

# ***LPA On-Farm Quality Assurance Standards***

*Incorporating*

*CATTLECARE and FLOCKCARE*

## ***APPROVED STANDARDS***

***Approved by the Livestock Production Assurance  
Advisory Committee (LPAAC)***

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## 1.0 STANDARDS

The **LPA On-Farm Quality Assurance Standards** comprise **three (3)** standard Modules. Each Module contains one (1) or more Elements which describe the required **Outcomes** that an accredited property must meet to maintain certification in the program.

	Module	Item	STANDARD ELEMENT	OUTCOMES
1	FOOD SAFETY MANAGEMENT	FS1	Property Risk Assessment	On farm systems have been implemented to minimise the risk of livestock being exposed to sites that are unacceptably contaminated with organochlorine or other persistent chemicals, or other potential sources of persistent chemicals, and being exposed to sources of potentially injurious physical contaminants in meat intended for human consumption.
		FS2	Safe and Responsible Animal Treatments	On farm systems have been implemented to ensure that animal treatments are administered in a safe and responsible manner to minimise the risk of chemical residues and physical hazards in livestock intended for human consumption.
		FS3	Fodder Crop, Grain and Pasture Treatments and Stock Foods	On farm systems have been implemented to manage the exposure of livestock to foods containing unacceptable chemical contamination to minimise the risk of chemical residues in livestock and to eliminate the risk of animal products being fed to ruminant livestock intended for human consumption.
		FS4	Preparation for Dispatch of Livestock	On farm systems have been implemented to ensure that the selected livestock are fit for transport and that the risk of stress and contamination of livestock during assembly and transport is minimised.
		FS5	Livestock Transactions and Movements	On farm systems have been implemented to enable traceability of the current status of all livestock with respect to treatment or exposure to relevant food safety hazards for all livestock movements between livestock production enterprises including to slaughter and live export.
2	SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT	SM1	Training	On farm systems have been implemented that enable staff to be adequately trained to ensure they have the appropriate skills and knowledge to competently perform the duties required of them by the LPA On-Farm Quality Assurance Standards.
		SM2	Internal Auditing and Corrective Action	On farm systems have been implemented that ensure periodic internal audits are performed to review ongoing compliance of the enterprise's activities to the LPA On-Farm Quality Assurance Standards and that appropriate corrective and preventative actions are undertaken when non-conformances are identified.

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	Module	Item	STANDARD ELEMENT	OUTCOMES
		<b>SM3</b>	<b>Quality Records</b>	On farm systems have been implemented that ensure records are kept that provide documented evidence of the enterprise's compliance to the LPA On-Farm Quality Assurance Standards and that these records are presented in a format that is easily reviewed.
		<b>SM4</b>	<b>Document Control</b>	On farm systems ensure that all documents relevant to the LPA On-Farm Quality Assurance Standards are controlled enabling the review of their currency so that out of date or superseded documents are withdrawn and replaced with the new version.
		<b>SM5</b>	<b>Chemical Inventory</b>	On farm systems have been implemented to ensure that an accurate inventory of chemicals is maintained at all times.
<b>3</b>	<b>LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT</b>	<b>LM1</b>	<b>Livestock Husbandry and Presentation</b>	On farm systems have been implemented to demonstrate that husbandry practices ensure livestock are presented for sale or slaughter in a manner that minimises damage to carcase, hide and skin quality attributes.
		<b>LM2</b>	<b>Livestock Handling Facilities</b>	On farm systems have been implemented to ensure that livestock handling and loading facilities are designed, constructed and maintained to minimise livestock injury, bruising and hide damage.
		<b>LM3</b>	<b>Livestock Transport</b>	On farm systems have been implemented to ensure that the risk of injury, bruising, hide and skin damage during transportation of stock is minimised.
		<b>LM4</b>	<b>Animal Welfare</b>	On farm systems have been implemented to ensure the welfare of livestock is not compromised whilst within the control of persons responsible for their care and well being, and to ensure that prompt and appropriate remedial action is taken when required.
		<b>LM5</b>	<b>Accredited Livestock</b>	On farm systems have been implemented to demonstrate that all livestock sold as being produced in accordance with the LPA On-Farm Quality Assurance Standards meet defined eligibility criteria.

