behaviour due to the adoption of evidence-based health and welfare practices.	
2.3.9 – Working dogs are appropriately trained, controlled, muzzled where necessary, and well-treated according to National Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines and state and territory animal welfare regulations.	<p>(All required to meet the Standard, where working dogs are engaged)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Working dogs are appropriately trained to work livestock. <input type="checkbox"/> - Working dogs are able to be controlled by their handler at all times. <input type="checkbox"/> - Muzzles are used, where required. <input type="checkbox"/> - Working dogs have suitable shelter, nutrition and water available. <input type="checkbox"/>
2.3.10 – Breech Modification practices are only utilised for the purpose of managing flystrike risk.	<p>(Where applicable)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Breech modification is conducted for the purpose of fly strike management. <input type="checkbox"/>
2.3.11 – All Breech Modification practices to reduce fly strike risk, if applied, are done according to relevant National Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines and state and territory animal welfare regulations.	<p>(Where applicable)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Breech modification is conducted in accordance with the National Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines and state and territory animal welfare regulations. <input type="checkbox"/> - Approved mulesing equipment is used when performing breech modification. <input type="checkbox"/> - Contractors perform breech modification in accordance with the National Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines and state and territory animal welfare regulations. <input type="checkbox"/>
2.3.12 – If breech modification practices to reduce flystrike are applied, they are accompanied by appropriate pain relief according to label instructions and/or veterinarian advice.	<p>(Where applicable)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Breech modification is only conducted using appropriate pain relief. <input type="checkbox"/> - Pain relief is applied according to label instructions and or veterinarian advice. <input type="checkbox"/> - Contractors are made aware of pain relief requirements and adhere to these at all times. <input type="checkbox"/> - Records of treatment and purchase receipts are kept for verification. <input type="checkbox"/>
2.3.13 – Tail docking and castration is conducted by 12 weeks (about 3 months) of age.	<p>(Required to meet the Standard)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lamb marking (including tail docking and castration) are conducted before animals reach 3 months of age. <input type="checkbox"/> <p>(Where applicable)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Any animal requiring late tail docking or castration is conducted in accordance with the National Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines and state and territory animal welfare regulations. <input type="checkbox"/>





Requirement	Self-assessment
OUTCOME 2.3 – Sheep experience good health and wellbeing and exhibit normal behaviour due to the adoption of evidence-based health and welfare practices.	
2.3.14 – Tail docking, when carried out, leaves the appropriate length of tail to ensure residual tail length when healed is sufficient to cover the vulva in ewe lambs (at the 3rd to 4th palpable joint, or the tail-side ends of the caudal folds, wethers should be docked to the same length).	<p>(Required to meet the Standard)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tails are docked between the 3rd and 4th palpable joint to ensure tail covers the vulva in ewes and the same length in wethers. <input type="checkbox"/> <p>(Where applicable)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Contractors are made aware of tail docking requirements and adhere to the standards set. <input type="checkbox"/>
2.3.15 – Castration occurs using a rubber ring, unless on veterinary advice.	<p>(Required to meet the Standard)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Castration is conducted using rubber rings. <input type="checkbox"/> <p>(Where applicable)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Contractors are made aware of castration requirements and adhere to the standards set. <input type="checkbox"/>
2.3.16 – Dehorning, disbudding and substantial horn trimming is conducted by competent operators according to National Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines and relevant state and territory animal welfare regulations for animal welfare purposes only.	<p>(Tick all that apply)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dehorning/disbudding is not routinely carried out. <input type="checkbox"/> - Horn trimming/tipping is conducted, when necessary by a competent person and in accordance with the National Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines and state and territory animal welfare regulations. <input type="checkbox"/> - Where required for animal welfare, disbudding/dehorning is completed by a competent person in accordance with the National Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines and state and territory animal welfare regulations. <input type="checkbox"/>
2.3.17 – Ear marking or branding is not practiced.	<p>(Required to meet the Standard)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All animals are fitted with an NLIS ear tag before leaving the property. <input type="checkbox"/> - No ear marking or branding is performed. <input type="checkbox"/> <p>(Where applicable)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Animals are fitted with an NLIS ear tag before weaning. <input type="checkbox"/>





