Livestock Production Assurance

FACT SHEETS

July 2022

1. Property risk assessment
2. Safe and responsible animal treatments
3. Stock foods, fodder crops, grain and pasture treatments
4. Preparation for dispatch of livestock
5. Livestock transactions and movements
6. Biosecurity
7. Animal welfare

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PROPERTY RISK ASSESSMENT

Livestock Production Assurance

The Livestock Production Assurance (LPA) program is the Australian livestock industry's on-farm program covering food safety, animal welfare and biosecurity. It is part of the integrity system used by the red meat industry to meet the stringent requirements of our domestic and export markets. Customer confidence in Australian red meat underpins the success and growth of Australia's livestock industry, and protects the livelihoods of more than 180,000 producers.

When producers become LPA-accredited, they are promising to meet LPA's requirements and fulfil their responsibility in the production of safe and ethical red meat. **Property risk assessment** is just one of seven elements that farmers need to satisfy to become LPA-accredited.

Every LPA-accredited producer must undertake risk assessments to minimise the risk of livestock being exposed to sites that are unacceptably contaminated with persistent chemicals, pathogens from recycled water, or physical contaminants.

What are persistent chemicals?

Persistent chemicals are substances that stay in the environment and may become concentrated within people and animals through food systems. They may have a serious adverse impact on human health, the environment and trade.

How long do persistent chemicals remain a problem?

Persistent chemicals break down very slowly. Areas contaminated with persistent chemicals may have to be managed for decades, depending on the chemical involved, climate and soil type. Lead, arsenic and cadmium do not breakdown, although their levels may reduce over time as a result of dilution or leaching.

Predominant persistent chemicals found on Australian farms:

Organochlorine pesticides (OCs)
Common cause: *Previously used for a range of agricultural, horticultural and pest control uses. Include Aldrin, BHC, chlordane, DDT, dieldrin, HCB and heptachlor.*

Lifetime effect: *Can persist in treated areas for decades after use.*

Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs)
Common cause: *Historically added to transformer oils, electrical capacitors and some hydraulic oils, as fire retardants. See* **www.dcceew.gov.au/environment/protection/publications/monitoring-pcbs-australia**

Lifetime effect: *Can persist for decades. Accumulates in fatty tissue.*

Lead
Common cause: *Old batteries are the most common source of lead poisoning for farm animals, also through stock having access to lead sources such as sump oil or old lead-based paint, commercial painted surfaces, 200L drums, machinery, sheds, old baths etc.*

Lifetime effect: *Does not breakdown.*

Arsenic
Common cause: *Old arsenic compounds discarded in farm rubbish tips or kept in old buildings.*

Lifetime effect: *Does not breakdown. Clears relatively quickly from the tissues of recovered animals, but may take months for excessive residues to clear from the liver and kidney of animals.*

Cadmium
Common cause: *Found naturally in some soils, present in some phosphate fertilisers, particularly those made from rock phosphate or guano of marine origin. More information can be sourced from* **www.cadmium-management.org.au**

Lifetime effect: *Accumulate in liver and kidney tissue.*

What is recycled water? Why can it be a problem?

Recycled water refers to water recycled from sewage or other water sources containing human faecal material and supplied from a wastewater treatment plant under an agreement. This excludes on-farm household greywater and septic systems or stormwater. The use or accidental exposure of cattle to inadequately treated recycled water needs to be managed to minimise the risk of beef measles (*Cysticercus bovis*) infection in cattle.

LPA REQUIREMENTS

What?

As a livestock producer, you must ensure the animals you sell do not have unacceptable residues of these chemicals.

You must ensure stock do not have access to old batteries, farm rubbish tips, old painted timbers, commercially painted surfaces (e.g., 200L drums), machinery and any potential chemical storage or disposal area. Securely fence fertiliser storages and stockpiles to prevent stock access and dispose of old batteries at an authorised recycling depot. You must also ensure they have not been exposed to potentially injurious physical contaminants such as broken needles, buckshot or wire.

To demonstrate this you must:

- Complete a risk assessment and map – and update it when any changes to the enterprise's activities occur
- Document and file this risk assessment

How?

The risk assessment involves answering ten questions, and completing a risk map of the property, to ensure a livestock producer is doing all they can to prevent unacceptable levels of persistent chemicals or physical contaminants entering the meat they produce.

Responses to the risk assessment questions and the map must be documented and filed, and both made available should the property be subject to an LPA audit. Templates to assist you with your record keeping are available on the ISC website at **www.integritysystems.com.au/recordkeeping/**.

When

The risk assessment must be carried out when any changes to the enterprise's current activities occur.

Why?

Australia's food safety record is essential to consumers of red meat, both locally and in the countries we export to. Food safety and quality is fundamental to the future of the red meat industry.

If livestock come in contact with persistent chemicals, the meat they produce may contain unacceptable chemical residues. This puts the entire industry at risk.

Physical contaminants could also cause harm to those consuming the meat.

There is an increased risk of cattle developing beef measles (C. *bovis*) if they are exposed to inadequately treated recycled water. C. *bovis* poses a food safety risk to humans and infected carcases can be partly or fully condemned at processing.

Any food safety issue has the potential to impact consumers and puts the entire industry at risk.

At the producer level, repercussions may include failure to be paid for the livestock, and possible legal responsibility for the resulting costs faced by processors and the rest of the supply chain.

Checklist:

1. *Have OC residues ever been found in stock from this property or in soil or other material samples from the property?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

If a significant chemical residue is found or suspected in livestock or other agricultural products, state government departments may carry out an on-farm investigation to determine the source of the residue and the actions needed to prevent future problems.

If the residue is due to a persistent chemical, management arrangements are needed to prevent future problems are usually set out in a formal management plan. Under the National Organochlorine Residue Management Program (NORM), regular audits are undertaken to confirm ongoing compliance with OC residue management plans required on LPA accredited properties.

Even if residues have not been found, you are still required to complete the full risk assessment.

Learn more

A dedicated module within LPA Learning explains what you need to know regarding LPA's requirements for on-farm risk assessment for persistent chemicals and physical contaminants. Information is also provided on the ISC website **(www.integritysystems.com.au/on-farm-assurance/property-risk-assessments/).**

2. *Do stock have access to areas where bananas, cotton, corn, potatoes, lucerne, orchard crops, sugar cane, tobacco, vegetables or other potentially OC-treated crops were grown prior to 1998?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

Land that previously grew OC-treated crops can contain enough residual OCs to cause unacceptable OC residues in grazing livestock. These areas should only be grazed in accordance with an approved NORM program property management plan.