**PLUS**

<b>4</b>	<b>OPTIONAL MODULES</b>	Various optional modules are being developed and will be progressively added to these Standards.  Modules under development address issues including environment, animal welfare and market specific requirements.
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## 2.0 PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (PI)

To demonstrate compliance with the required outcomes of the **LPA On-Farm Quality Assurance Standards**, an enterprise must achieve performance indicators specific to each element.

### PI - MODULE 1 FOOD SAFETY MANAGEMENT

#### PI - ELEMENT FS1 - PROPERTY RISK ASSESSMENT

**OUTCOME:** *On farm systems have been implemented to minimise the risk of livestock being exposed to sites that are unacceptably contaminated with organochlorine or other persistent chemicals, or other potential sources of persistent chemicals, and being exposed to sources of potentially injurious physical contaminants in meat intended for human consumption.*

**PERFORMANCE INDICATORS:**

1. All potentially contaminated sites and sources of potentially injurious physical contaminants in meat have been identified.
2. All identified sources of chemical and injurious physical contaminants are managed to restrict access of livestock to prevent exposure and contamination.
3. Potentially exposed animals are identified and managed in a manner to minimise the risk of contamination of meat intended for human consumption in accordance with relevant legal requirements.

#### PI - ELEMENT FS2 - SAFE AND RESPONSIBLE ANIMAL TREATMENT

**OUTCOME:** *On farm systems have been implemented to ensure that animal treatments are stored and administered in a safe and responsible manner to minimise the risk of chemical residues and physical hazards in livestock intended for human consumption.*

**PERFORMANCE INDICATORS:**

1. Animal treatments, including Hormonal Growth Promotants (HGP) are administered only by trained and competent staff in accordance with label and/or written veterinary directions and relevant legal requirements.
2. Chemicals are stored securely to in accordance with label/manufacturers' directions, to prevent exposure to livestock.
3. Sufficient records are maintained to enable, the traceability of the status of treated livestock, including introduced livestock, with respect to relevant WHP/ESI and/or presence of broken needles and to enable the correct/controlled use of chemicals to be demonstrated.

**PI - ELEMENT FS3 - FODDER CROP, GRAIN AND PASTURE TREATMENTS AND STOCK FOODS**

**OUTCOME:** *On farm systems have been implemented to manage the exposure of livestock to foods containing unacceptable chemical contamination to minimise the risk of chemical residues in livestock and to eliminate the risk of animal products being fed to ruminant livestock intended for human consumption.*

**PERFORMANCE INDICATORS:**

1. Agricultural chemicals are applied to fodder crops, grain and pasture only by trained and competent staff in accordance with label directions and/or relevant approvals in accordance with relevant legal requirements.
2. Chemicals are stored securely in accordance with label/manufacturers directions to prevent exposure to livestock.
3. Exposure of animals to fodder crops, grain and pasture, and introduced stock feed that have been treated with or exposed to agricultural chemicals is managed to minimise the risk of unacceptable chemical residues in livestock for human consumption. Sufficient records are maintained to enable the traceability of the status of exposed livestock, including introduced livestock, with respect to relevant WHP/ESI.
4. Exposure of animals to stock feed is managed to eliminate the risk of animal products being fed to ruminant livestock, with the exception of approved exemptions.
5. Sufficient records are maintained to enable the traceability of the status of fodder crops, grain and pasture, and introduced stock feed intended to be fed to livestock with respect to relevant WHP/ESI from slaughter or grazing/harvest as applicable and to enable the correct/controlled use of chemicals to be demonstrated.

