

## Farm biosecurity attitudes and practices: Factors influencing the sheep industry

### Study Information Sheet – Livestock Agents

Thank you for participating in this study. This short note provides some further information about the study, along with details of the chief investigators and information about study reporting and general time lines for the project.

The purpose of the survey was to assess the attitudes of livestock agents to sheep disease management, use of the National Sheep Health Statement, and whether they feel they have a role to play in influencing its uptake.

The survey was conducted by Kaliber Research on behalf of the University of Western Sydney and The University of Sydney. Funding for this study was obtained from Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA) and data will be reported both to MLA and to Animal Health Australia (AHA). Interim summary data will be reported in April 2011 and will be used to inform the National Ovine Johne's Disease Management Review. The final study report will be produced in June 2011, and later in the year the study findings will be reported in MLA and AHA newsletters.

The study you have just participated in is a national survey of livestock agents and involves surveying 300 agents about their attitudes and practices with regard to sheep disease management and the Sheep Health Statement. A second survey is also taking place, with sheep producers looking at their general attitudes to disease management and biosecurity, and exploring potential drivers and barriers to the use of biosecurity tools, such as the Sheep Health Statement. All information collected in these studies will be treated confidentially; results will be aggregated for reporting and no individuals will be identified at any time.

If you have any questions about this research, please feel free to contact a member of the research team:

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**NOTE:** This study has been approved by the University of Western Sydney Human Research Ethics Committee. The approval number is HREC H8882. If you have any complaints or reservations about the ethical conduct of this research, you may contact the Ethics Committee through the Research Ethics Officers (tel: 02 4736 0883). Any issues you raise will be treated in confidence and investigated fully, and you will be informed of the outcome.

Thank you for participating.