



New Zealand Fur Council

Minimum fibre quality standards:

Minimum fibre standards are necessary to ensure consistent quality is delivered to the consumer or products made from fibre and fur on skins. There is a risk that consumers will be reluctant to buy products if the fibre/skins used in consumer products are inconsistent in performance. This will affect the ongoing viability of the whole supply chain as the consumer is the final decider on purchase.

Possoms can either be hand or machine plucked.

The supply chain does not buy fibre during December/January as fibre is of poorer quality because of the yearly molt.

Hand pluck fibre:

- Fibre must only be collected from the back and flanks of the possum.
- Belly, head and tail fibre are NOT accepted.
- Fibre must be a minimum of 20mm to 25mm of longer.
- Contamination of soil, stones, vegetable matter and metallic objects must be removed before taking fibre to the collection agent.
- Fibre must be dry and not wet/damp to the touch.

Machine plucked fibre:

- Plucking machine must be kept in good condition.
- Fibre must only be collected from the back and flanks of the possum.
- Belly, head and tail fibre are NOT accepted.
- Fibre must be a minimum of 20mm to 25mm of longer.
- Contamination of soil, stones, vegetable matter and metallic objects must be removed before taking fibre to the collection agent.
- Fibre must be dry and not wet/damp to the touch.