



U.S. CERTIFIED  
**CHOICE WOOL CLIP**  
 GROWER DECLARATION AND CHECK-LIST



*Growers checking the items below and signing at the bottom of the page will self-certify that they are producing an above average clip by adopting the following rules. (Check all that apply.)*

**ANIMAL WELFARE AND HANDLING**

I agree to manage and work with all crew members to ensure that all personnel handling sheep will take proper care of animals. The U.S. sheep industry does not condone nor support the actions of anyone that results in the abuse of sheep either intentionally or unintentionally. Rough handling of animals that might result in the injury of a sheep is an unacceptable maneuver during the shearing process or anytime when sheep are handled. *Sheep Care Guide:* [www.sheepusa.org/IssuesPrograms\\_AnimalHealth\\_AnimalCareWelfare](http://www.sheepusa.org/IssuesPrograms_AnimalHealth_AnimalCareWelfare)

- When possible use a certified sheep shearer or shearing crew – provide name of certified shearing crew below.
- Make efforts to Minimize Wool Contamination including poly and colored fibers.
- Sort Sheep prior to shearing by wool type and package the wool and off-sorts separately.
- Prepare wool in the Bellies Out manner to reduce contamination in fleece lines. Includes the removal of tags, leg wool, topknots and sweepings, and packaging this lower valued wool separately from fleece wool and belly wool.
- Keeping obvious differences separate, and not packaging them together such as:
  - Different Breed/Wool types (Wool, Meat, Carpet, Colored)
  - Different Wool Lines (Fleece, Belly, Tags)
  - Differences in Staple Length and Staple Strength (short & tender wool)
  - Other obvious differences when economically practical (lambs and yearling wool)
- Use only new and approved non-contaminating wool packaging materials.
- Will not allow wool to be contaminated by neglect or carelessness.
- Label wool packs (end-flaps only) and bags properly to identify:
  - Grower Name
  - Wool Description
  - Bag Number
- Maintain a written record of the wool clip produced by:
  - Shearing date
  - Individual bale or bag
  - Total production
  - Prices received for all wool
- Notify Marketing Agency of Actions taken to produce a Certified Choice Clip and file necessary forms and documentation.

By signing this declaration you certify that you are striving to produce a better U.S. wool clip and abide by these ten guidelines above.

I \_\_\_\_\_ certify that the above are true statements. \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Grower Signature) (Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 (Print Name) (Grower Address)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 (Grower Telephone, E-mail)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 (Certified Shearing Crew Name, Address)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 (Shearer Telephone, E-mail)