

An investigation of causes of lamb loss in sheep

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Poor lamb survival, especially within the first 72 hours after birth is a major contributor to reproductive inefficiency in the Australian sheep industry and is a significant animal welfare issue.

Data based on field records and lamb autopsy is being collected as part of the large-scale Sheep CRC's Information Nucleus, which has linked flocks at 8 sites around Australia, including 2 in South Australia (Turretfield and Struan Research Centres).

Data from the Information Nucleus from 3 years of collection (2007 to 2009) will be made available to support the student project. The opportunity also exists to experience data collection first-hand during lambing in 2010 in the late July/early August period at Turretfield Research Centre.