Requirement	Self-assessment
OUTCOME 2.4 – Sheep experience minimal stress and no undue suffering during handling, transport and destruction.	
2.4.1 – Livestock destruction is carried out in such a way that it causes rapid loss of consciousness and minimises pain and distress to the animal.	(All required to meet the Standard)
	- Animals requiring euthanasia are destroyed quickly and effectively (e.g. use of firearm), by competent personnel. <input type="checkbox"/>
	- Where required, livestock destruction is conducted by veterinarians. <input type="checkbox"/>
	(Where applicable)
	- Only licensed firearm operators have access to firearms and ammunition. <input type="checkbox"/>
	- Ammunition is stored separately in locked storage. <input type="checkbox"/>
2.4.2 – All reasonable efforts are made to minimise stress and the risk of injury during handling and transport.	(All required to meet the Standard)
	- All persons handling livestock are trained in livestock handling. <input type="checkbox"/>
	- Livestock are loaded with minimal stress. <input type="checkbox"/>
	- Livestock handling aids are used, only when required, and comply with the National Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines and state and territory animal welfare regulations. <input type="checkbox"/>
	- Loading facilities, including ramps, races and yards are maintained to prevent injury and allow for ease of handling. <input type="checkbox"/>
2.4.3 – Transport service providers are only selected where they meet applicable transport safety standards for the loading, unloading and transport of stock.	(All required to meet the Standard)
	- Livestock transport companies adhere to the National Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines and state and territory animal welfare regulations and hold relevant accreditations. <input type="checkbox"/>
	- Livestock handling aids are used, only when required, and comply with the National Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines and state and territory animal welfare regulations. <input type="checkbox"/>
2.4.4 – Ramps and forcing pens used for livestock transportation are compliant with AS 5340:2020 Livestock loading/unloading ramps and forcing pens.	(Required to meet the Standard)
	- Ramps and forcing pens used for livestock transportation ensure low stress handling and are free of hazards that may cause injury. <input type="checkbox"/>





Pillar 3 – Caring for our people, our customers and our community



Caring for our environment



Caring for our sheep



Caring for our people,
our customers and
our community



Caring for our industry



Clip preparation and integrity

SUSTAINABILITY

QUALITY

Requirement	Self-assessment
OUTCOME 3.1 – Personnel experience a safe workplace, and their physical health and mental well-being are actively supported.	
3.1.1 – Compliance with all relevant State and National Work Health & Safety (WH&S) is maintained.	<p>(All required to meet the Standard)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The enterprise is aware of their responsibility under relevant state and national WHS legislation. <input type="checkbox"/> - The enterprise complies with all relevant legislation. <input type="checkbox"/>
3.1.2 – A Work Health & Safety plan for the property is implemented and reviewed.	<p>(All required to meet the Standard)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A documented WHS plan is available for the property. <input type="checkbox"/> - The WHS plan is reviewed (at least annually) and relevant changes implemented. <input type="checkbox"/>
3.1.3 – All personnel receive an induction for each site on the property.	<p>(All required to meet the Standard)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All employees are inducted at the commencement of their employment. <input type="checkbox"/> - Employee training records are maintained including evidence of induction training. <input type="checkbox"/>
3.1.4 – The business has staff that are identifiable first aid officers that have completed formal first aid training.	<p>(All required to meet the Standard)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Suitably qualified first aid officer/(s) are available at the property. <input type="checkbox"/> - Copies of first aid qualifications are kept on file. <input type="checkbox"/> - The first aiders' role is documented and communicated to relevant staff. <input type="checkbox"/>
3.1.5 – All personnel can access regularly maintained first aid resources.	<p>(All required to meet the Standard)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Suitably stocked first aid kits are available on-site. <input type="checkbox"/> - First aid kit locations are easily identifiable and accessible. <input type="checkbox"/> - First aid kits are checked periodically to ensure they remain stocked and items are within their expiry date. <input type="checkbox"/>





