



Victorian  
Farmers  
Federation

Livestock

# the Stock Standard

Newsletter of the Victorian Farmers Federation Livestock Group

March 2018

## South West Vic Fires

With the devastating South West Victorian Fires impacting our farmers and their communities, the VFF are organising Fodder donations.

If you could help out small or large please contact



**1300 882 833**

[www.vff.org.au/support](http://www.vff.org.au/support)

Thank you to the farmers who have already donated.

**Rain, hail or shine' the community out in force helping the affected farmers**

Photo by Kim Tupper



## WoolProducers Australia Raising the Baa in Industry Capacity Building

WoolProducers Australia is excited to announce that nominations for their 'Raising the Baa' Leadership in Agriculture Program are now open.

The AICD Company Directors Course is a globally recognised qualification which provides participants with a thorough understanding of corporate governance.

The WoolProducers Youth Ambassador provides a young person, aged between 18-35 years of age, with the opportunity to join the WoolProducers Board as an observer for a 12-month period.

Course costs, accommodation and travel expenses will be covered. Nominees will be required to apply for these positions and all appointments will be merit based. Nominations close on 23 April, 2018.

**For further information email**  
[info@woolproducers.com.au](mailto:info@woolproducers.com.au)

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# Trans Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPP-11)

## What is the TPP-11?

The Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP-11) is a new free trade agreement (FTA) between Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, New Zealand, Singapore and Vietnam signed on 8 March 2018 in Chile.

This Agreement is a separate treaty that incorporates, by reference, the provisions of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) Agreement (signed but not yet in force), with the exception of a limited set of provisions to be suspended. The 11 countries have a shared vision of the Agreement as a platform that is open to others to join if they are able to meet its high standards.

The TPP-11 will eliminate 98 per cent of tariffs in the TPP-11 region. The TPP-11 also opens up valuable new market access opportunities for Australian exporters in the two TPP-11 Parties where Australia does not have a FTA, namely, Canada and Mexico.

The TPP-11 will eliminate tariffs on more than \$4.3 billion of Australia's dutiable exports of agricultural goods to TPP-11 countries. A further \$2.1 billion of Australia's dutiable exports will receive significant preferential access through new quotas and tariff reductions.

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## Outcome Summary:

### Beef - TPP-11 market access outcomes for Australian beef producers and exporters include:

- ⊕ Japan's beef tariffs will be reduced to 9 per cent within 15 years of entry into force of the TPP -11. Australian fresh, chilled and frozen beef exports to Japan were valued at \$2.1 billion in 2016 -17;
- ⊕ The majority of Japan's tariffs on offal will be eliminated over 10 to 15 years of entry into force of the TPP -11, and tariffs on cheek and head meat significantly reduced to 9 per cent within 15 years of entry into force of the TPP -11. Australian offal exports to Japan were valued at \$255 million in 2016 -17;



- ⊕ Elimination of Japanese tariffs on processed meat products within 15 years of entry into force of the TPP -11. Australian exports of these products to Japan were valued at \$25 million in 2016 -17;
- ⊕ Elimination of Canadian beef tariffs (currently 26.5 per cent) within five years of entry into force of the TPP -11. Australian beef exports to Canada were valued at more than \$101 million in 2016 -17;
- ⊕ Elimination of all Mexican tariffs on beef carcasses and cuts (currently up to 25 per cent) within 10 years of entry into force of the TPP -11; and
- ⊕ Elimination of Mexico's tariff (currently 20 per cent) on "other offal" (used for taco meat) from entry into force of the TPP -11. Australian exports of this product were valued at around \$2.2 million in 2016 -17.

### Sheepmeat - Key TPP-11 market access outcomes include:

- ⊕ Tariffs on exports to Mexico will be eliminated within 8 years of entry into force of the TPP -11. Australia sheepmeat exports to Mexico were valued at \$13 million in 2016 -17; and
- ⊕ Tariffs on sheepmeat exports to all other TPP-11 countries will be eliminated upon entry into force of the TPP -11

### Wool

Total Australian exports of wool were valued at around \$3.2 billion in 2016 -17, and wool exports to TPP -11 countries were valued at around \$35 million in that period.

The TPP -11 will eliminate all remaining tariffs on Australian raw wool exports to TPP-11 countries from entry into force of the Agreement. Products produced using Australian wool in Malaysia, Vietnam or any other TPP -11 partner will receive preferential treatment throughout the TPP -11 region. The rules of origin for textiles will encourage greater demand for the Australian wool used to produce high quality yarns.

**To read more about the TPP-11 visit:**  
<http://dfat.gov.au/trade/agreements/tpp/outcomes-documents/Pages/tpp-11-outcomes-goods-market-access.aspx>

## PIC 2 PIC

From 31 March 2018, property to property movements of electronically tagged sheep and goats in Victoria must be recorded on the NLIS database by the person receiving the livestock.

You can find out what you need to do to record Livestock movements at an upcoming workshop.

**Visit:** <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/o/agriculture-victoria-11335009512>



# Is it fit to load?

In Australia, a set of standards and guidelines outlines the requirements for livestock transport, from mustering and preparation for transport, to transporting and unloading.

These **standards and guidelines** ensure safe and healthy treatment of stock and a quality product from paddock to plate.

## At The Farm Gate

Livestock welfare is the responsibility of the consignor when mustering and preparing for transport. This includes deciding if an animal is fit to load. An animal is not fit to load if it:

- ⊕ cannot walk normally or bear weight on all legs
- ⊕ is suffering from obvious injury or severe distress
- ⊕ is severely emaciated or visibly dehydrated
- ⊕ is blind in both eyes
- ⊕ is in late pregnancy.