Most producers will need professional assistance to develop and evaluate a management plan for livestock that have previously grazed on OC-affected land. This assistance can be provided by state DPIs.

3. *Do stock have access to any timber buildings, sheds, yards, power poles, stockyards or other structures, which may have been treated against termites before July 1995?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

Soil and timber can contain high concentrations of OCs in areas where OCs were previously used to treat termites, ants and similar pests. Stock held or fed in areas where there are high levels of OCs can develop unacceptable OC residues after less than 24 hours exposure.

Stock should not be grazed or held in these areas unless adequate steps have been taken to demonstrate that using the area for these purposes does not carry a residue risk.

4. *Is there a dip or spray race - working or not - on the property which was built or operated before 1990?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

OCs were used to control external parasites on sheep and cattle until the early 1960s and arsenic used in sheep dips until the late 1980s.

It is essential that livestock are excluded from these areas unless soil tests confirm the areas only have insignificant contamination, or stock are only exposed to the contaminated area in accordance with the provisions of an effective residue management plan/property management plan.

5. *Do stock have access to a rubbish dump, farm machinery, sheds, painted feed bins, or any painted surface?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

Rubbish dumps and waste storage areas commonly hold old chemical containers, lead acid batteries and other potentially hazardous materials which present both residue and livestock health risks. Always exclude livestock from these areas.

Commercial paint contains excessive lead levels and can be a risk for livestock if they absorb it through licking or chewing. Animals should be prevented from accessing any surface painted with commercial paint, as well as ashes from burnt painted timber.

6. *Do stock have access to current or former chemical storage, mixing or washdown areas or fertiliser storage or loading areas?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

Areas around current and former chemical storage, mixing and disposal sites may contain high levels of persistent chemicals due to past chemical spills and washdown of spray equipment.

These areas should always be securely fenced to exclude any stock that are ultimately intended for human consumption. Always exclude stock from fertiliser storage and loading areas to prevent direct poisoning risks and reduce the potential for excessive cadmium residues.

7. *Do stock have access to leaking electrical transformers, capacitors, hydraulic equipment or coal mine wastes?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) are very persistent industrial chemicals. PCB residues have been found in soil below leaking electrical transformers, at former transformer service sites, in the oil leaking from capacitor starts on larger electric motors, on former coal mining leases and in materials such as coal washery wastes brought on to farms for use as road base or stockyard surfaces. Areas subject to industrial run-off have also been found to contain PCB residues.

Stock should be permanently excluded from any areas, equipment or materials that are known or suspected to be affected by PCBs unless access is allowed under a proven residue management plan/property management plan.

8. *Is feed stored in silos, hay sheds or other areas that may have been treated with OCs?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

Although uncommon these days, serious problems have occurred in the past with OC-treated feed storages. If feed storages were previously sprayed with an OC chemical, such as dieldrin, any grain or hay stored in contact with treated surfaces will become contaminated.

Feed kept in OC-treated storage can be affected decades after the inital treatment.

9. *Have sources of potentially injurious physical contaminants been identified?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

Stock may be exposed to physical contaminants which can remain in the meat after slaughter.

Examples of physical contaminants include broken needles remaining in the animal after health treatments; buckshot from recreational or professional shooters who may use the PIC, adjacent properties or public land; and wire fragments.

Through its record keeping, the enterprise must be able to permanently identify and manage livestock that may have been exposed to such contaminants.

10. *Do cattle have access to recycled water for drinking or pastures irrigated with recycled water? Has the water been treated adequately to reduce the risk of C.* bovis *(beef measles)?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

There is an increased risk of cattle developing beef measles (C. *bovis*) if they are exposed to inadequately treated recycled water.
C. *bovis* poses a food safety risk to humans and infected carcases can be partly or fully condemned at processing.

If you are being supplied with recycled water from a wastewater treatment plant, you need to ensure you have included recycled water use in a property risk assessment and indicated on your farm map where recycled water has been applied.

You must obtain in writing from the wastewater treatment plant the treatment level of the recycled water (agreement or contract) You need to demonstrate through the agreement that the recycled water is low risk and has been treated to achieve a:

- Log Reduction Value (LRV) of 4.0 in *Taenia saginata* egg concentration or equivalent; or
- LRV of 3.0 - only if the producer is supplying other fresh drinking water to cattle. The recycled water supplier must confirm that the sewage quality ≤ 1 T *saginata* egg/L, as part of the supply agreement.

If cattle are exposed to inadequately treated wastewater, they need to be identified, traceable and declared as exposed to C. *bovis* on outgoing LPA NVDs.

Property risk assessment - Supporting information

The risk assessment involves completing a risk assessment and map of the property, to ensure a livestock producer is doing all they can to prevent unacceptable levels of persistent chemicals and physical contaminants entering the meat they produce. Responses to the risk assessment questions and the map must be documented and filed, and both made available should the property be subject to an LPA audit.

