

NEW ZEALAND SHEARERS AND SHED HANDS—DETERMINATION OF  
COMMITTEE REGARDING RATES OF WAGES FOR 1953-54 SEASON

*Award Dated 17th August, 1951, Covering Rates of Wages for Shearers and  
Shed Hands for Seasons 1951-52 to 1953-54 (Inclusive)*

PURSUANT to the above award, a Committee consisting of Mr G. E. F. Wood, Government Statistician, Mr L. C. Gardiner, as representative of the Employers' Union, and Mr W. Wallace, as representative of the Shearers' Union, announce as follows:

1. The Government Statistician's index-number of average prices realized at New Zealand sales for greasy wool, calculated for the twelve months ended 30th June, 1953 (taking as a base price 9.41d. per lb. equals an index number of 1000) was 4900.

2. The rates of pay for the 1953-54 season will therefore be as follows:—

*Shearers*

(a) The rate for shearing by machines shall not be less than £3 8s. per 100, with rations.

(b) The rate for shearing lambs shall not be less than £3 8s. per 100, with rations.

(c) The rate for shearing by hand shall not be less than £3 10s. 6d. per 100, with rations.

(d) The rates for pre-natal shearing of pregnant ewes shall be 10 per cent above those prescribed in subclauses (a) and (c), that is not less than £3 14s. 10d. by machines, and £3 17s. 7d. by hand, both with rations.

(e) The rate for shearing stud sheep, stud lambs, and hogget rams shall be rate and a half, and for other rams double ordinary rate.

(f) The rate for shearing double-fleeced sheep and rams castrated after maturity shall be rate and one-half.

(g) In cases where the shearers find themselves in rations an allowance of 7s. per day shall be paid, this allowance to be paid on every day (Sundays and wet days included) from the commencement of the shed until the cut out: Provided that during any period of interruption to the continuity of the employment this allowance shall not be paid to any employee who takes alternate work for another employer.

(h) Where five or more shearers are employed an efficient expert, other than one of the shearers, shall do the experting. Where less than five shearers are employed and one of the shearers is engaged as expert, such expert, if required, shall cease shearing to repair a machine, and he shall only expert and grind during working hours and shall be paid by mutual arrangement.

*Shed-hands, etc.*

(a) *Pressers*—By the hour 5s. 7d.

(b) *Shed-hands*—By the hour 5s. 5d.

(c) *Cooks*—For twelve persons or under, at the rate of £11 17s. 6d. per week, or £1 18s. per day. Where over twelve persons are employed the wages shall be increased by 3s. per week for each additional person required to be cooked for, and where the number exceeds eighteen persons, an assistant shall be employed; and where over twenty-eight persons have to be cooked for, the rate shall be by mutual arrangement.

(d) *Cooks' Assistants*—At the rate of £8 19s. 2d. per week, or £1 8s. 8d. per day.

(e) A presser may work at a piece-work rate to be agreed on with his employer, but so that he shall in any event be paid not less than the minimum hourly rates herein specified for the time actually worked by him.

(f) Each worker shall be provided with rations by his employer. In any case, where it is agreed between the employer and the worker that the worker shall provide his own rations, he shall be paid at the rate of 7s. per day in addition to the rates herein prescribed. This allowance shall be paid on every day (Sundays and wet days included) from the commencement of the shed until the cut out: Provided that during any period of interruption to the continuity of the employment this allowance shall not be paid to any employer who takes alternate work for another employer.

3. The foregoing rates will operate from 1st July, 1953.

G. E. WOOD, Government Statistician.  
L. C. GARDINER, Employers' Representative.  
W. WALLACE, Shearers' Union Representative.

29th May, 1953.

Census and Statistics Department,  
Wellington C. 1.