



ENHANCED ABATTOIR SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM

The Enhanced Abattoir Surveillance (EAS) program provides disease and health condition feedback to South Australian producers who have their sheep processed at Thomas Foods International at Lobethal.

The program helps producers to reduce the impacts and losses associated with these diseases and conditions, with a focus on problems encountered either on farm and/or during processing.

This helps producers to improve sheep health and welfare, and maximise farm productivity to increase profits. The program also assists the industry with trade access and market opportunities, sheep health and disease research, and reducing waste.

How abattoir surveillance works

Data is collected on the processing floor by qualified and independent meat inspectors. The estimated percentage of each line of sheep affected by a health condition or disease is recorded in 5% increments. This information is then provided to Biosecurity SA in order to send producers a letter or email with their inspection results and associated fact sheets on any diseases or conditions detected.

Producers with “clean lines” are only emailed results if an email address is registered with their Property Identification Code (PIC) registration. Only those South Australian producers who send sheep directly to the processor at TFI receive results through the EAS program. Saleyard lines do not receive feedback.

EAS results are now also available to producers who are registered with One Biosecurity through the online portal.

Monitoring disease and conditions is important because it may impact on farm productivity, be costly to treat, require culling or reduce carcass value at the processor through trimming, downgrading, penalties and condemnations.

Monitored diseases and conditions

Arthritis/Polyarthritis	Bladder worm
Bruising	Cancer
Cheesy gland (CLA)	Cirrhosis
Dog bites	Grass seeds
Hydatids	Jaundice
Knotty gut/pimply gut	Liver fluke
Nephritis	Pleurisy
Pneumonia	Rib fractures
Sarcocystis	Fever/Septicaemia
Sheep measles (Ovis)	Vaccine lesions

Program funding

Funding for the EAS program is provided by the South Australian Sheep Industry Fund, Animal Health Australia (AHA) and the MLA Donor Company (MDC) a fully-owned subsidiary of Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA).

The South Australian EAS Program is the only program in Australia that continually monitors all consignments of sheep for specified diseases/conditions at participating processors.

Contacts

For further information regarding Enhanced Abattoir Surveillance, contact Dr Allison Crawley, EAS Program Manager, on 08 8429 0866 or email allison.crawley@sa.gov.au

Your local veterinarian or livestock consultant can assist in providing specific advice in managing conditions detected on your farm. Your local PIRSA – Biosecurity SA Animal Health Officer can also provide general advice.

**FOR ANY SIGNS OF UNUSUAL OR SERIOUS ANIMAL DISEASE,
PLEASE CALL THE 24/7 DISEASE WATCH HOTLINE: 1800 675 888**

For more information about EAS and fact sheets on diseases and conditions visit: pir.sa.gov.au/eas

For more information about One Biosecurity visit: pir.sa.gov.au/1biosecurity

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

Dr Allison Crawley, Enhanced Abattoir Surveillance Program Manager

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or your local veterinarian, livestock consultant or PIRSA Animal Health Officer

FOR OTHER FACT SHEET AND BENCHMARKING INFORMATION:

Visit www.pir.sa.gov.au/eas to compare your results with others in your region