So, if in doubt, leave it out!

Appropriate feed and water provisions, and necessary holding periods are to be organised by the consignor with time periods varying depending on the class of animal.

Handling livestock quietly and with minimal force reduces stress and the risk of injury. It is also important to consider the loading set-up to ensure yards, races and ramps don't cause injury or harm to stock or human.

All animals leaving the property must be appropriately identified with an NLIS ear tag and relevant NVD.

## On The Road

The transporter is responsible for the safe loading and unloading of livestock. This includes determining the appropriate loading density and a final 'fit to load' inspection.

They are also responsible for knowing how long stock have been off water and plan for appropriate spell periods, when the maximum time off water is reached, and provide the animals with water, food and rest when required.

The standards are developed for road travel and will vary for animals being exported by sea or air.

## On arrival

Once the animals have arrived at their location and been unloaded, either to another form of transport, saleyard or property, the responsibility of livestock welfare falls to the receiver.

**For more information** contact the Livestock Health & Biosecurity VICTORIA team on 1300 020 163 or email [lhbv@vff.org.au](mailto:lhbv@vff.org.au).

	Time off feed	Time off water
Sheep	4-24 hours	12 – 24 hours
Cattle	12-24 hours (with access to dry feed or travel supplements throughout journey)	4 – 24 hours

**Table 1.** Time off feed and water recommendations prior to transport.

	Maximum time off water	Time Minimum spell time off water
Cattle over 6 months Goats over 6 months Sheep over 4 months	48 hours	36 hours
Calves/cattle under 6 months	24 hours	12 hours
Kids/Goats under 6 months Lambs/Sheep under 4 months Pregnant or lactating stock	28 hours	12 hours

**Table 2.** National standard for time off water and spelling periods for livestock.

**Top tip:** If an accident occurs involving a heavy vehicle transporting livestock, then the transporter or person at the scene can call Livestock ASSIST on 1800 425 782. This is a free 24 hour national hotline dedicated to coordinating an emergency response for incidents involving livestock transport.

## Managing livestock after a fire

This bushfire response information is designed to help you make practical decisions about looking after and managing your livestock, focusing on the steps after the immediate response. In this article you will find information on Short/Medium Term actions, Agistment, Pasture and crop recovery, assessing Livestock and much more.

**Visit:** [vff.org.au/lhbv/information](http://vff.org.au/lhbv/information)

# Chain of Responsibility Laws

Amendments to the Chain of Responsibility Laws will come into play mid-2018. NHVR have placed easy Q & A common questions about working with upcoming changes to Chain of Responsibility.

## What can I do to make sure the transporter's activities are safe and compliant?

- ☉ You should avoid working with companies that are known to have poor safety and compliance reputation.
- ☉ You should seek out companies that have a good reputation.
- ☉ You should negotiate an agreement with a transporter, whether is in a written contract or a verbal agreement, which

makes clear that they must comply with regulations and safety requirements and if they breach those requirements there will be consequences.

### Practical steps:

- ☉ Your main duty is to make sure that your conduct does not contribute to unsafe practices by a transporter.
- ☉ You should provide information about the expected weight of goods and stock so that the transporter knows which

vehicle is appropriate, and which permit if any would be required.

- ☉ You should make sure there is safe access to your property and equipment (or people) necessary for loading.

**Read more Q & A's visit:**  
<https://www.nhvr.gov.au>

## Planning for a Non-Mulesed Merino Enterprise

Australian Wool Innovation Limited has produced a report on farmers and their stories transitioning to Non-Mulesed Merino's.

40 growers with a diverse range of Merino types and environment were interviewed.

Key learning from these businesses when considering a move to a non-mulesed Merino enterprise include:

- ☉ It is important to have a detailed plan in place before starting the move to a non-mulesed enterprise, that has the support of everyone in your business, including staff, contractors, shearers, livestock agents, and ram suppliers.

- ☉ The business needs to be brave, organised and determined to make it work especially in the early years.

- ☉ Moving to a non-mulesed enterprise often requires fundamental change to the whole business.

**To read further information on the report visit:** [https://www.wool.com/globalassets/start/about-awi/publications/gd2746-planning-to-move-to-a-non-mulesed-merino-enterprise\\_6.pdf](https://www.wool.com/globalassets/start/about-awi/publications/gd2746-planning-to-move-to-a-non-mulesed-merino-enterprise_6.pdf)

## 2018 Australian Wool Industry Medal

The Federation of Australian Wool Organisation is now calling for nominations for the 2018 Australian Wool Industry Medal.

**The nomination form is available to download at [www.fawo.or.au](http://www.fawo.or.au)**

**Nominations must be received by COB 1 May 2018.**

The presentation will take place in Melbourne on 23 August 2018.

We look forward to recognizing men and women who have made a significant contribution in our industry

## Mice Problems?

The National Mouse Management Working Group (NMMWG) are warning of increased mouse number this year.

NMMWG is urging VFF members to check paddocks - if there are more than 2 active burrows in 100 metres by 1 metre than you have enough mice to consider baiting.

NMMWG recommend the most effective time to bait is on the back on the airseeder when there is limited grain available for mice to eat.

We have been informed that there should be adequate supplies of bait available at retailers however it is critical growers ensure 6 weeks between bait applications.

**More information about effective mouse management can be found:** [https://grdc.com.au/\\_\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0020/202565/grdc\\_mice\\_fs.pdf](https://grdc.com.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0020/202565/grdc_mice_fs.pdf)



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