Requirement	Self-assessment
OUTCOME 3.1 – Personnel experience a safe workplace, and their physical health and mental well-being are actively supported.	
3.1.6 – Staff are supported to access physical and mental healthcare services, initiatives and programs.	<p>(All required to meet the Standard where staff are employed under the enterprise)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Employees are provided with information relating to healthcare services at induction. <input type="checkbox"/> – Employee wellbeing is discussed during annual performance reviews. <input type="checkbox"/>
3.1.7 – Facilities, infrastructure, equipment, and machinery are regularly inspected and maintained to ensure they are safe for all people and animals.	<p>(All required to meet the Standard)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Facility checks (Sheds, toilets, yards, loading rams etc) are conducted ahead of key activities and/or at least annually (shearing, marking etc). <input type="checkbox"/> – Pre-start inspections are conducted on all machinery and equipment at required intervals. <input type="checkbox"/> <p>(Where applicable)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – A hazard reporting procedure is in place for employees to identify and report hazards. <input type="checkbox"/>
OUTCOME 3.2 – Members of the business are appropriately trained and are supported to pursue opportunities to upskill and achieve individual goals.	
3.2.1 – Personnel are competent in the skills required for them to fulfill their responsibilities.	<p>(All required to meet the Standard where staff are employed under the enterprise)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Employees are assessed for competence in their area of responsibility at the commencement of their employment. <input type="checkbox"/>
3.2.2 – Personnel are provided with training in how to operate on-farm machinery and equipment.	<p>(All required to meet the Standard where staff are employed under the enterprise)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – On-the-job training and assessment is conducted by supervisors/managers to ensure employees are adequately trained to perform their role. <input type="checkbox"/> – Employee training records include any required certificates, qualifications and licences necessary to perform their role. <input type="checkbox"/> – Employees receive instruction on how to safely operate equipment, identify hazards and report incidents. <input type="checkbox"/>
3.2.3 – Personnel are provided with opportunities for work-related development and hands-on experience.	<p>(Required to meet the Standard, where staff are employed under the enterprise)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Annual performance reviews include development plans for employees. <input type="checkbox"/> <p>(Select other practices, where applicable)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Employees are provided opportunities to develop professionally through training where relevant and applicable to their role. <input type="checkbox"/> – Other. <input type="checkbox"/>
3.2.4 – Annual performance reviews are undertaken with all staff.	<p>(All required to meet the Standard where staff are employed under the enterprise)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Annual performance reviews are conducted for all employees. <input type="checkbox"/> – Performance reviews are stored with employee files. <input type="checkbox"/>
3.2.5 – Relevant personnel are involved in meetings to discuss strategic business goals and alignment of personal goals.	<p>(All required to meet the Standard where staff are employed under the enterprise)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Relevant employees are involved in strategic planning and business decisions. <input type="checkbox"/> – Business goals and strategic plans are aligned with personal goals and are communicated to all employees. <input type="checkbox"/>





