



HAWKESBURY FARM BIOSECURITY PLAN

MARCH 2025

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY
DIVISION OF OPERATIONS AND COMMERCIAL

WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY HAWKESBURY FARM

Farm Details

Property Address	Hawkesbury campus Bourke Rd Richmond NSW 2753
PIC	NA370169
Manager	Jamie Alchin, Farm Production Coordinator
Contact Number	0431 308 070

Vet Details

VETERINARIANS	CLINIC	PHONE
	Vets Direct Pty Ltd	0493 586 359

Stock Inventory

STOCK TYPE	AVERAGE STOCK NUMBERS
Cattle – Beef	400
Sheep	0
Deer	4

Plan Details

Author: Rachael Mullinger – Program Support Administrator
Authorised by: Dr. Roger Attwater – Director, Environmental Sustainability
Plan Date: June 2021
Review Date: March 2025

1 INPUTS – LIVESTOCK, WATER, FEED, ETC.

1.1	Livestock	Reference Documents	Procedures	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
1.1.1	Are all stock that arrive on property (including livestock travelling back to the property from shows, agistment or contract joining) inspected for their health status?	- National Vendor Declaration - Animal Health Declaration	- Pre-purchase inspection or veterinary certification. - Hygiene & quarantine strategies to manage livestock returning to the property.	✓			
1.1.2	Are livestock purchased with information on animal treatments & its health status provided via National Vender Declaration & Animal Health Declaration?	- National Vendor Declaration - Animal Health Declaration	- Request NVD/Waybills for all sales to ensure LPA accreditation. - Request AHD for further information on livestock health.	✓			
1.1.3	Do all introduced livestock (including livestock travelling back to the property from shows, agistment or contract joining) undergo a period of quarantine?	Livestock Receival and Inspection form	- Isolate and segregate for a minimum of 21 days. - Observe and treat as required.	✓			
1.1.4	Do all introduced livestock have sufficient time to empty out in the yards prior to their release?	Livestock Receival and Inspection form	24-48 hours holding for empty out (including any time off feed before arrival).	✓			
1.1.5	When livestock are away from the home property, e.g., for shows, on agistment or for contract joining, are hygiene and quarantine strategies in place to manage the biosecurity risks to livestock and properties?	- Livestock Receival and Inspection form - Treatment Records	- Hygiene & quarantine strategies to manage livestock returning to the property are undertaken. - Animals quarantined for a minimum of 14 days.	✓			The only livestock leaving and returning to property are related to shows.
1.1.6	Are livestock of unknown health status kept separate from vulnerable stock (i.e. young or pregnant ones)?	Paddock records	Animals are isolated from the herd and segregated into an area where they can be observed easily.	✓			
1.1.7	Are all incoming livestock identified and recorded in accordance with NLIS requirements?	NLIS Database	- Receiving property to do NLIS transfers within 48 hours of arrival. - All animals to bear an NLIS device before moving off the property.	✓			

1 INPUTS – LIVESTOCK, WATER, FEED, ETC. (continued)

1.2	Feed	Reference Documents	Procedures	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
1.2.1	Does the property have a total ban on the feeding of products derived from vertebrate animals, excluding tallow and gelatine, to ruminant livestock?	Ruminant feed ban producer checklist	- Producers must not allow Restricted Animal. - Material (RAM) to be fed to ruminants.	✓			
1.2.2	Does the person responsible for the purchase of stockfeed ensure the supplier provides a Commodity Vendor Declaration (CVD)?	Commodity Vendor Declaration	Farm staff ordering food have not been requesting a declaration. Commencing from this review date this will now be requested.		✓		New CVDs or equivalent will be filed as per the University Policy.
1.2.3	Is stock feed inspected on delivery to ensure it is fit for purpose (e.g. free from pest damage and visual contaminants)? If damaged or contaminated is there a plan in place for its disposal?	Purchase records	- Inspect feed on arrival and ensure it matches with what was ordered. - If feed is spoilt return to supplier or implement disposal plan.	✓			- We inspect all feed to ensure it is not spoilt and matches orders. - Feed that does not comply is either returned or sent to Hawkesbury Waste Facility. - However, purchase records have not been kept but will be going forward.
1.2.4	Is stockfeed stored in a manner that prevents contamination by livestock, vermin, wildlife, feral and domestic animals and other feed types, e.g., those containing RAM?	Remnant feed ban producer checklist	Segregate RAM products from non-RAM products to minimise accidental feeding.			✓	We do not purchase RAM product.

