



HAWKESBURY FARM

OPERATIONAL CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

MARCH 2025

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY
DIVISION OF OPERATIONS AND COMMERCIAL

ANIMAL MANAGEMENT

CATTLE	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Bulls	• Vaccinate for 3 day sickness			• Check for soundness-jaw, feet/legs, testicles & prepuce/penis pre-joining • Vaccinate booster 7-in-1 •		• Joining (2 cycles only – 6 weeks) • Joining fat score 3 • Mating rate for 2y.o. is 20-30 young cows & 35-60 mature cows (Autumn calving)	• Remove bulls from Autumn joining mob	• Check for soundness-jaw, feet/legs, testicles & prepuce/penis pre-joining • Vaccinate booster 7 in 1	• Purchase new bulls • 2-4 weeks pre-joining – Pestigard and Vibrovax Vaccination	• Joining (2 cycles only – 6 weeks) • Joining fat score 3 • Mating rate for 2 y.o. us 20-30 young cows & 35-60 ciws (Spring calving)		
Cows/Heifers	• Vaccinate for 3 day sickness	• Autumn Calving Cows – Vaccinate -7 in 1	• Prepare cows for Autumn calving • Calving – record data i.e. date, identification, sex, weight & problems	• Prepare cows for Autumn calving • Match the needs of lactating cows with pasture • Check for milk fever • Grass Tetany prevention		• Spring calving cows – vaccinate 7 in 1 • Joining (2 cycles only – 6 weeks) • Min. joining fat score 21/2 •	• Prepare cows for Spring Calving • Match the needs of lactating cows with pasture • Check for milk fever • Grass Tetany prevention • Calving – record data i.e. date, identification, sex, weight & problems		• Pregnancy test – autumn calving mobs • Sell empty/dry cows	• Joining (2 cycles only – 6 weeks) • Min. joining fat score 21/2 • Match the needs of lactating cows with pasture		
Calves	• Wean Autumn calves • Vaccinate Weaning booster - 7 in 1			• Wean Spring calves • Vaccinate Weaning Booster – 7 in 1		• Autum Calves ○Marking ○Castrate ○Vaccinate – 7 in 1 ○Treat with multimin				• Spring Calves ○Marking ○Castrate ○Vaccinate – 7 in 1 ○Treat with multimin		
Heifer Weaners		• Weigh every 6-8 wks to monitor performance; expected weight gain 800g-1.2kg per day		• Vaccinate – 7 in 1 • Drench for worms	• Supplementary feed if necessary to fill feed gap over winter		• Vaccinate booster – 7 in 1		• Select Heifer replacements (got to heifers) • Work test & treat yearlings			
Steer Weaners	• Sell 10 mth old animals – NLIS Compliant	• Weigh every 6-8 wks to monitor performance; expected weight gain 1.2-1.5kg per day		• Vaccinate – 7 in 1 • Drench for worms	• Sell 10mnth old animals – NLIS compliant. • Supplementary feed if necessary to fill feed gap over winter		• Vaccinate booster – 7 in 1		• Worm test and treat			
All	• Lick blocks	• Maintain health checks for pink eye and 3 day sickness 0 treat as required			• Provide roughage hay & lick blocks • Assess and treat lice • Drench – worms & flukes		• Provide roughage hay & lick blocks	• Provide roughage hay & lick blocks		• Drench – worms & flukes		

PASTURE MANAGEMENT

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
• Keep pastures slashed after grazing • Top dress with humic acid fish emulsion with spray boom (7L/ha) • Plan livestock requirements with existing pastures • Plan autumn /winter cropping which may include: ○ Annuals e.g. oats, ryegrass, brassicas, forage herbs ○ Perennial e.g. ryegrass, Lucerne, cocksfoot & phalaris • Plan fertiliser application based on soil test. • Treat weed infestations as appropriate.	• Plan pasture improvement program including: ○ Determine perennial & annual pasture requirements ○ Identify feed gap ○ Purchase seed & fertiliser • Prepare pastures for winter/spring feed: ○ Spray grass pastures with knockdown herbicide to kill or suppress growth ○ OR graze & mulch grass pastures hard to remove dead material	• Sow crop for winter/spring feed on Autumn break rain	• Apply lime or gypsum if required • Sow pasture on Autumn break rain	• Check pastures for insect damage • Undertake weed control at early emergent stage • Assess readiness of early sown pastures for grazing • Ryegrass pastures – graze when each tiller has 3 leaves or when 15-18cm high to avoid yellowing and death of lower leaves	• Monitor pasture growth and assess late sown paddocks for 1st grazing.	• Select paddocks for silage/hay production	• Prepare silage/hay paddocks • After grazing slash and top dress with humic acid fish emulsion with spray boom (7L/ha) • Aim to harvest ryegrass when 10% of paddock has reached head emergence	• Select paddocks for soil testing •	• Silage production – assess chosen paddocks for readiness • Sow Summer crops – Millet, Cowpeas & Brassicas	• Silage/early hay production	
		• Apply 10m3 per ha of organic chicken manure to each paddock sown • Manage kikuyu by grazing or mulching to 2.5cm. Keep short through Autumn/Winter to allow light penetration for clover seedlings.		• Top with humic coated nitrogen 30-60kg N/ha after every 2nd grazing (if conditions are favourable)				• Manage newly sown pastures: ○ Annuals - early maturing varieties may start flowering (weather dependent) ○ Perennials – will need to be locked up and allowed to set seed. Increasing persistence			
	• Manage excess feed by making silage. After grazing/slashing, top dress with nitrogen & allow 5 wks growth then harvest				• Plan winter grazing/feeding budgets					• Manage existing Kikuyu pastures • Maintain legumes & pasture quality by grazing when 18-20cm long. • Rotationally graze with back fence • Slash after grazing to remove old rank growth.	
• Ensure irrigation is meeting peak crop water demands throughout the year. Avoid over watering the low flat areas											