Figure 1. Risk assessment map example

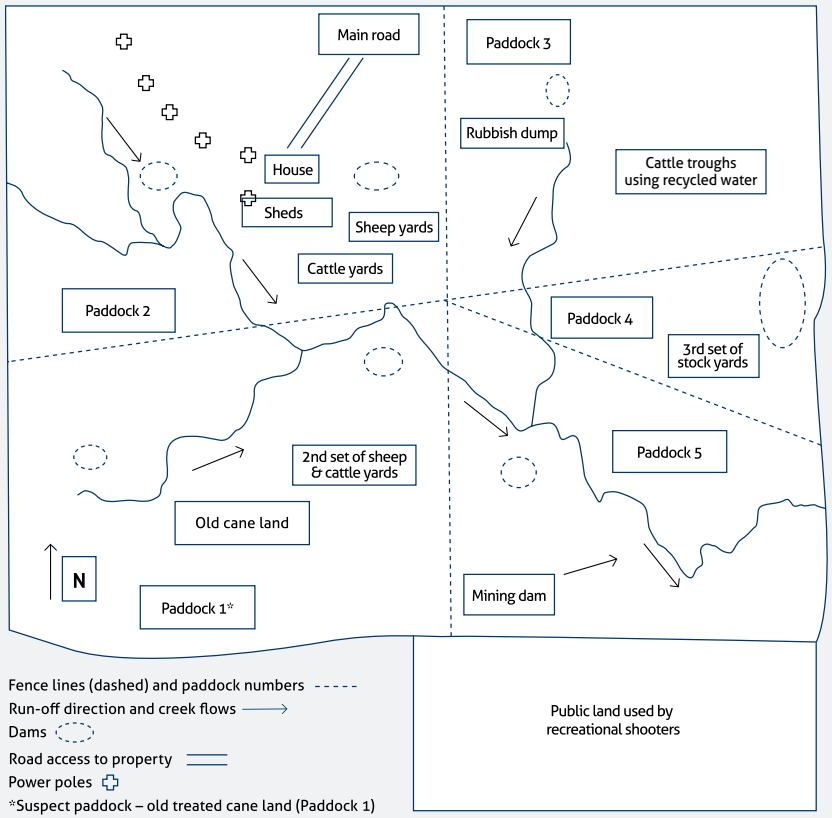

Figure 2 - Property risk assessment – Example documentation

Possible risk / risk site (refer to property map)	Reason or risk identified	Results received (soil or fat samples)	Description of how site is managed to eliminate the risk of livestock contamination
Rubbish dump	*Old chemical drums, batteries, food scraps*	*Soil sample; Dieldren 0.20mg/kg BHC 0.40mg/kg*	*Rubbish dump fenced out 2005*
Stock yards	*Plunge dip* *Timber yards treated for termite control*	*NA*	*Cattle and sheep yards – plunge dip no longer in use and section of yards not used. Aware of timber yards treated for termite control.*
Chemical storage shed and wash down area *Sheds* *Machinery sheds* *Machinery*	*Sump oil and old batteries* *Timber treated for termite control* *Hydraulic oil on machinery* *Chemical storage and area used to clean our spray equipment*	*NA*	*Sheds – have area where old batteries and sump oil placed, fenced 2007 and also contains washed chemical drums ready for DrumMuster collection. Aware of machinery with oil leaks and endeavour not to leave machinery in paddocks where stock are.*
Power poles	*Organochlorine ground treated poles*	*Soil sample: Dieldren 0.60mg/kg*	*Power poles to house and sheds are pre-1987. Organochlorine ground treated poles. Old pole removed from paddock.*
Mining dam	*Possible heavy metals*		*Stock not allowed access to dam. Stock in paddock must be on clean feed for 60 days before they can go to slaughter.*
Paddock 1 *Old cane paddock*	*Paddock 1 old treated cane paddock*	*Soil sample: DDT 0.15mg/kg*	*Sale cattle restricted access. Stock in paddock must be on clean feed for 60 days before slaughter.*
Public road / adjacent public land	*Potential for physical contamination* *Rubbish from travellers including lead batteries*	*NA*	*Gates locked. Areas neighbouring public roads/lands checked for rubbish on a regular basis. Rubbish removal as required.*
Potential physical contamination	*Potential for physical contamination*	*NA*	*Potential for physical contamination minimised by collection of all loose fencing wire / clear policy regarding the use of firearms on the property.*
Treated recycled water used for irrigation	*Potential for presence of pathogen that can cause beef measles (*Cysticercus bovis *or* C. bovis*) in cattle.*	*Documentation from water supplier that water has been treated adequately*	*The recycled water supplier has confirmed that the recycled water has been adequately treated.* *Other fresh drinking water is available to cattle. If exposed to inadequately treated recycled water, cattle are identified, traceable and declared as exposed to* C. bovis *on outgoing NVDs.*

SAFE AND RESPONSIBLE ANIMAL TREATMENTS

Livestock Production Assurance

The Livestock Production Assurance (LPA) program is the Australian livestock industry's on-farm program covering food safety, animal welfare and biosecurity. It is part of the integrity system used by the red meat industry to meet the stringent requirements of our domestic and export markets. Customer confidence in Australian red meat underpins the success and growth of Australia's livestock industry, and protects the livelihoods of more than 180,000 producers.

When producers become LPA-accredited, they are promising to meet LPA's requirements and fulfil their responsility in the production of safe and ethical red meat. The management of **safe and responsible animal treatments** is just one of seven elements that producers need to satisfy to become LPA-accredited.

Every LPA-accredited producer must ensure that animal treatments are administered in a safe and responsible manner that minimises the risk of chemical residues and physical hazards.

How should medicines be stored?

The veterinary medicines used to treat livestock must be stored in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations. Check carefully for instructions regarding storage including refrigeration requirements and protection from sunlight.

Livestock must not be treated with any veterinary medicine that is not in its original container, is contaminated or spoilt in any way, or has passed the product expiry date.

Unwanted medicines and empty containers must be disposed of in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations and local environment protection authority requirements.

What is a withholding period?

The withholding period for meat is the minimum time after an animal is treated with a veterinary medicine before it may be legally slaughtered for human consumption.

Withholding periods are set to ensure that chemical residues, if any, in the carcase are below the maximum residue limit allowed for that chemical in food in Australia. In general, slaughter and feeder animals should not be treated with a veterinary medicine if the withholding period exceeds the expected date of departure from a property.

What is an Export Slaughter Interval?

Many veterinary medicines and pesticides now have an Export Slaughter Interval (ESI) listed in addition to the meat withholding period. The ESI is the minimum time recommended after an animal is treated before slaughter for consumption in an overseas country that has a lower maximum residue limit than applies in Australia.

ESIs are revised throughout the year, which means the ESI printed on your National Vendor Declaration (NVD) forms may be out of date.

To ensure that you have the latest version, visit **www.apvma.gov.au/esi.**

LPA REQUIREMENTS

What?

As a livestock producer, you must guarantee that you use veterinary medicines only when necessary, that animals that are treated get an effective course of treatment and that there is minimal risk of adverse side effects, including carcase residue or physical contaminants.

Before registering any veterinary medicine or pesticide, the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) must ensure it is not a risk to public health or the environment, is safe and effective and will not damage Australian exports. It is essential, however, that all animal treatments are stored and used appropriately and that animals are not slaughtered while they may still have unacceptable chemical residues.

To demonstrate this you must:

- *Keep records of all animal treatments*
- *Complete a chemical user's course*
- *Note in a diary when equipment utilised for animal treatment is cleaned*
- *Where required ensure you have any written authorisations for veterinarian medicines*
- *Record animals that may have been exposed to physical contaminants such as broken needles*
- *Every animal treated with a hormonal growth promotant (HGP) must also be identified with a triangular ear mark.*

How?

The safe and responsible animal treatments checklist includes seven questions to ensure a livestock producer is doing all they can to store and administer animal treatments in a safe and responsible manner to minimise the risk of unacceptable chemical residues.

