

ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN CONDITIONS

- A fully applied and current level of 'Base Farm Assurance' is required as a prerequisite. Qualifying 'Base Farm Assurance' must comprehensively cover industry requirements for food safety and animal welfare.
- Pasture only feeding must be practised.
- A documented feed plan must demonstrate that the animals are well fed for the forthcoming year. The feed plan must include:
 - A plan to cope with possible feed shortages including droughts and/or floods and/or snow storms.
 - A plan for managing sheep post shearing.
- A documented animal health management plan must be prepared and detail:
 - All anticipated animal health challenges
 - A monitoring programme to address the challenges
 - A forecasted schedule of medicine inputs and management inputs
 - A management system to demonstrate that all reasonable steps have been taken to address disease and parasite challenge through integrated animal, pasture and crop management.
 - Evidence that genetic solutions are actively sought to address animal health challenges for the environment in which the animals are being farmed.
- Animals must not be genetically modified through the transgenic process.
- Records must be kept for any genetically modified animal feed utilised including the identification of the animals consuming the feed.
- Animals must not be induced for early parturition unless required on animal welfare grounds.
- Animals treated with antibiotics should be 'permanently' identified.
- Specifically formulated growth promotants must not be administered to animals.
- A shade and shelter plan must be completed to demonstrate that animals are in a habitat that affords protection against the extremes of climate. The shade and shelter plan is lodged in the Land and Environment Plan.
- Organo phosphate (OP) use is discouraged unless required on animal welfare grounds for use as an imperative, last resort treatment. Animals treated with OP should be 'permanently' identified.
- Dehorning cattle earlier than 12 months of age, purchasing cattle without horns and breeding for polledness is encouraged.
- Run-off from spray or dip treatment must not be allowed to pollute the environment.

- Dead animals, in particular those for collection and further processing, must not be visible to the public.
- All livestock trading whether purchased, sold or transferred must be accompanied with a fully completed animal status declaration and any other relevant documentation.
- Livestock purchased from non-accredited sources must be kept on an accredited farm for 21 days before qualifying for accreditation. The aim is to eventually restrict livestock trading to between accredited farms only.
- The Animal Management Plan must be endorsed by an approved Veterinarian.

DEFINITIONS

- **Base Farm Assurance**

This programme builds upon existing industry farm assurance programmes to include the elements of sustainable production. Any farm assurance programme that is used as the base for this programme will need to comprehensively cover the industry requirements for food safety and animal welfare. At this stage no attempt has been made to determine which base level farm assurance programs would qualify.

- **Pasture Feeding (ref. ASD Guidelines 2002)**

Pasture feeding means that the animals have been raised under NZ farming conditions with year-round access to grass, hay, silage, lucerne, feed crops (e.g. brassica, maize, ryecorn, etc.) even if the animals have occasionally been provided with supplementary grain or manufactured feed (provided that you have a statement from the manufacturer that the feed does not contain animal protein or animal fat). Manufacturers' declarations must be kept. Supplementary feeding with vegetables and fruit is also acceptable.

- **Feed Plan**

The plan may include a formal feed budget based on feed supply and demand. It may be expressed in kilograms of dry matter, or simply be based on pasture length and area, backed by historical animal performance records.

- **Animal Breeding Plan**

A plan that demonstrates that the farmer has taken all reasonable steps to use appropriate genetics for the environment in which the animals are bred and reared.

- **Animal Health Plan**

Records information on potential threats to animal health and sets out the actions and a schedule to manage those threats. The actions will involve monitoring, management, prevention and treatments (ideally preventative). For example, monitoring and prevention programmes are expected to be in place for facial eczema and internal parasite challenge.

- Animal Status Declaration

A declaration required by law that must be made by the farmer supplier for all livestock supplied for processing.

- Supplier

The supplier is the owner or person in charge of the animals.

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.

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY PLAN CONDITIONS

- The farmer should be able to demonstrate an understanding of and acceptance that sustainable management of our land, animals and resources is crucial for the future viability of agriculture
- If the farm employs permanent or casual staff their training needs must be identified
- If the farm employs permanent or casual staff then a TRAINING PLAN must be produced and applied.
- Identification of cultural and heritage 'Sites of Significance' is encouraged
- Where 'Sites of Significance' exist on a property, protection measures via a documented plan are encouraged.

DEFINITIONS

- Sustainable (with regard to agriculture and agricultural management) "the term sustainable agriculture means an integrated system of plant and animal production practices having a site-specific application that will, over the long term:
 - a. satisfy human food and fibre needs
 - b. enhance environmental quality and the natural resource base upon which the
 - c. agricultural economy depends
 - d. make the most efficient use of non-renewable resources and on-farm
 - e. resources and integrate, where appropriate, natural biological cycles and
 - f. controls
 - g. sustain the economic viability of farm operations
 - h. enhance the quality of life for farmers and society as a whole.
- 'Sites of Significance'
A landmark, construction, ruin, geographical or natural feature, or social/recreational resource of value to the community or of value to society.
- Cultural
Of social importance.
- Heritage
Of historic significance and importance.
- Training Plan
A plan which details training events relevant to the farm including the individual employees name, the training date, the training activity and the process employed.