Requirement	Self-assessment
OUTCOME 3.3 – The business complies with all relevant State and National employment laws, including those preventing modern slavery, and supports a diverse workplace.	
3.3.1 – Fair wage laws and awards are complied with.	<p>(All required to meet the Standard where staff are employed under the enterprise)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Employees are paid at the least the minimum wage as specified by the relevant award/wage laws. <input type="checkbox"/> - The business stays up-to-date with HR/IR changes to ensure ongoing compliance. <input type="checkbox"/>
3.3.2 – Personnel are provided with the opportunity to take leave and holidays in accordance with employment laws and relevant awards as a minimum.	<p>(All required to meet the Standard where staff are employed under the enterprise)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Employees accrue personal and annual leave according to relevant award/wages. <input type="checkbox"/> - Employees are allowed to use accrued personal and annual leave in accordance with relevant award/wage legislation. <input type="checkbox"/>
3.3.3 – Relevant National and state and territory anti-discrimination laws and regulations are complied with.	<p>(All required to meet the Standard where staff are employed under the enterprise)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The employer complies with all relevant anti-discrimination laws and regulations. <input type="checkbox"/> - Employees are not discriminated against based on age, gender or cultural beliefs. <input type="checkbox"/> - Employees are made aware of anti-discrimination laws and their responsibilities in the workplace at induction. <input type="checkbox"/>
3.3.4 – Workplace diversity is valued, respected, and actively supported.	<p>(Tick all that apply)</p> <p>Workplace diversity is supported through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recruitment and selection practices value all candidates regardless of age, nationality, ethnicity, gender identity, disability etc. <input type="checkbox"/> - Availability of facilities that support gender and cultural diversity (where applicable). <input type="checkbox"/> - Promotion and work opportunities are available to all employees, based on merit. <input type="checkbox"/> - Other. <input type="checkbox"/>





Pillar 4 – Caring for our industry



Caring for our environment



Caring for our sheep



Caring for our people, our customers and our community



Caring for our industry



Clip preparation and integrity

SUSTAINABILITY

QUALITY

Requirement	Self-assessment
OUTCOME 4.1 – Human capital is supported and managed efficiently.	
4.1.1 – Members of the business share their knowledge and skills within the business and broader industry.	(Where applicable) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Experienced employees are utilised to share skills and knowledge to other employees within the business. <input type="checkbox"/> – A succession plan is in place to maintain corporate knowledge and skill sharing. <input type="checkbox"/> – Members of the business share knowledge and skills with the industry through workshops, field days as well as through industry representation and engagement. <input type="checkbox"/> – Other. <input type="checkbox"/>
4.1.2 – All members of the business are provided the opportunity to engage in training and mentorship initiatives.	(Where applicable) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Annual performance reviews include personal development and training plans for employees. <input type="checkbox"/> – Mentoring opportunities are provided between staff and other experienced personnel. <input type="checkbox"/> – Other. <input type="checkbox"/>





Requirement	Self-assessment
OUTCOME 4.2 – Industry productivity is improved through collective advancement in research and innovation, and its extension to wool growers.	
4.2.1 – Research and development into on-farm practices and innovations that improve operations and productivity are assessed for practical implementation.	(Where applicable) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Emerging trends, updated practices and latest research findings are monitored by the business through industry publications, memberships and attendance at industry events. <input type="checkbox"/> – Initiatives are assessed on a case-by-case basis as to the practical and commercial implications of implementing any new changes. <input type="checkbox"/> – Other. <input type="checkbox"/>
4.2.2 – Personnel engage in industry relevant extension and adoption activities to apply practical outcomes from research, development and innovations on-farm.	(Where applicable) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Members of the business attend industry events to gain knowledge of emerging practices, relevant and regulations legislation and opportunities that could be adopted within the business. <input type="checkbox"/> – Other. <input type="checkbox"/>
4.2.3 – Personnel engage with local, state or national industry groups, for example: grower groups, state farming organisations, Landcare or natural resource management groups, or peak industry bodies to advocate for industry priorities.	(Where applicable) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The business holds membership with key industry organisations to remain up-to-date with industry developments and to advocate for industry priorities. <input type="checkbox"/> – Other. <input type="checkbox"/>