It is recommended producers document and file responses to the safe and responsible animal treatments checklist, and make them available should the property be subject to an LPA audit. Templates to assist you with your record keeping are available on the ISC website at **www.integritysystems.com.au/recordkeeping/**.

When?

Records should be updated every time animals are treated with veterinary medicines.

Why?

Australia's food safety record is essential to consumers of red meat, both locally and in the countries we export to. This means it's fundamental to the future of our red meat industry.

If animal treatments are not used responsibly, stock may suffer and the meat they produce may contain unacceptable chemical residues or pose a physical hazard. Any food safety issue has the potential to impact consumers and puts the entire industry at risk.

At a producer level, repercussions may include failure to be paid for the livestock, and possible legal liability for the resulting costs faced by processors and the rest of the supply chain.

Checklist:

1. *Do you only allow people who are trained and/or competent to administer animal treatments?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

Anyone applying or handling chemicals must be able to demonstrate competency in the storage, handling, preparation, use and disposal of chemicals. Ideally livestock producers will hold or be under the supervision of someone that has a current recognised chemical user's certificate. Certificates should be stored and presented during the LPA audit.

2. *When treating animals, do you abide by the legal directions (e.g. as written on the label) or written directions from a vet and only use approved veterinary medicines?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

The intended use, application method and dose rates of veterinary medicines must be understood prior to use. This means reading the labels and administering medicines in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. To ensure that livestock receive the appropriate treatment, only veterinary medicines approved by the APVMA should be used.

3. *Are veterinary medicines stored according to instructions on the label and kept in a place safe from animals?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

Veterinary medicines can lose their effectiveness if not stored appropriately and should always be kept according to the manufacturer's instructions. They should also be kept securely away from animals to minimise the risk of unnecessary contamination of livestock.

4. *Do you ensure that any equipment used to administer or measure animal treatments is working correctly before use and clean it before and after you use it?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

So that animals receive the correct dose of their treatment and that the treatment is not contaminated, it is essential to calibrate chemical application equipment and check it for operational efficiency before using. Equipment to administer or measure animal treatments must also be thoroughly cleaned before and after each use.

5. *Are management systems in place to prevent cross-contamination between treated and non-treated animals?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

Cross contamination between treated animals with untreated animals poses a risk to food safety. This can commonly occur through urine or milk and management systems must be in place to prevent this from happening. It is important that treated livestock are clearly identified and in the case of young animals (eg calves) that treated livestock are segregated from non-treated livestock for the duration of the applicable Withholding Period (WHP) and/or Export Slaughter Interval (ESI).

6. *Do you administer veterinary medicines injections in the neck (unless site specific) and minimise damage to the site?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

Choosing the administration site of veterinary medicine injections should take into consideration the relative value of the meat cut. This means that injections should be administered into the neck unless they are site specific.

Damage to the injection site should be minimised by ensuring that no more than 10ml of intramuscular injection is administered in any one spot, except where injections are site specific.

7. *Do you record animal treatments, including adverse reactions, and pass this on when selling stock?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

Animal treatments should be recorded and passed on when selling stock, by completing an LPA NVD. Adverse reactions to medicines should be monitored to minimise the risk of unknown chemical residue.

Where relevant, the producer should also record on the LPA NVD details of the WHP and ESI to ensure that livestock are not processed for human consumption before these have expired and or where a physical contaminant is known to be present in an animal.

Records should include:

- *Treatment date*
- *Animal/mob identification*
- *Chemical/medicine used, including batch number and expiry date*
- *Dose rate*
- *Relevant Withholding Period and/or Export Slaughter Interval (and date of expiry) or date animal is first eligible for sale*
- *Adverse reactions (if applicable)*
- *Broken needle still in animal (if applicable)*

Learn more

A dedicated module within LPA Learning explains what you need to know regarding LPA's requirements for safe and responsible animal treatments. Information is also provided on the ISC website (**www.integritysystems.com.au/on-farm-assurance/safe-and-responsible-animal-treatments/**).

NOTES

STOCK FOODS, FODDER CROPS, GRAIN AND PASTURE TREATMENTS

Livestock Production Assurance

The Livestock Production Assurance (LPA) program is the Australian livestock industry's on-farm program covering food safety, animal welfare and biosecurity. It is part of the integrity system used by the red meat industry to meet the stringent requirements of our domestic and export markets. Customer confidence in Australian red meat underpins the success and growth of Australia's livestock industry, and protects the livelihoods of more than 180,000 producers.

When producers become LPA-accredited, they are promising to meet LPA's requirements and fulfil their responsibility in the production of safe and ethical red meat. The management of **stock foods, fodder crops, grain and pasture treatments** is just one of seven elements that farmers need to satisfy to become LPA-accredited.

Every LPA-accredited producer must minimise exposure of livestock to foods containing unacceptable chemical contamination and guarantee livestock are not fed animal products.

What?

As a livestock producer, you must guarantee that animals are not exposed to foods containing chemical contamination or fed animal products.

Livestock feed contaminated with chemicals or animal products pose a risk to human health. Chemically contaminated food may result in unacceptable chemical residues in the animal at the time of slaughter while feeding ruminant livestock animal products is a serious disease risk.

Producers must, therefore, do all they can to ensure agricultural chemicals are applied and stored correctly and that animals are not exposed to unacceptable chemical residues. Records must be kept to enable the traceability of stock feeds provided to animals, including details on relevant Withholding Periods (WHP) and Export Slaughter Intervals (ESI).

To demonstrate this you must:

- *Keep records of your agricultural chemical treatments*
- *Introduce management systems to identify livestock that may have become contaminated and to map or list treated or contaminated areas*
- *File Commodity Vendor Declarations (CVDs) that accompany all introduced stock feeds*

How?

The stock foods, fodder crops, grain and pasture treatments checklist includes nine questions to ensure a livestock producer is doing all they can to minimise animal exposure to foods containing unacceptable chemical residues or animal products.

It is recommended producers document and file answers to the checklist questions and make them available when the property is subject to an LPA audit. Templates to assist you with your record keeping are available on the ISC website at **www.integritysystems.com.au/recordkeeping/**.

When?

Records should be updated every time chemicals are applied to fodder crops or pasture and feed is introduced to the property.

Why?

Australia's food safety record is essential to consumers of red meat, both locally and in the countries we export to. This means it's fundamental to the future of our red meat industry.

If animals consume foods that have unacceptable chemical residues or which contain animal products, the meat they produce may be unsafe for human consumption. Any food safety issue has the potential to impact consumers and puts the entire industry at risk.

At a producer level, repercussions may include failure to be paid for the livestock, and possible legal liability for the resulting costs faced by processors and the rest of the supply chain.

