

Field survey of blowfly resistance to dicyclanil/cyromazine, Dr Garry Levot, Menangle

Australian Wool Innovation has funded the NSW Department of Primary Industries to conduct a 2 year survey of Australian sheep blowfly populations to measure their susceptibility to registered flystrike insecticides. The project was prompted by the discovery in 2011 of a blowfly population from the NSW Monaro that displayed low-level resistance to cyromazine in laboratory tests. Until this time all samples tested had been shown to be susceptible to cyromazine.

Results from the first season of the survey indicated that some NSW, SA, WA and Victorian populations contained a small proportion of cyromazine-resistant larvae. Four of the samples from NSW also displayed low-level resistance to dicyclanil, but all were susceptible to ivermectin.

To get a better picture of the national situation more samples are needed but drought conditions have severely curtailed the number of maggot samples being sent to the laboratory. To participate in the survey request a kit and return a maggot sample from a flystruck sheep before May. Kits contain instructions and a pre-paid Australia Post satchel.

Kits are available by emailing brendan.langfield@dpi.nsw.gov.au or garry.levot@dpi.nsw.gov.au or by telephoning Brendan 02 46406166 or Garry on 02 46406376.