**PI - ELEMENT FS4 - PREPARATION FOR DISPATCH OF LIVESTOCK**

**OUTCOME:** *On farm systems have been implemented to ensure that the selected livestock are fit for transport and that the risk of stress and contamination of livestock during assembly and transport is minimised.*

**PERFORMANCE INDICATORS:**

1. Only animals that are in a condition fit for travel are selected, to minimise potential disease and/or contamination related to transport conditions.
2. On farm assembly practices and transport arrangements are managed to minimise the risk of stress and contamination of animals.
3. Management practices ensure that minimum requirements for the fitness for travel of calves destined for sale or slaughter are in accordance with the Declarations made on the Bobby Calf LPA NVD at all times.

**PI - ELEMENT FS5 - LIVESTOCK TRANSACTIONS AND MOVEMENTS**

**OUTCOME:** *On farm systems have been implemented to enable traceability of the current status of all livestock with respect to treatment or exposure to relevant food safety hazards for all livestock movements between livestock production enterprises including to slaughter and live export.*

**PERFORMANCE INDICATORS:**

1. All livestock transactions and movements including between properties (Property Identification Codes) are accompanied by a current, correctly completed LPA National Vendor Declaration (NVD).
2. Sufficient records are maintained to enable the declarations on an accompanying LPA NVD concerning the food safety related status and HGP treatment of livestock introduced to and dispatched from the property to be reconciled with the livestock traceability system adopted.
3. Livestock must be NLIS Identified in accordance with relevant statutory requirements at all times.

## **PI - MODULE 2 - SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT**

### **PI - ELEMENT SM1 - TRAINING**

**OUTCOME:** *On farm systems have been implemented that enable staff to be adequately trained to ensure they have the appropriate skills and knowledge to competently perform the duties required of them by the LPA On-Farm Quality Assurance Standards.*

**PERFORMANCE INDICATORS:**

1. Job descriptions and responsibilities for all staff members are documented.
2. All staff have appropriate training in the requirements of the LPA On-Farm Quality Assurance Standards and other relevant industry code of practice requirements and that suitable records of this training are maintained.
3. Staff involved in the supervision of the use of farm chemicals have sufficient skills and knowledge to ensure their safe and responsible use and have undertaken recognised chemical user training equivalent to level 3 competency units; "Prepare and Apply Chemicals" and "Transport, Handle and Store Chemicals".

### **PI - ELEMENT SM2 - INTERNAL AUDITING AND CORRECTIVE ACTIONS**

**OUTCOME:** *On farm systems have been implemented that ensure periodic internal audits are performed to review ongoing compliance of the enterprise's activities to the LPA On-Farm Quality Assurance Standards and that appropriate corrective and preventative actions are undertaken when non-conformances are identified.*

**PERFORMANCE INDICATORS:**

1. Internal audits are performed on procedures, records and property facilities at least once per annum.
2. Internal audit/Inspection reports are documented.
3. Identified non-conformances and opportunities for improvement (including complaints) are documented and reviewed and details of corrective actions recorded.
4. Preventative action is taken to prevent any similar problem occurring.

### **PI - ELEMENT SM3 - QUALITY RECORDS**

**OUTCOME:** *On farm systems have been implemented that ensure records are kept that provide documented evidence of the enterprise's compliance to the LPA On-Farm Quality Assurance Standards and that these records are presented in a format that is easily reviewed.*

**PERFORMANCE INDICATORS:**

1. Complete, legible and accurate records are maintained and retained for a sufficient period of time to facilitate historical reference.



**PI - ELEMENT SM4 - DOCUMENT CONTROL**

**OUTCOME:** *On farm systems ensure that all documents relevant to the LPA On-Farm Quality Assurance Standards are controlled enabling the review of their currency so that out of date or superseded documents are withdrawn and replaced with the new version.*

**PERFORMANCE INDICATORS:**

1. All quality system documentation is controlled to ensure that only current documents are in use.
2. All documentation in use by the enterprise accurately reflects current management practices and procedures.

**PI - ELEMENT SM5 - CHEMICAL INVENTORY**

**OUTCOME:** *On farm systems ensure that an accurate inventory of all chemicals purchased and stored on the enterprise is maintained at all times.*

**PERFORMANCE INDICATORS:**

1. Sufficient records are maintained to enable the traceability of the purchase, storage, handling and disposal of chemicals.