Checklist:

1. *Do you only allow people who are trained and/or competent to use chemicals?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

Anyone applying or handling chemicals must be able to demonstrate competency in the storage, handling, preparation, use and disposal of chemicals. Ideally livestock producers will hold or be under the supervision of someone that has a current recognised chemical user's certificate. Certificates should be stored and presented during the LPA audit.

2. *When applying chemicals, do you abide by the legal directions (e.g. as written on the label) and only use approved agricultural chemicals?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

The intended use, application method and dose rates of agricultural chemicals must be understood prior to use. This means reading the chemical labels and applying them in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. To ensure that the appropriate chemicals are applied, only agricultural chemicals approved by the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) should be used.

3. *Do you ensure that any equipment used to apply or measure chemicals is working correctly before use and clean it before and after you use it?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

So that the correct amount of chemical is applied and is not contaminated, it is essential to calibrate equipment and check it for operational efficiency before use. Equipment to apply or measure chemicals must also be thoroughly cleaned before and after each use.

4. *Are agricultural chemicals stored according to instructions on the label and kept in a place safe from animals?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

Agricultural chemicals can lose their effectiveness if not stored appropriately and should always be kept according to the manufacturer's instructions. They should also be kept away from animals to minimise the risk of unnecessary contamination of livestock.

5. *Are management systems in place to identify livestock that may have accessed treated paddocks or contaminated feed?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

Being able to trace livestock that may have come in contact with chemicals is essential. Producers should implement a system that allows them to identify these animals, such as the use of a coloured ear tag or segregation.

6. *Do you record agricultural treatments, including spray drift and introduced stock feed, and pass this on when selling stock?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

Agricultural treatments should be recorded and passed on when selling stock, by completing an LPA NVD.

If livestock have been exposed to feed or pasture that is within a Withholding Period (WHP) or Export Slaughter Interval (ESI), the producer must record this on the LPA NVD. This is to ensure that these livestock are not processed for human consumption before the WHP/ESI has expired.

Records should include:

- *Treatment date*
- *Location/size/quantity of treatment*
- *Chemical used, including batch number and expiry date*
- *Application rate and method*
- *Relevant Withholding Period and/or Export Slaughter Interval (and date of expiry)*
- *Relevant withholding from grazing period*

Records of any evident spray drift from neighbouring properties should also be maintained.

7. *Do you record introduced stock feeds and ensure these come with a Commodity Vendor Declaration (CVD) that shows there is a minimal risk of contamination?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

To minimise the risk of contaminating our meat supply, it is important to keep records of feeds that are introduced, including the date they were received, a description of the feed, the supplier and a residue analysis. It is also important to ensure that a CVD is provided every time you buy/introduce stock feed. CVDs can be downloaded from the ISC website at **www.integritysystems.com.au/recordkeeping/**.

In the absence of a CVD it is important that the residue status of the stockfeed be determined and/or that the stockfeed is not fed to livestock that are to be sold for slaughter within 60 days from date of last exposure. Records of stockfeed activities should be maintained, including date, description of stockfeed, mob and/or paddock identification.

If you are not sure of the chemical residue status of stockfeed, do not provide it to livestock until you can prove it is clear, possibly through a National Association of Testing Authorities (NATA) approved laboratory test.

8. *Do you meet the ruminant feed ban legislation of the state in which you raise stock?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

This means you:

- *Are not permitted to feed Restricted Animal Material (RAM) to ruminants (cattle, sheep, goats)*
- *Must ensure that livestock do not have access to feed, the feed mixing area or discarded feed containing RAM*
- *Should ensure all containers, machinery, augers etc that come in touch with stock feeds containing RAM are thoroughly cleaned prior to using or holding ruminant stockfeed*

*RAM includes meat, meat and bone meal, blood meal, blood and bone meal, dog biscuits, poultry offal meal, feather meal, fishmeal or any other animal meals or manures. It does not include tallow, treated recycled cooking oils, gelatine, milk or milk products.

To minimise the risk of contaminating our meat supply, it is important to keep and store products that may contain RAM separately and securely from feed that will be fed to ruminant livestock.

Careful consideration should be given to:

- *Dog biscuits where dog kennels are in holding yards or paddocks*
- *Poultry and pig feeds storage and mixing equipment*
- *If spreading poultry and pig manures, stock cannot graze the pasture until it has grown through the manure. This will ensure the stock do not consume the manure.*

If used cooking oils are in feed mixes (tallow and oil) you must ensure they meet relevant Australian Standards. If feeding old/waste bread/bakery/pastry to livestock ensure that any bread or product containing meat is not fed to ruminant animals (cattle, sheep, goats).

9. *Is there a management system in place to map or list treated and contaminated areas and signpost them on-farm?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

Keeping a map or list of treated paddocks and any contaminated sites or facilities enables producers to manage the risk of livestock accessing these areas, where they may become contaminated. Signposting treated paddocks on-farm is not essential, but can help to minimise the risk of contamination.

Where livestock are contaminated, producers must ensure that they meet the relevant Withholding Period or Export Slaughter Interval before they are slaughtered or sold.

Learn more

A dedicated module within LPA Learning explains what you need to know regarding LPA's requirements for stock foods, fodder crops, grain and pasture treatments. Information is also provided on the ISC website (**www.integritysystems.com.au/on-farm-assurance/stock-foods-fodders-crops-grain-and-pasture-treatments/**).




NOTES

PREPARATION FOR DISPATCH OF LIVESTOCK

Livestock Production Assurance

The Livestock Production Assurance (LPA) program is the Australian livestock industry's on-farm program covering food safety, animal welfare and biosecurity. It is part of the integrity system used by the red meat industry to meet the stringent requirements of our domestic and export markets. Customer confidence in Australian red meat underpins the success and growth of Australia's livestock industry, and protects the livelihoods of more than 180,000 producers.

When producers become LPA-accredited, they are promising to meet LPA's requirements and fulfil their responsibility in the production of safe and ethical red meat. Managing the **preparation for dispatch of livestock** is just one of seven elements that farmers need to satisfy to become LPA-accredited.

Every LPA-accredited producer must ensure livestock are fit for transport and minimise the risk of stress and contamination of livestock during assembly and transport.

What?

As a livestock producer, you must guarantee that livestock are fit to load and that they are handled to minimise stress and potential contamination during assembly and transportation.

