



## **Sheep Genetics Advisory Committee Information for Applicants**

### **Background**

Sheep Genetics has been established to provide a national database and evaluation system, to deliver consistent, accurate, credible genetic information that meets the requirements of the Australian sheep industry. The operation and governance of Sheep Genetics is conducted through MLA. A business and operational plan has been established for the 5 year period from 2016-2021.

### **Sheep Genetics Advisory Committee**

The Sheep Genetics Advisory Committee has been established to assist in communication and representing to MLA, the views and requirements of potential clients and the wider sheep industry. The Committee also will have an important role in the annual review of the operational performance of Sheep Genetics. The following are the key activities required of the committee:

1. Communicate and represent the views and requirements of Sheep Genetics clients, potential clients and the wider sheep industry particularly in relation to the operations and future development needs of Sheep Genetics.
2. Oversee the implementation of business and annual operational plans and periodically review the Sheep Genetics business and operational plans.
3. Review the performance of Sheep Genetics against its objectives.
4. Communicate to industry the benefits and features of the Sheep Genetics service to enhance the adoption of LAMBPLAN and MERINOSELECT within the sheep industry.

### **Sheep Genetics Advisory Committee Composition**

- The committee will comprise the Sheep Genetics Manager, a Chairperson appointed by MLA, two representatives from MLA, and up to seven representatives from the Australian sheep industry, chosen according to the applicants' merit in relation to advertised selection criteria.
- It is expected that the committee members will be appointed for a minimum period of three years. The maximum term will be six years after which industry representatives will be asked to step aside to allow new representatives to be elected. Outgoing committee members may apply to be elected for an additional term.

### **Committee Meetings**

The role of the Sheep Genetics Advisory Committee is a high level strategic one. It is anticipated that the Advisory Committee will meet face-to-face at least twice a year, with teleconferences as deemed necessary. Committee members will be paid a sitting fee in addition to all travel and accommodation costs required for committee meetings, which will be met by MLA where appropriate.

### **Committee Selection**

Applicants for the Advisory Committee will be chosen by a selection committee appointed by MLA. The industry representatives will be chosen on the basis of level of competence in one or more of these areas:

- Strong practical experience in breeding and marketing seed stock in meat and/or wool sheep.
- Good knowledge of the principles of genetic information and improvement and delivery of genetic information to the industry
- Demonstrated business skills
- Industry knowledge, profile and credibility
- An understanding of quality assurance principles
- Experience in marketing of agricultural products or services
- Outstanding communication skills
- Demonstrated ability to work effectively in a team
- Agricultural extension and information transfer experience.