

OFFICIAL

Economic Development,
Jobs, Transport
and Resources

Sheep and Goat Compensation Fund

Summary of Projects
2016-2017

AGRICULTURE VICTORIA

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SHEEP & GOAT COMPENSATION FUND OVERVIEW

Victoria's Sheep and Goat Compensation Fund (SGCF) is established under the *Livestock Disease Control Act 1994* (the Act). The Fund primarily comprises livestock duties paid on the sale of sheep and goats or their carcasses in Victoria.

The SGCF receives \$0.12 for each sheep or goat, or each carcass of sheep or goat sold.

Under Section 79B(2) of the Act, the Minister for Agriculture may make payments from the Sheep and Goat Compensation Fund from:

- (a) the capital of the Fund for administering the provisions of the Livestock Disease Control Act 1994 relating to sheep and goats;
- (b) interest earned on money from the Fund for programs and projects for the benefit of the sheep and goat industry in Victoria;
- (c) from the capital of the Fund or from interest earned on money from the Fund for programs and projects for the control or eradication of disease of sheep or goats.

The Minister for Agriculture must not make a payment from the Fund unless the Minister has considered any relevant recommendations from the Sheep and Goat Compensation Advisory Committee (SGCAC).

The SGCAC has been established to provide advice to the Minister for Agriculture on the maximum amount of compensation that is payable, payments which should be made and any other matter referred to it by the Minister.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Under Section 79I(3) of *Livestock Disease Control Act 1994* the SGCAC comprises eight members appointed by the Minister as follows:

Section 79(3) of the Act	Nominated by
(a) four are to be persons with suitable qualifications and experience relating to the sheep industry	Victorian Farmers Federation (VFF)
(b) one is to be a person with suitable qualifications and experience relating to the goat industry	Victorian Farmers Federation (VFF)
(c) one is to be a person with suitable qualifications and experience relating to the livestock agents profession;	Australian Livestock & Property Agents Association (ALPA)
(d) one is to be a person with suitable qualifications and experience relating to the meat processing industry;	Australian Meat Industry Council (AMIC)
(e) one is to be a person nominated by the Secretary	Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources (DEDJTR)

Nominating body	Name
VFF	Mr Michael Craig (Chair) Mr Ian Feldtmann (Livestock Group) Ms Kate Joseph (Sheep Producer) Ms Faye Tuchtan (Livestock Group) Ms Margaret Piccoli (Goat Producer)
ALPA	Ms Liz Summerville (Southern Regional Manager)
AMIC	Ms Angelique Raspin (Australian Lamb (Colac) Pty Ltd – Group QA Manager)
State Government	Ms Cassandra Meagher, Executive Director, DEDJTR From April 2017: Dr Charles Milne, Chief Veterinary Officer, DEDJTR

On June 30 2017 the three-year term of office for non-government members expired. From April 2017, nominating bodies provided nominations for Ministerial approval. The Minister's appointment of the chairperson was endorsed by Cabinet.

2016-17 PROJECTS

Combined Funding of the Sheep & Goat Compensation Fund and the Cattle Compensation Fund

TABLE 1: Projects supported by funding from Sheep and Goat Compensation Fund and the Cattle Compensation Fund (50:50)

