

FLETCHER'S ABATTOIR TOUR, DUBBO



On Thursday 14th July, 12 local producers from the Forbes, Parkes and Peak Hill areas joined AgriWest and Zoetis on a tour of the Fletcher International Abattoir in Dubbo. A practical tour of the kill floor, boning and freezing rooms started the day – demonstrating the steps taken for carcass grading (including condemnation and severe trimming of carcasses due to clostridial diseases). This was followed by a seminar presented by Josh Laurie (Fletcher International) and Dan Guest (Zoetis Australia), outlining the position of the Australian sheepmeat industry, both domestic and internationally; and giving in-depth training on the importance of preventing clostridial and other diseases through a sound and complete vaccination program. The key messages of the day were:

- Ensure a complete and correct vaccination program is implemented in your enterprise to maximise production.
- The effect of clostridial diseases on carcass condemnation and trimming can be severe hugely impacting your profits at processing.
- The best and cheapest insurance plan against clostridial and other disease, and the associated losses is PREVENTION.

The group took away valuable information and an experience to ensure they are getting top dollar for their end product at processing, and the management tools required to achieve this. Thanks to all who took the time to come along to the day, your support is appreciated.

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NITROGEN – IT'S HOW MUCH THAT ENDS UP IN THE CROP THAT'S IMPORTANT!

We all know nitrogen is one of the biggest drivers for yield and protein in our crops. With plenty of moisture around this season, nitrogen will very likely be the main yield limiting factor. Therefore, managing the amount of nitrogen that is actually available to the crop is one of the biggest opportunities we have this season to maximise profit. Urea is a very economical source of nitrogen this year. However, we need to be sure we are getting the nitrogen to the plant to actually do the job, and with very wet soils nitrogen losses can be high. In simple terms, the three main ways we can lose nitrogen applied as urea are:

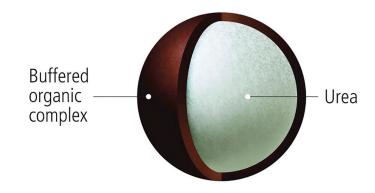
- 1. **Volatilisation**: Nitrogen disappearing back into the air as ammonia gas. This occurs when nitrogen is not being washed into the soil properly (not likely a huge issue this season).
- 2. **Denitrification**: Nitrogen disappearing back to the air as nitrous oxide gas, caused by overly wet soils (a very real issue this season).
- **3. Leaching**: Nitrogen disappearing down deeper into the profile away from plant roots, caused by heavy rains and subsequent soil water percolation (a very real issue this season).

Urea nitrogen losses from denitrification and leaching may be significant this season. This is where Black Urea has a very strong fit toward preventing these yield-robbing issues.

BLACK UREA – MORE ECONOMICAL, MORE EFFICIENT

Black Urea is a specialised carbon coated urea product designed to slow down all three ways that applied nitrogen can be lost, and deliver more nitrogen to the actual crop. Many scientific field, glass house and laboratory research trials over the past decade have confirmed Black Urea is a minimum of 25% more efficient than white urea. This means that a minimum of 25% more nitrogen will end up in the plant when we use Black Urea compared to using normal white urea. This makes Black Urea significantly more economical and a much more effective nitrogen alternative compared to normal urea, as shown in the example below (based on 100 kg/ha application rate).

	Urea 46%N	Black Urea 46%N
Elemental N (\$/kg)	\$0.97	\$1.24
N Efficiency (%)	50	75
N available to plant (kg)	23	34.5
Effective N (\$/ kg)	\$1.93	\$1.65



In practice, growers can choose to apply less Black Urea compared to white urea to achieve the desired kilograms of nitrogen applied, or apply the same amount of Black Urea as they would have with white urea and gain an extra 25% plant available nitrogen. Growers can also feel a lot more confident that more of the nitrogen they do apply will actually get to the plant when using Black Urea. Black Urea is simply a much safer, more economical and more effective source of nitrogen for crops.

If you are interested in capitalising on the benefits of Black Urea, please speak to our agronomy team.



PROSARO® 420 SC FOLIAR FUNGICIDE

Prosaro is a protective and curative fungicide that can give you high-level control of rust diseases, especially stripe rust in wheat, and hard to control foliar diseases such as barley net blotch (both net form and spot form) and leaf scald in barley.

Prosaro is also the first foliar fungicide registered in Australia for the management of blackleg and sclerotinia in canola.

Its application timing is flexible, so you can target Prosaro applications to effectively manage specific diseases at the most appropriate development stage.

- Highly effective broad spectrum foliar disease fungicide for wheat, canola, barley, oats and triticale.
- In cereals Prosaro offers flexible application timing, from early tillering through to ear emergence.
- Trusted cereal foliar fungicide that delivers exceptional curative and preventative performance.
- Prosaro supports excellent green leaf retention through exceptional disease control.
- Effectively manages blackleg and sclerotinia disease in your canola.
- Most effective against blackleg in canola when used in combination with a seed treatment or in-furrow fungicide.
- Consistent return on investment in both cereals and canola.
- Extensive tank mix compatibility
- Registered for aerial application
- \bullet Strongly supports green leaf retention (and plant health) through exceptional disease control

Check out this useful tool to assist with disease management decisions in canola: www.theprosaroscale.com.au/prosaro/







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Looking for more insights? Our Facebook page is a great way to stay informed. Regular product information and specials, seasonal insights, community events and branch updates – it's all there at your fingertips!



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Contact an AgriWest specialist today for more information.

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