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From my desk at the **new wool warehouse**

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DATA AND FIGURES OF RWS CERTIFIED WOOL PRODUCTION

Estancias Puppo S.A. continues to increase its purchases of RWS certified wool.

Based on the information published by Textile Exchange a few months ago, we would like to highlight some relevant data about RWS (Responsible Wool Standard) certified wool. Globally, in 2023 (the latest data published by Textile Exchange), nearly 80 mkg of greasy wool was certified in the main producing countries, representing a 12.5% increase compared to the total produced the previous year. See Figure 1.

The lower growth rate in 2022 compared to 2021 is due to updated data published by the IWTO on the total wool production in South Africa. Some farmers abandoned certification due to the low global wool price and a reduction in premiums, as well as the discovery of some volumes being counted twice.

Figure 1



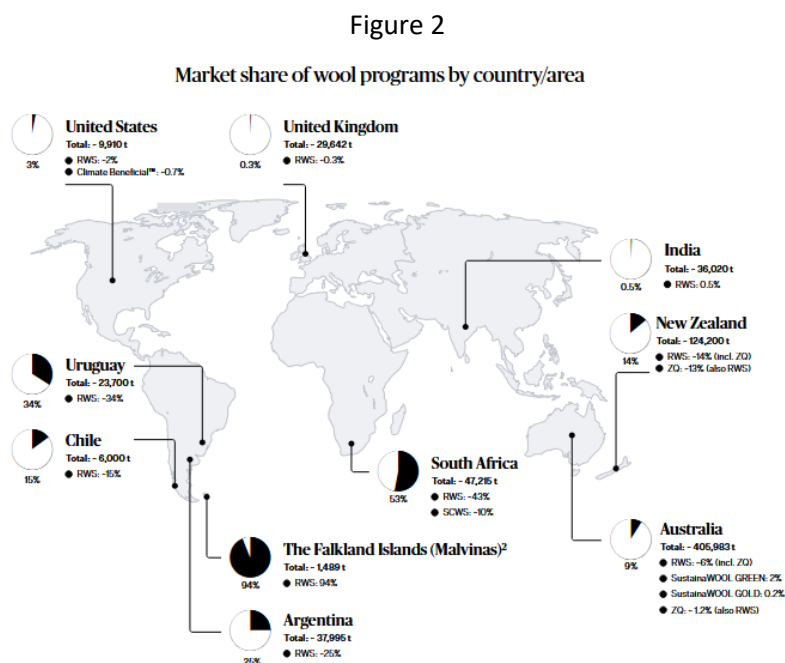
Moreover, although there are several global programs that certify different standards, the RWS Protocol is the one with the highest production volume compared to similar ones, such as Climate Beneficial, Sustainable Wool (Green and Gold), ZQ and ZQRX, and the Sustainable Cape Wool Standard. Another interesting fact from the Textile Exchange Report analysis is that the highest percentage of RWS certified wool is Merino, and 28 million hectares of land have been certified worldwide.



The RWS has also been strongly adopted throughout the wool textile chain, particularly in key countries for wool apparel processing, such as Italy and China.

In Uruguay, for the year 2023, it is notable that 34% of the total wool produced is RWS certified. The production of fine wool has been increasing (as a percentage of the production of other breeds produced in the country) over the past few years. In this sense, if we only consider the production of fine wool in Uruguay, the percentage of RWS certified wool would be higher.

Uruguay is, therefore, the third country with the highest percentage of RWS certified wool relative to total wool production, behind The Falkland Islands, which has already certified 94% of its production, and South Africa with 43%. Following them are Argentina (25%), Chile (15%), New Zealand (14%), and Australia (6%). See Figure 2.



Source: Textile Exchange



In response to the growing global demand for RWS certified wool, Estancias Puppo S.A. has increased the availability of these certified wools, especially high-quality fine wool, by incorporating a larger number of producers into their group to offer more volume to their overseas clients. In the photo, one of the areas of their new wool warehouse (strategically located very close to the Port of Montevideo) where wool purchased from RWS certified producers is stored prior to export.



Estancias Puppo S.A. – High Quality Uruguayan wool for the world