



CRC

for

Premium

Quality

Wool

Basic Fibre Composition

Produced for the CRC for Premium Quality Wool undergraduate program by;
Dr. Janelle Hocking Edwards, The University of Western Australia.



Basic components of the fibre

- Fibre is 85% protein (amino acids)
 - C, H, N, O and S are main elements
 - these determine the fibre's chemical properties
- Some lipids are present
- The major minerals are Ca and Na

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Amino acid composition

Residues per 100 residues of amino acids

Amino acid	Whole wool	LS proteins	HS proteins	HT proteins
Arg	6.2	7.8	6.2	3.5
Cys	13.1	6.0	22.1	6.4
Gly	8.6	5.2	6.2	26.5
Lys	2.7	4.1	0.6	0.0
Met	0.5	0.6	0.0	0.0
Tyr	3.8	2.7	2.1	18.0

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J. Hocking Edwards
Source: Reis, P.J., (1979)