Guideline	Description	Image/Diagram
Use a Merino sheep except where document is about non-Merino broad wool	Fine, white wool with white face and legs. Pink noses. No obvious pigmentation of wool or skin.	
Correct tail length	Tails should be long enough to cover the vulva of ewes and the equivalent length for rams. Sheep with long or medium-long tails are at less risk of disease.	long tail medium-long tail medium tail short tail
A modern Merino - low to moderate wrinkle score	Refers to the degree and quantity of wrinkle on the body, breech, and neck. Sheep with low wrinkle scores are less susceptible to flystrike.	Score 1 Score 2 Score 3 Score 4 Score 5 Score 1 Score 2 Score 3 Score 4 Score 5
No dags	Dag refers to the quantity of faecal material adhering to the wool surrounding the breech and extending down the hind legs. Dags are a risk factor for flystrike. Note: Aim to show the front end of sheep unless speaking about breeches for a technical piece	Score 1 Score 2 Score 3 Score 4 Score 5
No urine stain	Urine stain refers to the area of breech wool, including the wool on the hind legs and tail, that is clearly stained by urine. Urine stain is a risk factor for flystrike. Note: Aim to show the front end of sheep unless speaking about breeches for a technical piece.	Score 1 Score 2 Score 3 Score 4 Score 5
Moderate face cover score	Face cover refers to the degree of wool cover on the face, including the top of head and jowl. Moderate face cover (score 3) is preferred as sheep with high face cover are at risk of becoming 'wool blind' while bare-headed sheep cut less wool.	Score 1 Score 2 Score 3 Score 4 Score 5
No rubber rings present on tails or testes of lambs, no open wounds	Rubber rings are used for tail docking and to castrate ram lambs.	
Hornless (polled)	Poll Merinos (left) are now 75% of the Merino population and are less susceptible to flystrike than their horned counterparts. Images of rams without horns are preferred. If horned Merinos are appropriate for the article the horns must have been cut to Welfare Standards (not too short), be set wide on the poll and are not tight to the side of the face.	× × × × × × × × × × × × × × × × × × ×
No obvious evidence of breech modification (mulesing)	Mulesing is performed to lower a sheep's risk of flystrike, however there are welfare concerns held by some of the procedure. Images with obvious evidence of breed modification (left) should be avoided. Note: Aim to show the front end of sheep unless speaking about breeches for a technical piece.	