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Woolgrowers urged to vote 16/04/2003

All Australian wool growers are being urged to vote in the 2003 wool levy poll to have their say in the level of activity of their research company.

Woolgrowers voted in 2000 to set the rate of the levy to fund their research company at 2 per cent of the sale value of wool produced.

However, under the Wool Services Privatisation Act 2000, Australian Wool Innovation (AWI) must poll levy payers again, and recommend a new levy rate to Federal Agriculture Minister, Warren Truss, before January 1, 2004.

Mr Truss, in urging woolgrowers to vote, said the regulations for the wool levy poll were gazetted yesterday, and were based on the successful WoolPoll 2000.

Under the Wool Levy Poll Regulations, AWI must offer growers a choice of three to five levy rates in the poll, including a zero levy.

Growers who had paid at least \$100 wool levy in the past three financial years would be eligible to vote.

Mr Truss said it was important for woolgrowers to register their preference on the rate of wool levy, and identify the associated industry research and development services they would support.

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Source: Le Gras Media

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