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Woolclasser invitation to re-register

The Australian Wool Exchange (AWEX) is inviting unregistered woolclassers to contact AWEX and re-register before June 30, 2009.

The drive to re-register woolclassers is a direct result of recent changes to wool test certificates and concerns of buyers about the changing profile of the Australian wool clip.

“There have been a number of significant changes to the definitions of IWTO test certificates since the start of the current season and many former woolclassers and woolgrowers may not be fully aware of these changes, the financial implications or the discounts applied,” said Mark Grave, AWEX CEO.

Mr Grave said: “Since July 2008 a wool clip must be classed by a **registered woolclasser** to be recognised as ‘P’ certificate wool. Woolgrowers can no longer use a Broker’s stencil instead of a woolclasser to achieve this status. Many of the lapsed woolclassers are woolgrowers in their own right and they may have been under the impression that the former practice of using a wool broker’s stencil was an easy option.”

Wool which does not achieve a ‘P’ certificate is identified as a ‘D’ certificate which includes unclassed wool and wool that does not meet the Australian preparation standards, the AWEX Woolclasser Code of Practice. ‘P’ certificate wool is sought after by Wool Buyers and Processors because they are restricted from using ‘D’ certificate wool in many of their orders. Mr Grave said, “There are significant discounts in the market place for ‘D’ certificate wool.”

AWEX is inviting Woolclassers considering re-registration to contact AWEX at their earliest opportunity. Mr Grave said: “AWEX staff are able to answer all queries from woolclassers and we will get them back using their stencil as soon as possible.”

The cost of woolclasser registration for an unregistered 2004-2006 Woolclasser is \$181.50 for an AW (Professional) and \$148.50 for an OC (Owner Classer).

For those woolclassers who have been un-registered for longer periods they should also contact AWEX to discuss their needs and how they might re-gain their registration.

Mr Grave said, “The Australian wool industry needs qualified and registered woolclassers. Woolclassing is the first step in wool processing.”

For further information please contact AWEX on (02) 9428 6100.

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