Project	Objective	Administered by	2016-17 Budget SGCF
Disease investigation training for veterinary practitioners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver training in animal disease investigation that will increase the knowledge, competency and capacity of private veterinarians to conduct a thorough and effective disease investigation in livestock. 	Agriculture Victoria	\$35,000
Local Area Networks for Disease Investigation (LANDI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish groups of local sheep and beef producers throughout Victoria with the aim of obtaining reliable livestock disease information from producer groups and reporting this information to Agriculture Victoria in a timely manner. Enhance Victoria's ability to detect emergency or emerging animal diseases quickly. Assist to train veterinarians, veterinary students and producers in relevant aspects of farm biosecurity and livestock health. 	University of Melbourne	\$30,000
Enhanced livestock pathology services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enable more pathology investigations from LANDI to be processed through the University of Melbourne's Faculty of Veterinary and Agricultural Sciences at Werribee. Provide enhanced training to veterinary students in the diagnosis and pathology of diseases of sheep, goats and cattle. Provide better training to junior veterinary pathologists by increasing the caseload of material from food producing ruminants. 	University of Melbourne	\$15,000
Significant disease investigations (including anthrax investigations)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide financial subsidies to cattle producers to offset the cost of engaging a private veterinarian to undertake an investigation of a significant disease event. Encourage private veterinarians to investigate and report significant disease events. 	Agriculture Victoria	\$35,000
VFF Livestock Project Officers (Animal Health and Biosecurity Extension) Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver key animal health and biosecurity messages to all Victorian sheep meat, wool, goat and beef producers with a focus on endemic disease that impact farm profitability, animal welfare and Victoria's biosecurity status. This includes the provision of educational workshops for all producers; develop and/or distribute related industry materials including VFF online resources to the farming community; and act as a point of contact for any animal health and biosecurity questions. 	Victorian Farmers Federation	\$180,000

Combined Funding of the Cattle Compensation Fund and the Sheep and Goat Compensation Fund
(cont.)

Project	Objective	Administered by	2016-17 Budget SGCF
VFF Policy Development and Livestock Industry Network Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribute to policy development at a state and national level in relation to biosecurity and welfare, particularly in the context of welfare/management standards, disease surveillance, endemic disease control and emergency animal disease preparations. Maintain industry networks at producer and national levels to facilitate the effective communication of information, particularly in the context of natural disasters and emergency disease response, the maintenance of appropriate biosecurity and livestock management standards. Represent Victoria's livestock health and welfare interests at a national level. 	Victorian Farmers Federation	\$130,000

Sheep & Goat Compensation Funded Projects

TABLE 2: Projects supported by funding from Sheep and Goat Compensation Fund

Project	Objective	Administered by	2016-17 Budget SGCF
Accreditation for Footrot Contractors	Ensure that there is a pool of accredited contractors to perform footrot eradication when virulent footrot has been diagnosed on a farm.	Agriculture Victoria	\$2,500
Negative ovine Johne's disease reporting (ongoing)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide Victorian sheep producers with reports of negative results from ovine Johne's disease abattoir surveillance 	Agriculture Victoria	\$5,000
Saleyards and abattoir surveillance project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detect incursions of emergency animal diseases in the sheep and goat industries. Investigate and describe the causes of mortality and loss in transported sheep and goats at Victorian saleyards and abattoirs. Maintain or enhance DEDJTR staff capabilities in disease surveillance and gross necropsy. 	Agriculture Victoria	\$200,000
Sheep and goat mortality surveillance project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detect incursions of emergency animal diseases in the sheep and goat industries. Investigate and describe the causes of mortality and loss in sheep and goats on Victorian farms. Provide DEDJTR staff the opportunity to maintain or enhance their capabilities in disease surveillance, especially in gross necropsy. 	Agriculture Victoria	\$100,000

Sheep & Goat Compensation Funded Projects (cont.)

Project	Objective	Administered by	2016-17 Budget
Sheep and goat veterinary officers project (including Sheep Notes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop expertise within DEDJTR by the employment and continual development of two veterinary officers serving the sheep and goat industries. Manage endemic disease programs (ovine and caprine Johne's disease, caprine arthritis encephalitis, ovine brucellosis, National Sheep Health Monitoring Project reporting). Inform sheep industry stakeholders of disease, welfare, biosecurity and production issues through the production of Sheep Notes. 	Agriculture Victoria	\$210,000
Vaccination of sheep against anthrax	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the provision of specialist advice on sheep and goat diseases (as required) 	Agriculture Victoria	\$17,061*
Abattoir (Sheep and Goat) monitoring feedback for Production Diseases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To establish causes of deaths in sheep and goats in Victorian abattoirs; advise producers with data on disease detected and prevalence, and Develop and deliver factsheet. 	Agriculture Victoria	\$5,000
Refund Interstate Stamp Duty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As required 	Agriculture Victoria	\$13,282*
Administration, project support, secretariat services, committee operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing support to committee and projects 	Agriculture Victoria	\$74,437

*Actual amount spent

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