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AWI board director speaks out against mulesing deadlines

A board member of the wool industry's research, development and marketing organisation is questioning concerns from US retailers over Australia's progress on the mulesing issue.

Australian Wool Innovation director Chick Olsson, who claims to speak on behalf of the industry, says growers won't put up with any more deadlines.

Mulesing is carried out on merino sheep to avoid flystrike, and is opposed by animal welfare activists.

Mr Olsson says if the American National Retailers Federation wants a deadline, it won't get one.

"There will be no deadlines ever imposed again on this industry," he says.

"This board certainly does not agree with the deadline approach.

"It is a destructive way of trying to achieve something we are doing genetically in the industry.

"Obviously there is lot more work needs to be done, a lot more work with education with our retailers.

"There are no more deadlines to be placed on mulesing ever again."

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

<http://www.abc.net.au/rural/news/content/201006/s2930816.htm>