To demonstrate this you must:

- *Document and file LPA NVDs and any Animal Health Declarations*
- *Document and file transport records*
- *Document outgoing livestock movement records, including animals exposed to physical or chemical contaminants*
- *Ensure specific requirements relating to the transportation for sale or slaughter of bobby calves have been met*

For more information download the Is it fit to load? guide from the MLA website **mla.com.au/isitfittoload** or contact MLA on 1800 023 100 to order a copy.

How?

The preparation for dispatch of livestock checklist includes six questions to ensure a livestock producer is doing all they can to minimise livestock stress and contamination during assembly and transport.

It is recommended producers document and file responses to the checklist, and make them available should the property be subject to an LPA audit. Templates to assist you with your record keeping are available on the ISC website at **www.integritysystems.com.au/recordkeeping/.**

When?

Records must be updated every time livestock are transported.

Why?

Australia's food safety record is essential to consumers of red meat, both locally and in the countries we export to. This means it's fundamental to the future of our red meat industry.

If livestock are not fit for transport and become stressed or contaminated during assembly and transport, they may become an animal welfare concern and also may be unsafe for human consumption. Any food safety issue of the meat has the potential to impact consumers and puts the entire industry at risk.

At a producer level, repercussions may include failure to be paid for the livestock, and possible legal liability for the resulting costs faced by processors and the rest of the supply chain.

Checklist:

1. *Do you record transport details, including vehicle registration and key times?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

To ensure that transportation of livestock is carried out in a safe and humane manner, it is important to keep detailed records. This includes:

- *Copies of the LPA NVD*
- *Name of transport operator and vehicle registration number*
- *Date and time of yarding and truck departure*
- *Records of feedback/complaints from processors or purchasers and any actions taken*

2. *Do you only select animals for transport that are fit for travel?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

Livestock should not be transported if they are unwell or injured.

3. *Do you inspect vehicles prior to livestock transportation?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

Producers should check vehicles prior to loading to make sure they are as clean as is practical and to ensure that the construction of multi-level trucks minimises soiling of livestock on the lower deck, where waste from the top level is drained away from animals on the lower level. This minimises the risks of livestock being contaminated during transportation.

4. *Are pre-consignment curfews enforced for livestock destined for slaughter?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

It is important that producers do not feed or water livestock destined for slaughter during the minimum curfew period, unless specified otherwise by the customer.

For cattle the curfew is six hours and for sheep and goats 12 hours, unless specified otherwise (in writing) by the customer.

5. *Do you choose transport operators that operate in accordance with a recognised quality assurance program?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

By choosing transport companies that operate in accordance with a recognised quality assurance program, such as Truckcare, producers show they are acting to minimise stress during transport.

6. *Do you prepare bobby calves for transport in accordance with the Bobby Calf NVD?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

As well as ensuring bobby calves are fit and strong enough for transport, producers must also meet specific requirements set out on the Bobby Calf LPA NVDs. This stipulates that bobby calves must be:

- *Between 5 and 30 days of age*
- *Protected from cold and heat*
- *In good health, alert and able to rise from a lying position*
- *Adequately fed milk or milk replacer on the farm within 6 hours of transport*
- *Prepared and transported to ensure delivery in less than 18 hours from last feed with no more than 12 hours spent on transport.*

Learn More

A dedicated module within LPA Learning explains what you need to know regarding LPA's requirements for on-farm risk assessment for preparation for dispatch of livestock. Information is also provided on the ISC website (**www.integritysystems.com.au/on-farm-assurance/preparation-for-dispatch-of-livestock/**).




LIVESTOCK TRANSACTIONS AND MOVEMENTS

Livestock Production Assurance

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When producers become LPA-accredited, they are promising to meet LPA's requirements and fulfil their responsibility in the production of safe and ethical red meat. Managing **livestock transactions and movements** is just one of seven elements that farmers need to satisfy to become LPA-accredited.

Every LPA-accredited producer must ensure traceability requirements are met throughout the supply chain, for all livestock movements between farms and feedlots, and/or saleyards including to slaughter.

What?

As a livestock producer, you must guarantee that the animals you sell are not exposed to food safety hazards and that you meet all traceability requirements, should a food safety or biosecurity issue occur.

This involves careful attention to the accuracy of LPA NVDs/eNVDs and the completion and filing of details of all livestock that are introduced and leave your property.

To demonstrate this you must:

- *Record all purchases and sales*
- *Keep copies of all LPA NVDs/eNVDs*
- *Record vendor's name and address, and PIC*
- *Record livestock details/description*
- *Keep records of animals purchased while within a Withholding Period (WHP)/Export Slaughter Interval (ESI) period*
- *Keep records of animals that may have been exposed to physical contaminants such as broken needles, buckshot or wire*

How?

The livestock transactions and movements checklist includes six questions to ensure a livestock producer is doing all they can to ensure traceability requirements for their livestock are fulfilled.

While the checklist is not compulsory, producers should consider documenting and filing their responses to the questions and make this available should the property be subject to an LPA audit. Templates to assist you with your record keeping are available on the ISC website at **www.integritysystems.com.au/recordkeeping/**.

When?

Every time animals are introduced to or leave a producer's property, records must be completed. Wherea chemical contamination occurs, animals involved must be identified and the details of this passed on if they leave the property.

If animals may have been exposed to potentially injurious physical contaminants, this also needs to be noted in the records.

Why?

Australia's food safety record is essential to consumers of red meat, both locally and in the countries we export to. This means it's fundamental to the future of our red meat industry.

If a food safety issue occurs and livestock are not fully traceable, the source of the problem may be impossible to identify. Any food safety issue of the meat has the potential to impact consumers and puts the entire industry at risk.

At a producer level, repercussions may include failure to be paid for the livestock, and possible legal liability for the resulting costs faced by processors and the rest of the supply chain.

Checklist:

1. *Do you use LPA NVDs/eNVDs for every livestock movement from your property?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

It is important for the traceability of our livestock industry to record every time stock move from one property to another property or destination. This includes all sales and purchases as well as movements between farms and including to feedlots, to abattoirs and/or live export. It is an LPA requirement that an LPA NVD/eNVD is used for all movements between PICs.

2. *Do you complete LPA NVDs accurately and keep a copy on file?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

Producers are required to keep LPA NVDs/eNVDs on file, and to ensure they fill them out accurately. It is important that producers retain a copy of the LPA NVDs/eNVDs for at least the time that the livestock are owned/retained on each PIC. It is important to note that sheep and goat producers are required to retain records of LPA NVDs/eNVDs for a minimum of seven years in accordance with regulatory requirements of the NLIS Sheep & Goat mob based movement system.