Requirement	Self-assessment	
OUTCOME 4.3 – Biosecurity activities are prioritised.		
4.3.1 – State and National biosecurity legislation and regulations are complied with.	(All required to meet the Standard) – Key personnel are aware of relevant state and national biosecurity legislation and regulations.	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.3.2 – The property has a documented biosecurity plan that addresses; managing and recording movement of stock, people equipment and vehicles entering the property risk of introducing and/or spreading infectious diseases, and prevention and control of animal diseases on farm.	(All required to meet the Standard) A documented biosecurity plan is in place that includes: – Weed Management Plan. – Quarantine process. – Disease outbreak protocol and reporting requirements. – Vaccination and disease prevention programs. – Movement of people, vehicles and livestock on and off farm.	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
4.3.3 – On-farm biosecurity activities are prioritised to prevent emergency animal disease incursions in their livestock.	(All required to meet the Standard) – Livestock are monitored for signs of disease. – Unexplained deaths are reported to the veterinarian and/or other relevant authorities and autopsies (including sample collection) are conducted as required. (Select other practices, where applicable) – Preventative vaccination programs are in place to avoid disease outbreaks. – Other.	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
4.3.4 – Personnel engage with local, state and National emergency animal disease prevention and response activities.	(Required to meet the Standard) – All members of the business are aware of their obligations for reporting and assisting authorities in the event of a biosecurity outbreak. (Select other practices, where applicable) – A documented disease outbreak response plan is in place. – Other.	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
OUTCOME 4.4 – Operators practice ethical behaviour, protecting the integrity and reputation of the wool industry.		
4.4.1 – The AWSS Code of Conduct (See Appendix 1) is adhered to.	(Required to meet the Standard) – The owner/manager agrees to adhere to the AWSS Code of Conduct to maintain AWSS Certification.	<input type="checkbox"/>





Pillar 5 – Clip preparation and integrity



Caring for our environment



Caring for our sheep



Caring for our people, our customers and our community



Caring for our industry



Clip preparation and integrity

SUSTAINABILITY

QUALITY

Requirement	Self-assessment
OUTCOME 5.1 – Wool is prepared to the Code of Practice for the preparation of Australian wool clips.	
5.1.1 – Dark and medullated fiber risk (DMFR) is mitigated through crutching within three months prior to shearing.	(Recommended, but not required) – Crutching is completed up to three months prior to shearing. <input type="checkbox"/>
5.1.2 – An inspection of the shearing shed has been completed to ensure the shed meets the wool shed preparation requirements in the Code of Practice for the preparation of Australian wool clips, with adequate amenities, lighting and ventilation, and well-maintained shearing machinery.	(Required to meet the Standard) A shearing shed inspection takes place prior to each shearing to assess for adequate: – Amenities. <input type="checkbox"/> – Lighting. <input type="checkbox"/> – Ventilation. <input type="checkbox"/> – Absence of hazards. <input type="checkbox"/>
5.1.3 – Contamination of wool is mitigated by ensuring prior to shearing the shearing shed has been inspected, and procedures for avoiding wool contamination are communicated to wool harvesting personnel.	(Required to meet the Standard) – A pre-shear inspection is conducted of the shed to identify any areas of possible contamination. <input type="checkbox"/> – Wool harvesting personnel are provided with instruction to avoid contamination of wool. <input type="checkbox"/>
5.1.4 – Prior to shearing, responsibilities for preparing wool are communicated to wool handling personnel.	(Required to meet the Standard) – Wool preparation requirements are communicated to wool handling personnel ahead of shearing. <input type="checkbox"/>





Requirement	Self-assessment	
OUTCOME 5.1 – Wool is prepared to the Code of Practice for the preparation of Australian wool clips.		
5.1.5 – Shearers have been made aware of their responsibilities to support quality clip preparation including avoiding second cuts and identifying contamination.	(Required to meet the Standard) – Quality clip preparation requirements, including avoidance of second cuts and contamination identification, is communicated to shearers ahead of shearing.	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.1.6 – Stock are taken off feed and water prior to shearing, according to industry standards for the class of stock and what has been agreed between the Operator and contractor.	(Required to meet the Standard) – Livestock are excluded from feed and water for the minimum required time, ahead of shearing. – Exclusion periods are determined based on the class of sheep. – Exclusions periods are agreed on ahead of time between operators and contractors.	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
5.1.7 – Where Grower Declaration is “Yes” on the National Wool Declaration for ‘contact with shedding breeds’, the wool is correctly prepared and described.	(Where applicable) – Sheep that have had contact with shedding breeds are identified. – Wool cut from these sheep is prepared and described according to requirements. – Wool from sheep that have been in contact with shedding breeds is declared on the NWD.	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
5.1.8 – Bales/lines meeting AWSS Certification are prepared by a registered Wool Classer according to the Code of Practice for the preparation of Australian wool clips.	(Required to meet the Standard) – A registered Wool Classer is used to class all AWSS bales/lines.	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.1.9 – Where sheep marking substances have been used, they have been used according to the manufacturer’s instructions, declared in WoolClip, and when identified during Wool Classing, are removed.	(Where applicable) When sheep marking substances are used, they are: – Used in accordance with manufacturer’s instructions. – Declared in WoolClip. – Removed, when identified during Wool Classing.	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
5.1.10 – All greasy wool offered for sale must be packaged in unused nylon eBales which comply with AWEX Standards.	(Required to meet the Standard) – Unused, nylon eBales that meet the AWEX eBale standard are used to pack all AWSS wool.	<input type="checkbox"/>





