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Sheep producers can now more easily buy mulesing pain relief

SHEEP producers can now buy a mulesing pain relief product more easily thanks to a change in its scheduling.

Tri-Solfen was previously only available through a veterinarian but the change means it can now be sold through Landmark stores.

Tri-Solfen contains a mix of anaesthetics and antiseptics, and is promoted as a pain relief product following mulesing.

Its product description says it “has been developed to reduce blood loss and infection in order to improve wound healing”.

Bayer Animal Health country division spokesman Andrew Mason said the change of classification for Tri-Solfen from a Schedule 4 to a Schedule 5 product meant producers now had more options to purchase Tri-Solfen.

“We are hoping this increased convenience will make it easier for sheep producers to access and use Tri-Solfen.”

WoolProducers Australia president Geoff Fiskien said the change would make it more accessible.

“We were supportive of the change in the scheduling,” Mr Fiskien said.

He said Tri-Solfen had shown benefits for lambs after mulesing, and decreased pain levels. And he said he didn't know of any producers who did not use it now.

But Australian Wool Exchange figures contradict this contention.

Fewer producers are declaring they are using pain relief at mulesing, according to information collected by AWEX.

And there have also been falls in numbers of growers saying they have stopped mulesing or are non-mulesed.

The number of bales where the pain relief box was ticked was down 7.6 per cent in May and 3.9 per cent fewer bales were from properties no longer mulesing.

Mr Fiskien said this was probably more that people were not declaring the use of Tri-Solfen.

<http://www.weeklytimesnow.com.au/business/sheep/sheep-producers-can-now-more-easily-buy-mulesing-pain-relief/story-fnker8up-1226988863697>