3. *Do you have management systems in place for identifying individual livestock and mobs?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

Producers must have a management system in place that allows them to identify which stock have been exposed to chemical residues or physical contaminants.

4. *Do you keep records of livestock you introduce to your property?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

Producers should ensure they keep sufficient records, to enable the traceability of stock purchased and introduced onto the property with respect to chemical treatment status and their potential exposure to physical contaminants. The management system must demonstrate the identification of all introduced livestock (and the relevant food safety status) through to dispatch of the livestock.

These records should include:

- *Date of purchase or introduction*
- *Vendor's name, address or property identification code (PIC)*
- *Description of livestock (number, age, sex)*
- *Name of selling agent and sale, if purchased at auction*
- *Record of paddocks grazed*
- *Records of exposure to chemical and physical contaminants*

5. *Do you keep records of livestock that leave your property?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

A system of recording details of all stock that leave a property is essential. This enables stock to be traced if a food safety or biosecurity issue occurs. Details that should be noted down include:

- *Description of livestock (number, age, sex)*
- *Transaction date*
- *Name of purchaser/selling agent*
- *Name of transport operator and vehicle registration*
- *Records of exposure to chemical and physical contaminants*
- *Record of paddocks grazed*

6. *Do you review the chemical residue status of all animals before dispatch?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

Producers must be able to show that they review the chemical status of livestock prior to sale and slaughter through the accurate completion of LPA NVDs/eNVDs.

Where stock are sold within a WHP or ESI, producers must be able to show they have advised the buyer in writing of the relevant periods and intervals. This can be through filing written correspondence or the relevant LPA NVD/eNVD.

7. *Do you update the NLIS database for livestock movements onto your PIC?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

All livestock moving onto your property must be recorded on the NLIS database.

If those livestock are bought through a saleyard, the saleyard records on the database. If you purchase livestock privately, through an on-line auction, or move them between properties you own which have different PICs, as the buyer/receiver you are responsible for recording their movement on the NLIS database. Movements of livestock with electronic RFID tags are recorded using the 'Livestock moved onto/off my property' function; those with visual tags are recorded using the 'Mob-based movement onto/off my property' function.

Advice on how quickly this must be done is available from your state or territory NLIS authority. Generally, NLIS movements must be recorded in the database within 48 hours of the physical movement occurring.

8. *Do you ensure livestock are identified in accordance with NLIS requirements?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

All animals leaving a property must be identified with an NLIS-accredited device before they are moved off a property.

Cattle must be identified with an electronic RFID device. Sheep and goats may be identified with a visual device - except in Victoria where they must be identified with an electronic RFID device.

An exception to move non NLIS identified livestock must be obtained from your state or territory before any such movement occurs.

Exemptions are in place for harvested (feral) goats and dairy goats in some states.

Devices accredited by ISC have the NLIS logo printed on them. Cattle devices also have the words 'Do not remove' printed on the 'male' button.

NLIS tags and devices should be ordered for your PIC through your state/territory's nominated authority; (**www.integritysystems.com.au/identification--traceability/animal-identification/**).

Information on tagging EU cattle is available from EUCAS on **1800 305 544.**

Learn more

A dedicated module within LPA Learning explains what you need to know regarding LPA's requirements for livestock transactions and movements. Information is also provided on the ISC website (**www.integritysystems.com.au/on-farm-assurance/livestock-movements/**).

NOTES

BIOSECURITY

Livestock Production Assurance

The Livestock Production Assurance (LPA) program is the Australian livestock industry's on-farm assurance program covering food safety, animal welfare and biosecurity.

It is part of the integrity system used by the red meat industry to meet the stringent requirements of our domestic and export markets. Customer confidence in Australian red meat underpins the success and growth of Australia's livestock industry, and protects the livelihoods of more than 180,000 producers.

When producers become LPA-accredited, they are promising to meet LPA's requirements and fulfil their responsibility in the production of safe and ethical red meat. Managing **biosecurity** is just one of seven elements that producers need to satisfy in order to become LPA-accredited.

Every LPA-accredited producer should ensure biosecurity requirements are fulfilled both on-farm and during the transport of livestock between properties and feedlots, including to slaughter and live export.

What?

You are required to develop a Farm Biosecurity Management Plan and encouraged as part of this plan to keep records of livestock, vehicle and visitor movements onto and around your property, where reasonable and practical. Templates to assist you with your record keeping are available on the ISC website at **www.integritysystems.com.au/recordkeeping/**.

Along with LPA's other six requirements, biosecurity practices are reviewed as part of the LPA audit.

Why?

On-farm biosecurity systems have been implemented to minimise both the risk of infectious diseases being introduced to livestock production properties and the subsequent spread of any such diseases.

Integrating biosecurity requirements into LPA strengthens the promise made to our customers, protects our industry and environment, and streamlines the process of record-keeping and reporting for livestock producers.

Ensuring your livestock are, and remain, free of serious infectious diseases allows you to maximise farm productivity and minimise animal discomfort, stock losses and medical treatment costs.

When?

From 1 October 2017 all Australian red meat producers are required to have a Farm Biosecurity Management Plan in place and implement best-practice biosecurity practices in their on-farm management as a requirement of LPA.

Whether your existing biosecurity practices meet the LPA requirements depends on the nature of your current situation. You are encouraged to review the LPA Biosecurity Standards and complete LPA Learning (**www.integritysystems.com.au/biosecurity**) to ensure you understand the biosecurity requirements within the LPA program and what you need to do on farm.

How?

As a minimum, each Property Identification Code (PIC) must have a documented Farm Biosecurity Management Plan that addresses each of the following points:

(a) Manage and record the introduction and movement of livestock in a way that minimises the risk of introducing and/or spreading infectious diseases

(b) Where reasonable and practical, control people, equipment and vehicles entering the property, thus minimising the potential for property contamination and, if possible, keep a record of such movements

(c) Prevent and control animal diseases on-farm by regularly monitoring and managing livestock.

LPA REQUIREMENTS

Checklist:

1. *Does your PIC have a documented Farm Biosecurity Plan?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

Please develop your plan in accordance with LPA's guidelines and maintain it as part of your obligation to LPA.

2. *Do all livestock movements onto the PIC have a known health status – that is, are livestock coming onto your property accompanied by a Livestock Health Statement/ Declaration or equivalent?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

It is recommended that you allow animals onto your property only if their full health history is known and can be provided as a formal document.

