History of the Australian wool industry

Barry White
CEO, International Fibre Centre
Australian Wool Production, Trade Clearances and Stocks

Production

Trade Clearances *

WI Stocks

Private Stocks

End of RPS

* trade clearances = production + change in stocks
f = production forecast & trade clearance estimate
Australia’s share of world wool production

All wool

- Australia: 32%
- 68%

Apparel wool

- Australia: 50%
- 50%
Micron profile

1992 - 92

- >23 microns: 31%
- 20-23 microns: 57%
- 12%

2005 - 06

- >23 microns: 13%
- 20-23 microns: 55%
- 32%
- 12%

KEY
- >23 microns
- 20-23 microns
- <19 microns
Textile decision making cycle
The Australian wool industry

Shearing and wool preparation
WOOL GROWER

Delivery to wool store
BROKER

Preparation for sale
BROKER

Sale by Auction
BROKER
BUYER
AWEX

Dump and pack into container
DUMPER
BUYER

Payment to grower
GROWER

Ship to overseas mill
BUYER

Promotion of wool worldwide

Delivery to local processors

Testing AWTAA

Delivery to local processors

AUSTRALIAN WOOL TEXTILE TRAINING CENTRE
The Wool Business Cycle