

WINTER GRAZING SELF ASSESSMENT 2024 SEASON

This self-assessment is designed to help farmers identify risk areas for the winter management of stock on crop. It is for internal farm use only; it will not be assessed for the FEP audit programme but it may be something you use as evidence for a winter audit. Each question addresses industry good practice to identify possible risk areas. It is intended to prompt discussion to understand the extent of any issues and the consequential risk to the business, and share ideas for solutions and improvements to wintering practices within our catchment.

We recommend completing the questions with your whole farm team, calling on neighbouring landowners or farm advisory team if required, but it can be used by individuals to gauge performance. If we can help with completing this self-assessment, please do not hesitate to call Esther Gorton, AIC's Environmental Advisor, on 027 415 1923.

Circle the Option that Fits Best: Yes No Maybe/Partially,	/Needs Wc	ork	
contractual and Site Management			
We graze external blocks.	\	X	
We have a formal grazing contract in place outlining the expectations.	V	X	
It is clear who is responsible for the day-day stock management.	~	X	
There is a written plan for slips/abortions or sick animals.	~	X	
We know the DDE/DDT levels for the block.	✓	X	
We are aware of the H&S hazards and other considerations for the block over winter and have discussed them as a team.	V	X	
We have a plan documenting wet weather management, adverse events, and contingency plans detailing responsibilities and procedures.	V	X	
We have a written biosecurity plan which limits risk of animal/herd connection, trucking or droving management.	✓	X	
eam Management & Awareness			
The whole farm team understands the winter management policies and consequences for non-compliance.	✓	X	
The whole farm team knows what steps must be taken if there is an issue.	~	X	
We have documented team training on winter management and undertake weekly/fortnightly paddock assessments.	✓	X	
otes:			







Wintering Localised Considerations

There are no crops adjacent to or beside waterways.	V X =
2. There are no low spots in the paddock and/or drainage channels in the crop paddock.	V X =
3. There is no winter feed on sloped land.	VX =
4. There is no cultivation and/or grazing up to the gully edge, waterways, etc.	VX =
5. We have considered buffer distances from waterways and/or drainage pathways.	VX =
6. All waterways are permanently and securely fenced (ephemeral and continual).	VX =
7. Waterways are planted along their length with grass or riparian planting.	V X =
Paddock Management - Visual	
1. There is no significant pugging over 50% of the paddock.	X X =
2. There are no overland flow pathways exiting the paddock.	VX =
3. Cows are on/off break feed to limit soil damage and pugging.	V X =
4. There is no ponding of water, urine/dung, effluent in low spots of grazed paddock.	V X =
5. There is shelter for stock to readily access.	V X =
6. There is adequate water supply and troughs for herd/mob size.	V X =
7. Stock have space and dry ground to camp/lie down on.	V X =
8. Stock do not calve/lamb on muddy ground.	V X =
Paddock Management - Visual	

Paddock Management - Visual

4. We have a documented plan on how each paddock will be grazed and divided up. Shelter is available.







Notes:







Supplemented Feeding

1. The supplement storage and feeding out has not caused significant ruts or compaction.







2. The supplement storage area is clean and tidy. Tyres are stacked away in piles, wrap and string picked up, etc.







Post Grazing Management

1. We have a written plan of how paddocks will be re-sown, when this is scheduled, what seed.







2. We are using catch crops where we can.







Notes:

If you have any questions or feedback, please do not hesitate to contact our Environmental Coordinator.



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