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EGF, FGF5 and the Follicle Cycle

Produced for the CRC for Premium Quality Wool undergraduate program by;
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Effect of EGF infusion on adult Merino sheep

- EGF infusion initiates regression of follicles
- complete casting of fleeces 6-8 days after infusion
- this is the basis for the newly commercialised Biological Wool Harvesting

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FGF-5 may induce catagen

- A null mutant for FGF-5 was produced
 - the mutants had longer fibres
- In normal mice
 - FGF-5 mRNA is not present in early anagen
 - FGF-5 mRNA is present in late anagen
 - FGF-5 mRNA is not present in catagen
- This suggests that FGF-5 regulates the onset of catagen

BUT

the null mutants still eventually enter catagen

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