

July 2011

Central North landholder newsletter

3 simple steps for online lodgement

There are three simple steps to online lodgement:

- 1** Look at the top-right hand corner of the enclosed Land and Stock Return for your Holding reference number and online password.
- 2** Visit www.lhpa.org.au/landandstock and log in using your Holding reference number and unique online password.
- 3** Fill in your land and stock details.

**Why have I been sent a Land and Stock Return?
See page 2.**

Online land and stock returns now even easier

Now the LHPA has made it even easier to lodge your Land and Stock Return online.

Last year thousands of landholders in NSW chose to take advantage of the online lodgment facility when they received their annual Land and Stock returns in the mail.

This year, you can also update your holding and occupier details online.

Your 2011 Land and Stock Return can be lodged online at www.lhpa.org.au/landandstock

Land and Stock Returns provide Livestock Health and Pest Authorities with important information about properties in NSW.

'The online form takes around five minutes to complete and asks the same questions as the paper-based form,' said Central North LHPA general manager Daryl Paull.



'All you need is access to a computer with internet.'

For more information about lodging online, including Frequently Asked Questions and privacy information, visit www.lhpa.org.au/landandstock.

Remember, your completed 2011 Land and Stock Return is due by 31 August. For help lodging online contact your local Central North LHPA office.

Exclusion areas for ovine Johne's disease (OJD)

Throughout the State many of the Exclusion Areas for ovine Johne's disease (OJD) are being reviewed as part of the NSW Department of Primary Industries policy on OJD. Some have already completed the process, and early indications suggest only some will be renewed.

The OJD Exclusion Area applying to the Central North LHPA includes the former Coonabarabran RLPB district. This Exclusion Area will not be renewed due to the higher than allowed prevalence of OJD detected.

For sheep producers within the Exclusion Area this means that the Exclusion Area will remain in place until the Minister makes a decision to revoke it. When this

does happen, the former Coonabarabran RLPB district will be classified as a low prevalence area for OJD with 4 Assurance Based Credit points allocated under Category A of the Sheep Health Statement. It will no longer obtain the additional point allowed for Exclusion Areas.

If you wish to sell restocker sheep to Queensland you will require one extra point. This may be obtained via abattoir monitoring, testing your sheep flock for Johne's disease, joining the market assurance program or vaccinating with Gudair vaccine.

Contact your local LHPA office for further information.

Contact your local office today – or visit www.lhpa.org.au

Plan ahead to avoid worm problems

Livestock health shorts

Sheep worms

There has been significant worm activity during the summer and autumn periods. It is important that you think ahead and start preparing lambing paddocks that are relatively free of worms. You need to look for paddocks that were not grazed by sheep in the March/April period as your best bet to create 'low worm' paddocks.

Supplementing stock

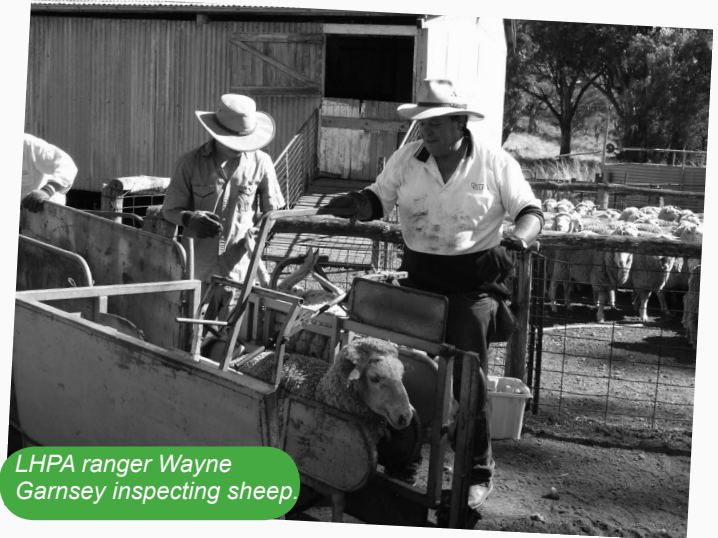
As many pastures have now 'hayed off,' it is time to start making decisions on supplementary feeding. When choosing a supplement ensure it is of the right quality and quantity to meet the requirements of the various classes of stock that require supplementation. Most pastures are deficient in energy and protein at this time of year. If you are going to feed supplements they must be balanced, especially with regards to the minerals calcium and phosphorus. You have far more options to deal with unforeseen circumstances when stock are kept in good condition.

Beware of poisonous weeds in winter

Due to the deteriorating pasture conditions, stock (especially introduced stock) have a tendency to sample some of these poisonous plants (e.g. Rock fern, Mother of Millions, Green Cestrum) which in turn may cause stock death. Stock access should not be allowed to areas where these weeds are present.

Grazing cereal crops

Many people rely on cereal crops for grazing as part of their enterprise's risk management. However,



LHPA ranger Wayne Garnsey inspecting sheep.

pregnant and lactating animals grazing these crops are at risk from metabolic diseases such as grass tetany and hypocalcaemia. It is advisable to supplement these classes of animals with a loose lick of calcium, salt and causmag in equal parts to remedy the imbalance of minerals in these lush growing crops.

NLIS

An interesting feature of the NLIS database is the option to 'View my current devices'. This report tells which and how many devices are currently registered to your PIC. When selling a property it is illegal to retain and use NLIS devices and NVD books from that property. It is also advisable to ensure you change your details with your agent. This principle also applies if you amalgamate your PICs.

Contact your LHPA district vet for more information.

What is my Land and Stock Return data used for?

The information on Land and Stock Return helps us to maintain our records and gives an indication of resources that may be needed in the case of an emergency situation.

Along with the stock ID and traceability systems we manage, this information is invaluable in the event of an emergency disease outbreak.

This information is also often used to support applications to government for various pest animal control programs.

Is this information used to calculate my rates?

A number of landholders have asked if the information recorded on Land and Stock Returns

is used to calculate rates, but this is not the case. Rates are calculated using a separate process.

Even if you have no stock, it is important for you to complete a Land and Stock Return. Unless you complete a return, we automatically apply an animal health charge to next year's rates. It is also a legal requirement that you lodge a return under the Rural Lands Protection Act 1998.

Remember, your completed 2011 Land and Stock Return is due by 31 August. Lodge online or post your return back to us.

To contact a ranger or vet phone one of our local offices

Tamworth 6762 2900

Coonabarabran 6842 1300

Merriwa 6548 2175

Mudgee 6372 1866