

**INTERNATIONAL WOOL TEXTILE ORGANISATION****TECHNOLOGY & STANDARDS COMMITTEE****SHANGHAI MEETING**

Raw Wool Group

December 2004

Chairman: A.C. BOTES (South Africa)

Report No: RWG 04

Predicting Processing Results of Sale Lots. Part 2: Development of a Sale Lots Formula for Hauteur.

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BRIEFING PAPER**SUMMARY OF FINDINGS**

Five raw wool parameters were investigated for their potential usefulness in the Hauteur prediction of hard-to-predict wool types. Parameters were included to complement the TEAM-3 recommended Hauteur equation, while providing some level of "correction" for some extreme wool types.

The Decrimped Staple Length Ratio (RATIO) was found to improve the predictive capacity of the TEAM-3 recommended equation for sale lots where the RATIO value was greater than 1.30. When RATIO* was included in the TEAM-3 equation, the Standard Error was reduced from 6.55 (for TEAM-3) to 6.21 for the sale lot database being studied.

Other parameters, including Energy-to-Break and Mean Fibre Curvature, provided little to no improvement in the predicted Hauteur values of hard-to-predict wool types.

It is recommended that those in the industry trading in greasy wool consider including a modified Decrimped Staple Length Ratio in the industry TEAM-3 formula for predicting Hauteur in sale lots, to provide a better Hauteur valuation tool for Bellies and Stretchy Bellies wool types.

COMMERCIAL IMPLICATIONS – CURRENT AND FUTURE

The addition of Decrimped Staple Length Ratio parameter (RATIO*) to the recommended TEAM-3 equation would improve the prediction of Hauteur for Bellies and Stretchy Bellies sale lots. The correction is only applied to sale lots with a Decrimped Staple Length Ratio greater than 1.30 (typically Bellies and Stretchy Bellies sale lots), therefore the prediction of Hauteur for a majority of wool types would remain unchanged. The inclusion would enable a better Hauteur valuation of the lots that the wool exporting trade have claimed correctly were undervalued by the TEAM-2 Hauteur formula.

It is recommended that the proposed TEAM-3 formula be enhanced in the future by the inclusion of a Decrimped Staple Length ratio parameter. If accepted, an implementation date would need to be set far enough into the future to enable the full commercialisation of the experimental ATLAS software. It is expected that this could take twelve months to complete.

Further work is progressing to examine if these parameters also improve the prediction of CVH and Romaine.

NOTE

The Report will be presented at the Raw Wool Group Meeting to be held at 0900 Saturday 20th November.