

Clarification from Scott Hansen in relation to answer provided on 11 August (page 3 of Transcript below):

Mr HANSEN: Every livestock producer selling livestock needs to make a vendor declaration that declares the chemicals that have been used, the date on which those chemicals have been used and whether the animals are being sold within that window of the withholding period, or for some chemicals the withholding period is the domestic set around the safety of the product in terms of chemical residue in the product. There is also an export slaughter interval. That will vary at times where you have export markets that have a different, either threshold level or have no threshold level at all for particular chemicals that are in use. There are the two measures that producers need to take into account every time they do use a chemical.

Again, you will see and hear evidence that anaesthetics are being widely used by our industry, so being able to use them and meet their obligations to make sure that we continue to have the safest, the cleanest and greenest products on the planet, continues to be done on a regular basis. **I think the evidence is well over 85 per cent of New South Wales wool producers using anaesthetics around mulesing, for example.** Our producers are very good at meeting their obligations in terms of that recording of the use. It is just those circumstances which will arise through a combination of factors in which the mandating of the use may actually trigger a set of circumstances which leads to a perverse outcome in terms of the animal welfare outcome.

Mr Hansen would like to clarify that the data used for this evidence is based on a survey of woolgrowers across six states, which indicated that about 85% of lambs mulesed are now treated with at least one pain relief product.

As such, Mr Hansen would like to clarify his answer to “based on a survey of woolgrowers across six states, about 85 per cent of wool producers were using anaesthetics around mulesing”.