3. *Are all introduced livestock inspected for signs of ill health or disease on arrival at the property and kept in isolation for a minimum period of time?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

Livestock entering your property should be screened to ensure they are in good health before being allowed into contact with existing animals. Any that show symptoms of illness or disease must be quarantined until they no longer pose a threat of infection to the rest of your herd or flock.

4. *Are livestock inspected regularly for ill health and/or disease, and is appropriate action undertaken in response where necessary?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

Livestock should be inspected and any animal displaying signs of ill health or disease should be placed in isolation and treated appropriately. It is recommended you become familiar with the signs and symptoms of diseases to be able to identify issues quickly.

5. *Is the risk of livestock straying onto or away from the property minimised?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

Your boundary fences should be maintained in good condition and external gates kept closed to ensure livestock from neighbouring properties cannot enter your property and that your own livestock are kept securely contained.

6. *Are systems in place to ensure a veterinary practitioner or animal health officer is notified if an unusual disease, illness or mortality is observed?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

If you observe any signs of disease, illness or mortality that are not usual on your property, you should notify your local veterinarian or animal health officer immediately. Make sure you stay up to date with animal health warnings and bulletins issued by your state or territory department of agriculture/primary industries and other relevant organisations and authorities.

7. *Where reasonable and practical, are the movements of people, vehicles and equipment entering your property controlled and, where possible, recorded?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

Consider displaying biosecurity advisory signs on your boundary fences and/or on your front gate asking visitors to ask permission and take care when entering your property.

Where possible, ensure workers and people visiting your PIC have not been in recent contact with potentially infectious animals (either within Australia or overseas) before arriving.

Keep vehicles and equipment clean and free of animals' bodily fluids which may carry disease and ensure treatment devices such as syringes and drench guns are disinfected thoroughly after use and are not shared with neighbours.

Where reasonable and practical, keep written, dated records detailing all people, vehicles and equipment entering your property so that all movements can be easily traced.

8. *Do you maintain any other procedures or practices that contribute to minimising the risk and/or spread of disease?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

You may choose to take additional steps to help reduce the risk of disease entering, spreading around, or spreading from your property. Document these as part of your Farm Biosecurity Plan.

Learn more

A dedicated module within LPA Learning explains what you need to know regarding LPA's requirements for biosecurity. Information is also provided on the ISC website (**www.integritysystems.com.au/biosecurity**).

See also Animal Health Australia's website (**www.farmbiosecurity.com.au**).

ANIMAL WELFARE

Livestock Production Assurance

The Livestock Production Assurance (LPA) program is the Australian livestock industry's on-farm assurance program covering food safety, animal welfare and biosecurity.

It is part of the integrity system used by the red meat industry to meet the stringent requirements of our domestic and export markets. Customer confidence in Australian red meat underpins the success and growth of Australia's livestock industry, and protects the livelihoods of more than 180,000 producers.

When producers become LPA-accredited, they are promising to meet LPA's requirements and full their responsibility in the production of safe and ethical red meat. **Animal welfare** is just one of seven elements that producers need to satisfy in order to become LPA accredited.

Every LPA-accredited producer should follow the *Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines* for cattle, sheep or goats.

What?

The *Standards and Guidelines* were developed to harmonise and streamline livestock welfare legislation in Australia, resulting in improved welfare in a way that is practical for industry.

The *Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines* cover producers' responsibilities and set out animals' needs in relation to feed and water; risk management in extreme weather, natural disasters, disease, injury and predation; facilities and equipment; handling and management/ husbandry; breeding management; and humane killing. For cattle, the *Standards and Guidelines* also cover castration, dehorning and spaying; calf-rearing systems; dairy management; and beef feedlots. For sheep, additional chapters address tail docking and castration; mulesing; and intensive sheep production systems.

How?

LPA accredited producers are required to keep a current copy of the *Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines* for cattle, sheep and/ or goats (as applicable) accessible as a reference. People involved with animal husbandry should be familiar with its content.

Anyone responsible for the management of livestock on your property must have successfully completed training in these *Standards and Guidelines* through the LPA Learning tool (**www.integritysystems.com.au/on-farm-assurance/lpa-learning/**).

Those managing livestock are also required to have trained any staff (where relevant) in a way that is consistent with the Standards and Guidelines.

The *Standards and Guidelines* can be downloaded from the ISC website at **www.integritysystems.com.au/on-farm-assurance/animal-welfare/.**

When?

From 1 October 2017 all Australian red meat producers are required to confirm that they manage and treat livestock in their care appropriately to ensure comfort and quality of life is maintained, in adherence with the *Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines*, as a requirement of LPA.

Why?

Livestock producers care for their animals. Livestock care is fundamental to the success and sustainability of every farm.

Australia's red meat customers and consumers, both domestically and overseas, seek reassurance that livestock are cared for humanely and ethically.

Under LPA, on-farm systems must be implemented to ensure the management of livestock is consistent with the requirements of the *Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines* for cattle, sheep and goats.

This provides customers with the evidence that the animals have been treated ethically.

Checklist:

1. *Do you have a copy of the current version of the 'Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines' for cattle, sheep or goats (as applicable to your property) accessible as a reference?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

This document can be downloaded from the ISC website at **www.integritysystems.com.au/on-farm-assurance/animal-welfare/**, and kept available as a ready reference where you and your livestock managers can access it easily.

2. *Has the PIC representative or person responsible for the management of livestock successfully completed training in relation to the 'Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines' through the LPA Learning tool or an equivalent?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

Animal welfare is one of the seven modules contained within LPA Learning – an online education tool for producers. As part of your LPA accreditation you should have successfully completed the animal welfare module in LPA Learning or an equivalent training program.

3. *Are staff involved in animal husbandry familiar with the content of the current version of the Standards and Guidelines for cattle, sheep and/or goats (as applicable)?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

It is important that the current version version of the *Standards and Guidelines* is accessible on-farm and is kept up to date. Whenever a new edition of the document is released, a fresh copy should be downloaded and read by the people responsible for livestock management on your property, then stored where it can be accessed again from time to time as needed.

4. *Do you maintain any other procedures or practices that contribute to improved animal welfare outcomes in your operation?*

☐ *Yes* ☐ *No* ☐ *Unsure*

If you have any other procedures or practices in place on your property above and beyond those required by the *Standards and Guidelines*, record those and add them as a supplement to your copy of the official document.

Learn more

A dedicated module within LPA Learning (**www.integritysystems.com.au/on-farm-assurance/lpa-learning/**) explains what you need to know regarding LPA's requirements for animal welfare. Information and a copy of the Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines is also provided on the ISC website at **www.integritysystems.com.au/on-farm-assurance/animal-welfare/**.