



25 July 2005

Time to bring mulesing debate to a conclusion... says AWGA.

With the annual round of State farmer organisation conferences all but concluded and the political ambitions, of those seeking leadership positions achieved or put back in the cupboard for another 12 months, it is now time to get on with the real task of solving the problems of primary producers.

It is disappointing that we have witnessed repeated attacks on organisations such as the Australian Wool Growers Association, seemingly for no other purpose than to achieve some form of cheap political point scoring.

The Australian Wool Growers Association believes that the protracted and damaging debate on mulesing and the associated boycotts can be brought to a sensible conclusion, much to the benefit of all woolgrowers.

The recent delegation headed by AWGA to New York to meet with PETA has been the subject of much vitriol, by aspiring agri politicians, yet the reality is, the two day meeting did bring about a possible way forward.

Whilst the details of the meeting have not been released publicly, the fact remains that the meeting provided real hope of a breakthrough, and discussions are continuing.

There is no suggestion from any involved that the delegation failed in any way. With ongoing dialogue and the possibility of future meetings, it is disappointing that that some agri political ambitions are promoting the presumption that AWGA has acted improperly or beyond its charter.

The outcomes have been reported back to Australian Wool Innovation and the Sheep and Wool Taskforce for their consideration.

At all times AWGA has held the best interest of woolgrowers, and had provided the potential for a breakthrough in the debilitating crisis.

Woolgrowers must face the fact that we live in the 21st century with consumers easily influenced and without loyalty.

The AWGA will continue in its efforts to facilitate 'a deal', and would urge industry leaders to seriously consider the industry and their constituents above personal political ambition.

Related Links

<http://australianwoolgrowers.com.au/>