

## LAND AND ENVIRONMENT PLAN CONDITIONS

- A paddock scale resource map of the farm which includes:
  - The identification of the major Land Management Units (LMU) for the farm detailing for each LMU the land area, the contour, major LUC units, soil types and the dominant vegetation.
  - A list of the strengths, weaknesses, and conditions of use for each LMU.
  - Identification and location of perennial streams and wetlands
  - A list of environmental issues for each farm including their severity, priority and a brief description of the proposed control measures.
  - A series of action plans for each of the environmental issues identified for each LMU.
  
- The Soil Health Plan addresses:
  - Erosion.
  - Chemical use.
  - Nutrient budgeting.
  - Identification and management of any contaminated sites.
  - Management of the soil's physical health.
  
- The Water Quality and Stream Health Plan ensures:
  - Stream bank protection and in-stream life
  - Water supply of sufficient quantity and quality for livestock.
  - 'Point source' sites isolated to prevent waterway contamination.
  - 'Non-point source' areas managed to minimise run-off to perennial waterways.
  - Chemicals stored and utilised according to Growsafe standards.
  - Fertilisers applied according to Spreadmark standards.
  
- The Shade and Shelter Plan addresses:
  - Provision of adequate shade and shelter for livestock.
  
- A Pasture Plan demonstrates that animal feeds meet the following conditions:
  - Pasture only feeding.
  - Records are kept for any genetically modified animal feed utilised.
  - Legume content and vigour sustained.
  - Land based operations such as weed spraying and insect control are based on a demonstrated need.
  - Trace elements are applied in fertiliser.
  
- A Biodiversity Strategy must be included covering:
  - Protection of existing indigenous flora, fauna and wetlands as an integral part of farm management.
  - Control of plant and animal pests.
  
- Biosecurity must be included in the farm plan by:
  - Animal status declarations for all bought-in animals.
  - Pest eradication of vector animals as appropriate.
  - Preventing contamination and/or infestation of farm/animals or equipment by ensuring all introduced equipment and farm supplies are clean.

- A Greenhouse Gas Budget should be completed for the farm.
- The farm must comply with the Biosecurity Act, the Resource Management Act, the Fertiliser Code of Practice, Growsafe and Spreadmark.
- The 'Land and Environment Plan' must be endorsed by an approved Land Management professional.

**NOTE: MINIMUM STANDARDS**

A minimum entry compliance level of 10% work or protection already complete of the total planned for: erosion control, perennial waterways, shelter and shade, native bush and wetlands and increasing to 50% compliance in five years, 80% compliance in 10 years and 100% in 15 years.

**DEFINITIONS**

- Land Use Capability (LUC)

Land Use Capability is a nationally accepted classification system that groups land into eight land use capability classes. The first four classes comprise land suitable for cultivation and cropping, and the limitations to use increase from classes I to IV. Class V to VII comprise land unsuitable for cropping use, but suitable for pastoral or forestry use, with limitations increasing from Classes V to VII. Class VIII is suitable only for catchment protection purposes. The range of uses that the land may be put decreases from Class I to VIII. Classification of the farms land resources in LUC units has a number of advantages. It allows consistency in the description of the physical attributes of the land and provides a systematic way of classifying land based on the type of rock, soil, slope, erosion and vegetation cover.

- Land Management Unit (LMU)

This is a parcel of land within a farm, of similar physical description, which is managed in the same way.

- Stream Bank Protection

The stream bank protection programme includes the protection of stream banks and in-stream life by minimising direct access by livestock through the use of a range of management options. The protection options may include permanent fencing, temporary fencing (e.g. single electric wire to exclude cattle) constructing crossings to bridge access routes, allowing regeneration of vegetation and/or planting vegetation along stream bank margins, providing stock water in troughs (thereby drawing livestock away from streams), planting shade trees away from waterways (thereby drawing livestock away from streams), or by reducing stocking pressure in the paddock thereby reducing stocking pressure on stream-side margins.

- Nutrient Budget

A nutrient budget provides estimates of all the nutrient inputs to and from the farm. The budget must demonstrate that nutrients removed from the farm are at least replenished.

- Point Source

This is a specific site from which waterways may be contaminated e.g. a dip site or refuse dump.

- **Non-Point Source**

This is a general area from which waterways may be contaminated.

- **Biodiversity**

The amount and range of biological difference found within the farm.

- **Biosecurity**

Biosecurity includes systems which are in place to protect the farm from biological challenges, that could risk or jeopardise the farm business and/or the products from the farm e.g. an animal health challenge that would jeopardise food safety and/or animal performance.

- **Greenhouse Gas Budget**

This accounts for the net gains and losses of the greenhouse gases (nitrous oxide, methane, carbon) from each of the major LMU's, as influenced by stock type, stocking rate and vegetation type. A green house gas budget will be included when the technology to calculate the balance becomes available in 2003. The main purpose of the budget is to stimulate awareness and intelligent debate on the issues and challenges associated with greenhouse gases and the Kyoto Accord.