## PI - MODULE 3 - LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT

### PI - ELEMENT LM1 - LIVESTOCK HUSBANDRY AND PRESENTATION

**OUTCOME:** *On farm systems have been implemented to demonstrate that husbandry practices ensure livestock are presented for sale or slaughter in a manner that minimises damage to carcass, hide and skin quality attributes.*

**PERFORMANCE INDICATORS:**

1. Livestock husbandry and management practices minimise the risk of bruising, hide and skin damage with consideration to husbandry practices such as horn length, vaccination sites, brand application, mulesing and grass seed contamination.

### PI - ELEMENT LM2 - LIVESTOCK HANDLING FACILITIES

**OUTCOME:** *On farm systems have been implemented to ensure that livestock handling and loading activities minimise livestock injury, bruising and hide damage.*

**PERFORMANCE INDICATORS:**

1. Livestock handling facilities are constructed and maintained to assist handling and minimise livestock injury, bruising, hide and skin damage.
2. Livestock handling activities are conducted by competent staff.

### PI - ELEMENT LM3 - LIVESTOCK TRANSPORT

**OUTCOME:** *On farm systems have been implemented to ensure that the risk of injury, bruising, hide and skin damage during transportation of stock is minimised.*

**PERFORMANCE INDICATORS:**

1. Stock crates utilised for transporting livestock are designed and maintained to prevent injury and bruising to livestock during loading, unloading and transport activities.
2. Livestock transport operators utilised by an enterprise are competent and comply with relevant legislation and industry codes of practice.
3. Livestock loading densities, food and water allowances and rest stops (including visual inspections) are appropriate for the type and class of animal being transported, seasonal conditions and required transport journey.

**PI - ELEMENT LM4 - ANIMAL WELFARE**

**OUTCOME:** *On farm systems have been implemented to ensure the welfare of livestock is not compromised whilst within the control of persons responsible for their care and well being, and to ensure that prompt and appropriate remedial action is taken when required.*

**PERFORMANCE INDICATORS:**

1. A Duty of Care statement shall be developed to demonstrate management commitment to the welfare of animals.
2. The Duty of Care statement shall describe actions that will be carried out to ensure that the welfare of livestock is maintained at all times.

**CATTLE**

3. A current copy of the Australian Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals: Cattle shall be kept as a reference and staff involved with cattle husbandry shall be familiar with its contents.

**SHEEP**

4. A current copy of the Australian Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals: Sheep shall be kept as a reference and staff involved with sheep husbandry shall be familiar with its contents.

**PI - ELEMENT LM5 - ACCREDITED LIVESTOCK**

**OUTCOME:** *On farm systems have been implemented to demonstrate that all livestock sold as being produced in accordance with the LPA On-Farm Quality Assurance Standards meet defined eligibility criteria.*

**PERFORMANCE INDICATORS:**

1. All livestock sold as conforming product originated from the **Cattlecare** and/or **Flockcare** accredited property meet the following criteria:

**CATTLE**

- (a) cattle are purchased from a **Cattlecare** accredited property as conforming product; **or**
- (b) cattle are purchased from a non-**Cattlecare** accredited property **and** have been held on the accredited **Cattlecare** property for a minimum of 42 days where:
  - they were accompanied by an LPA NVD; and
  - the answer to Question 5 of the LPA NVD was "No"; or
  - the property T status classification is identified on the LPA NVD or a statement has been obtained from the appropriate state authority responsible for the management of the NORM program that there is sufficient information available on a "T1" listed property or a particular consignment of cattle derived from a "T1" property to allow any test requirement to be waived.

**SHEEP**

- (c) sheep have been held on the accredited **Flockcare** property for a period exceeding 100 days, and have been vaccinated for CLA according to industry recognised guidelines.
  - (d) sheep are purchased from a **Flockcare** accredited property as conforming product; **or**
2. Livestock identification system implemented on the property maintains the traceability of the conforming product status of livestock at all times.
3. Management records of the eligibility status of conforming product are maintained.

END