



Media Release – 12.3.12

AWGA CALLS FOR WOOL LEVY REDUCTION TO 1.5%

The Australian Wool Growers Association (AWGA) is calling for a reduction in the compulsory wool levy to 1.5% at WoolPoll 2012 in November.

As part of the three yearly Woolpoll process woolgrower representatives have been asked to liaise closely with their membership base.

AWGA Chairman Shane Edwards says growers want to see their hard earned levy working to build demand, not empire building.

“AWI is a ‘not for profit’ company with close to \$100 million in reserves now. With higher wool prices and production according to ABARE, AWGA predicts reserves could increase to \$150 million.

AWGA recommends a 1.5% levy as a sensible amount to maintain operations. A 1.5% levy will still provide a substantial increase in AWI’s revenue.”

“The first step is for grower representatives to demand that 1.5% is included as a voting option at WoolPoll 2012.”

Chick Olsson has been appointed to the WoolPoll panel as AWGA representative.

“With experience and insight, as a retired director of the AWI Board, who better can grass roots growers have to represent their best interests in this years November vote to establish the wool levy to be paid for the next three years.”

Past WoolPoll Options

| | | | | | |
|------|---|----|------|------|----|
| 2000 | 0 | 1% | 2% | 3% | 4% |
| 2003 | 0 | 1% | 1.5% | 2% | 3% |
| 2006 | 0 | 1% | 2% | 2.5% | 3% |
| 2009 | 0 | 1% | 2% | 2.5% | 3% |

AWGA Suggested Options for WoolPoll 2012

| | | | | | |
|------|---|----|------|----|----|
| 2012 | 0 | 1% | 1.5% | 2% | 3% |
|------|---|----|------|----|----|

Shane Edwards
Chairman AWGA

0488 001 269

08 9645 7023