



The New Zealand Merino Company Limited (NZM)

Live Export Position Statement

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INTRODUCTION

Globally, sheep are live exported for both meat supply and breeding purposes.

Whilst it is in the exporters / importers best interest to ensure the sheep arrive at the destination in good condition, there are concerns raised regarding the welfare and wellbeing of animals during their voyage and once they reach their destination, particularly when transported in bulk by sea.

Further to potential issues during transportation, the differences in legislation and practices associated with animal welfare, handling and slaughter between ZQ supply nations and the destination countries can be suboptimal and significant, resulting in further implications to the welfare and wellbeing of livestock.

Further complication relates to the multiple parties involved when transporting animals and once out of a country's jurisdiction, animal welfare and wellbeing can be challenging to regulate and enforce.

Accordingly, the ZQ and ZQRX programme prohibits ZQ growers from participating in the international live export of sheep for slaughter.

REQUIREMENTS

The following represents the ZQ programme requirements as specified within the ZQ Programme.

Live Export of sheep

Growers must not export sheep for slaughter, or knowingly sell their sheep to traders or brokers who intend to export them offshore for slaughter.

Growers who are importing or exporting individual animals for breeding purposes must use airfreight transportation. Procedures must follow international quarantine requirements and adhere to all animal welfare regulations.