1.3	Water	Reference Documents	Procedures	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
1.3.1	Are there procedures in place to ensure the quantity and quality of water are suitable for the type of livestock under production?		Monitor water points and infrastructure regularly.	✓			

2 PEOPLE, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT

2.1	Employees	Reference Documents	Procedures	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
2.1.1	Are there strategies in place to minimise the risk of disease incursion onto the property by visitors or machinery?	• Visitor logs • Farm Biosecurity signs • 'Come Clean, Go Clean' fact sheet	• Where reasonable & practical, control people, equipment & vehicles entering the property. • Provide entry signage such as farm biosecurity signs or directions to office/house for sign-in. • Maintain visitor log of people in regular contact with farm animals (contractors, shearers, vets, stock agents). • Use own vehicle to transport contractors & visitors rather than their vehicle if considered a biosecurity risk. • Depending on the enterprise type, consider the following additional practices: ○ Minimise the lending of equipment and if lent, clean down equipment and vehicles before use on farm. ○ Clean vehicles & equipment prior to moving from a high-risk area to a low-risk area. ○ Notify farm contractors such as veterinarians, livestock agents & transport vehicles permitted areas of access prior to entry. ○ Encourage 'Come Clean, Go Clean' practices from visitors including agents & stock contractors. ○ Provide clean down equipment or facilities for farm contractors & visitors to clean their boots & equipment & mark these on your property map.	✓			• As an educational facility it is difficult to reduce entry points, as the farm surrounds the teaching campus. However, we have signage advising people to not enter the farm paddocks without signing into Security (as per University policy) and to not drive into paddocks, but remain on tracks and roads. • All contractors, shearers, vets and stock agents, currently sign in at Security before going out to the farm. However, this method does not record other farms visited that day. A separate 'high risk' visit log is being kept. • The University is allocating wash down areas within the S and E precinct for cleaning vehicles, however, we ask all vehicles/plant to be cleaned prior to coming to campus. • The University does not lend out equipment.
2.1.2	Are staff aware of the importance in minimising the lending and borrowing of equipment between properties? If lent, has a direction been given for the equipment to be cleaned before and after use?	• Vehicle contamination cleaning record	• Minimising lending or if lent clean down equipment and vehicles before use on the farm.			✓	• The University does not lend equipment.

2 PEOPLE, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT (continued)

2.2	Visitors, contractors, and service personnel	Reference Documents	Procedures	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
2.2.1	Are farm contractors such as veterinarians, livestock agents and transport vehicles notified of their permitted areas of access to the farm prior to their entry?	Entry and exit procedures	Identify persons who pose higher biosecurity risk. Communicate with high-risk persons and clearly explain property procedures.	✓			
2.2.2	Is the use of protective clothing and personal cleanliness encouraged on your property?	Come Clean Go Clean factsheet	Encourage 'come clean, go clean' practices from visitors including agents and stock contractors.	✓			
2.2.3	Are there facilities in 'permitted access areas' available for farm contractors and visitors to clean their boots and equipment?	Property map	Provide clean down equipment or facilities.	✓	✓		As we encourage all contractors and visitors to remain on the roadways and dedicated hard surfaces. However, we do provide wash down areas if needed. We do not encourage people to clean out their boot on campus.

3 PRODUCTION PRACTICES

3.1	Livestock monitoring	Reference Documents	Procedures	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
3.1.1	Are livestock inspected regularly to ensure the early detection of sick animals?	Livestock treatment records	- Conduct routine stock inspections. - Increase the frequency of livestock inspections during periods of higher risk (e.g. increased insect & wildlife activity or growing periods for weeds).	✓			Stock are inspected on a regular basis all year around, by both staff and students. Livestock are often part of observation practicals and students will be checking stock frequently during the day.
3.1.2	Do you increase the frequency of livestock inspections during periods of higher risk such as increased insect and wildlife activity or growing periods for weeds?	Inspection records	- Increase the frequency of livestock inspections during periods of higher risk (e.g. increased insect & wildlife activity or growing periods for weeds). - Report unusual signs of disease.	✓			

3 PRODUCTION PRACTICES (continued)

3.2	Identification	Reference Documents	Procedures	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
3.2.1	Do you adhere to the NLIS legislation of the relevant state/territory at all times?	NLIS Database	- Complete transfers within legislative time frames. - Ensure animals are tagged before leaving the property.	✓			
3.3	Animal Health Management	Reference Documents	Procedures	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
3.3.1	Have you implemented practices that help protect your livestock from diseases endemic to your area?	Animal Health plan	Review best practice management for livestock health & welfare and review updates as they arise.	✓			- The University has introduced a full vaccination regime based on advice from vets, as well as based on the knowledge and experience of the staff. - Staff have also built a relationship with industry to ensure best practice health management is maintained at all times.
3.3.2	Do you seek advice from veterinarian or government officer in relation to any unusual sickness or death event?	Livestock treatments	- Report unusual signs of disease as soon as possible to your vet or local animal health authority. - In the event of a disease outbreak isolate & treat affected & suspected animal where necessary.	✓			- The University has isolation and quarantine facilities. Vets are consulted at the first sign of illness. - Both our regular vet and the Local Land Services' (LLS) District Vet are regular visitors to the farm. - The University's cattle are also part of LLS sentinel herd which provides us with feedback on our animal health.
3.3.3	In the event of a disease outbreak, can affected and suspect animals be isolated and treated if necessary?	Treatment Records	- Isolate sick animals. - Keep treatment records until animal has permanently left the property	✓			
3.4	Carcase, Manure and Waste Management	Reference Documents	Procedures	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
3.4.1	Are there procedures in place to manage effluent dispersal to minimise disease and weed spread?		Managed through University's reactive and preventative contracts.			✓	