Requirement	Self-assessment
OUTCOME 5.2 – Key provenance and traceability data has been declared on-farm using industry digital data capture tools.	
5.2.1 – The property where the livestock are kept is identified using a Property Identification Code (PIC).	(Required to meet the Standard) – The property has a registered Property Identification Code (PIC). <input type="checkbox"/>
5.2.2 – All livestock are correctly identified with a National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) approved identification tag aligned with relevant State and National regulations.	(Required to meet the Standard) – All livestock are correctly identified with a National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) approved identification tag aligned with relevant state and national regulations. <input type="checkbox"/>
5.2.3 – All livestock movements on to the PIC are recorded in the National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) and are accompanied by electronic National Vendor Declarations (eNVDs).	(Required to meet the Standard) – All livestock movements on to the PIC are recorded in the National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) and are accompanied by electronic National Vendor Declarations (eNVDs). <input type="checkbox"/>
5.2.4 – All livestock consigned off the PIC are accompanied by an electronic National Vendor Declaration (eNVD).	(Required to meet the Standard) – All livestock leaving the registered PIC are accompanied by an electronic National Vendor Declaration (eNVD). <input type="checkbox"/>
5.2.5 – Wool harvesting occurs outside of any withholding periods applicable to animal health treatments.	(Required to meet the Standard) – Withhold periods for wool are adhered to according to individual treatments. <input type="checkbox"/>





Requirement	Self-assessment	
OUTCOME 5.2 – Key provenance and traceability data has been declared on-farm using industry digital data capture tools.		
5.2.6 – All fodder and supplements introduced onto the property are documented and accompanied by a Commodity Vendor Declaration.	(Where applicable) – All fodder and supplements introduced to the property are accompanied by a Commodity Vendor Declaration.	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.2.7 – The Operator holds a WoolClip Farm Account, where business and PIC information is entered.	(Required to meet the Standard) – The operator holds a WoolClip Farm Account.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– All necessary details are captured using WoolClip, including PIC, owner and property details, dates and contact numbers.	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.2.8 – The National Wool Declaration (NWD) is completed for all mobs/wool from the PIC offered for sale in WoolClip.	(Required to meet the Standard) – The National Wool Declaration (NWD) is completed for all mobs/wool from the PIC offered for sale in WoolClip.	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.2.9 – A digital Wool Book is kept as a record of all bales for every shearing.	(Required to meet the Standard) – A digital Wool Book is kept as a record of all bales for every shearing.	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.2.10 – eBale QR codes are scanned into WoolClip to record the eBale ID.	(Required to meet the Standard) – Bale QR codes are scanned into WoolClip to record the eBale ID.	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.2.11 – All wool bales are marked according to the Code of Practice for Wool Classing, including having labels completed with all required information, classed bales are stamped with Wool Classer ID, and all bale label information, including the eBID (QR Code), is captured via WoolClip on farm.	(Required to meet the Standard) – Wool bales are correctly marked and labels completed.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Classed bales are stamped with Wool Classer ID.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– All bale label information is captured via WoolClip, on farm.	<input type="checkbox"/>