

From: Jennifer Hotchkiss
To: Portfolio Committee 4
Subject: need for mulesing
Date: Sunday, 5 July 2020 12:27:52 PM

To whom it may concern,

After seeing an article in the Coonamble times re an amendment to prohibit mulesing I was appalled.

Ask a shearer just how bad the sheep are that have not been mulsed. The sheep wet and dung all over their back sides and attract flies, the smell making the shearers sick let alone feel for the torment the sheep are going through being eaten by magotts left from the flies once fly blown they can travel over rest of the poor sheep. Trying to clean up a sheep fly blown is very hard on the shearer let alone the poor sheep.

Shearers have put their hands up over years to mules sheep on their weekend's off as they are concerned for the welfare of the sheep. For the welfare of the sheep mulesing with the pain relief provided by the use of trisolven is a proven benefit with the sheep after mulesing showing no distress we have proved this procedure works well. Submitted by Jennifer Hotchkiss
Submission by Allan Hotchkiss.

In 1986 I bought a mob of merino Ewes that were mulesed and compared the difference between my original Ewes.

The difference was so great this procedure protecting the sheep for life.

Since then I have mulsed my Lambs and wish to keep up this practice, till if there ever was a better practice developed that produced lifelong comfort for sheep which could be adopted.

When Trisolven (pain relief) was invented as soon as it was available on the marked I have used it.

Trisolven makes a lot of difference to the sheep when applied, seeing the lambs mother up or go grazing straight away is amazing! The difference was so amazing after the first time I used this trisolven I have passed the findings on to mulesing contractors and I believe it is used widely.

When shearing and crutching sheep that have been mulesed the sheep have less or nil dags to cut off- nice clean shearing and comfort for the sheep.

Unmulsed sheep covered with dags, wet, mostly fly blown, are in for a rough time to get cleaned up often cut.

Mulsed sheep for the rest of their life they are protected.

As a sheep farmer I have the best interest in my animals welfare and strongly protest any proposal to ban the humane practice of mulesing!

Yours Allan Hotchkiss.

PS the surveymonkey advertised in the paper was unable to be found on computer.