3 PRODUCTION PRACTICES (continued)

3.4	Carcase, Manure and Waste Management	Reference Documents	Procedures	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
3.4.2	Are carcase-disposal & household garbage areas contained & secure to prevent access by livestock, feral animals & wildlife?		- Fence off dead animal pits & garbage tips to prevent livestock & feral animals access carcases & food waste. - Where practical dispose of carcases immediately in a way that takes into account environmental & public considerations (e.g. burning, burial or composting). - Mark disposal sites on property map.			✓	- All carcases are disposed at Hawkesbury Waste Management Facility, not on University property. - All other waste is disposed by Suez Pty Ltd as the University's waste & recycling contractor.
3.5	Fences	Reference Documents	Procedures	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
3.5.1	Are fences, especially boundary fences, regularly inspected & adequately maintained?		- Regularly undertake maintenance to existing fences. - Replace fencing as necessary.	✓			

4 PESTS AND WEEDS

4.1	Pests and Weeds	Reference Documents	Procedures	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
4.1	Are there documented feral animal, wildlife and weed control programs in operation & do they include monitoring & management activities?	- Invasive/Pest Animal Management Plan - Pest connect resources	Document feral animal, wildlife and weed control plans as required.	✓			All activities regarding feral animal, wildlife and weed control are undertaken by Environmental Sustainability, with reference to management plans and legislation.
4.2	To maximise the effectiveness of a control program, do you undertake these activities in coordination with neighbours and other local community members?		Engage with neighbours & regional feral animal, wildlife & weed control groups to maximise the effectiveness of your control programs.	✓			The University, when appropriate, works with LLS and other agencies & neighbours when undertaking feral animal and weed management programs.

5 OUTGOING PRODUCTS

5.1	Outgoing Products	Reference Documents	Procedures	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
5.1	Are all livestock for transport fit to load and selected to minimise potential welfare issues, disease and/or contamination spread through transport?	Is the Animal Fit to Load? MLA Guidelines	Ensure welfare standards are adhered to at all phases of transport.	✓			
5.2	Are all livestock leaving the property identified in accordance with the appropriate NLIS Standards and meeting government legislation?	- NLIS Standards - NLIS Database	- Complete NVD/Waybills for all livestock movements off the property. - Complete AHD to provide further information on livestock health. - Ensure all livestock are appropriately tagged and recorded on the NLIS Database.	✓			

6 TRAIN-PLAN-RECORD

6.1	Training	Reference Documents	Procedures	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
6.1.1	Do all personnel responsible for management & husbandry understand their role in the implementation of biosecurity practices on-farm & know how to identify sick & injured livestock?	- Training Records - LPA Learning	- Undertake personnel training & instruction on animal health & welfare including disease reporting. - Display emergency contact lists in noticeable places on farm & ensure all staff know where they are. - Have personnel completed the LPA learning modules?	✓			
6.1.2	Do all personnel responsible for management & husbandry know where to find contact details for the local vet(s) & government animal health officer(s) & what to do in the event of a suspected emergency animal disease?	- Emergency Animal Disease Action Plan (EAD) - Risk Management plan for surviving an emergency animal disease outbreak	Place EAD Watch Hotline (1800 675 888) in a common & visible location.	✓			All numbers are in a visible location and entered into each staff member's contact list on their mobile phones.
6.1.3	Have you ensured that all personnel responsible for the management and husbandry of livestock are aware of the importance of early detection and mandatory reporting of animals exhibiting signs of unusual sickness or death event?	EAD Action Plan	Display emergency contact list in noticeable places on farm and ensure staff know where they are.	✓			

6 TRAIN-PLAN-RECORD (continued)

6.2	Documentation & Record Keeping	Reference Documents	Procedures	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
6.2.1	Do you record animal health activities & treatments to maintain herd/flock health history & provide accurate NVD & AHDs when selling livestock?	Livestock treatment	Record livestock treatment accurately.	✓			
6.2.2	Are all vulnerable personnel working on the property vaccinated for identified risk diseases such as Q fever & tetanus & where appropriate have stock been vaccinated to prevent animal-to-human transmissible diseases such as leptospirosis?		Request vaccination records from staff, implement vaccination programs on property if necessary & maintain records.	✓			
6.2.3	Do you review your farm biosecurity plan annually?		- Identify biosecurity activities to be undertaken over the next 12 months. - Undertake regular property inspections for actual or potential biosecurity issues.	✓			

7 JOHNE'S DISEASE SPECIFIC PRACTICES FOR BEEF CATTLE

7.1		Reference Documents	Procedures	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
7.1.1	Do you know the Johne's disease (JD) status and level of risk of the livestock being introduced?	J-BAS Chart	Ask relevant questions on the JD checklist. Request Cattle Health Declarations from sellers and retain for seven years. Record JD status of introductions and how risk is addressed	✓			
7.1.2	Purchase of Livestock free of Johne's disease	- AHD - Laboratory Results	- Do not source stock from farms that also have dairy cattle. - Undertake testing of any animal from an area with a higher J-BAS score	✓			