**Livestock Management Plan for Dairy (Cows, Goats, or Sheep)**

An approved livestock management plan as per standards 1.4.1 and 3.4.1 is required to demonstrate compliance with organic standards and ensures your annual inspection runs smoothly.

The plan must reflect your current management of your herd/flock, therefore your plan should be regularly reviewed and updated as your management changes. In addition, we may request revisions to address specific issues. This plan must be understood and implemented by your stock person(s) and made available to your vet, and you must have an up-to-date copy available at your inspection.

For farms certified under additional assurance/certification schemes (e.g. Red Tractor, Farm Assured Welsh Livestock, or Quality Meat Scotland) you may submit your farm assurance animal health plan and the [Annex for Organic Livestock Farm Assurance Producers](https://www.soilassociation.org/certification/farming/organic-certification-resources-for-farmers-and-growers/management-plans/).

It is highly recommended that you complete this form electronically to make it easier to update the document in future years. If you are having compatibility issues please get in touch with [farming.growing@soilassociation.org](mailto:farming.growing@soilassociation.org) for support.

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| Plan completed by |  | | |
| Date reviewed |  | | |
| Farm name |  | | |
| Licence number |  | | |
| Livestock types (tick all that apply) | Cows | Goats | Sheep |
| **Breed Selection** | | | |
| Detail the breed(s) you have on your farm |  | | |
| Stockperson(s) responsible for herd/flock |  | | |
| Time of calving/lambing/kidding |  | | |
| Describe how the breed(s) are appropriate for management within an organic system and meet the following criteria (Std 3.2.1):   * Suitable for local conditions * Avoids the requirement for mutilations * Have vitality and resistance to disease or disorder (e.g. dystocia) * Can maintain condition at peak lactation * Sustainable yield on an organic diet |  | | |
| **Housing** | | | |
| If your livestock are housed for any period please complete this section. | | | |
| What type of bedding material do you use and how do you ensure it remains comfortable, clean, and dry? (Std 3.8.5)  e.g. frequency of replenishment, mucking out |  | | |
| What is the average housing period? |  | | |
| Detail the dimensions of your buildings and outdoor loafing areas used to house your herd/flock (Std 3.8.4 3.8.6 & 3.8.7).  *Note: A diagram of the buildings should show feeding (including the length of feed face available) and water facilities within each building (Std 3.8.9). Identify key elements of livestock flow where possible e.g. escape routes for subordinate cows, access to water.* | I have submitted a diagram of the housing:  OR  I have completed the table below: | | |

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| **Housing Name/ID** | **Group of livestock** | **Max average weight (kg)** | | **Max no. housed** | | **Type of housing (loose/cubicle)** | **No. cubicles (if applicable)** | **Length (m)** | | **Width (m)** | **Total area (m2)** | **Bedded area (m2)** |
| *Example (Grain shed + yard)* | *Heifers* | *Up to 200kg* | | *60* | | *Loose* | *n/a* | *25* | | *25* | *625* | *400* |
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| *Guidance on the minimum space requirements for different livestock categories can be found in standard 3.8.6 for cattle and 3.8.7 for sheep and goats.* | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Cleaning** | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| List all products you use to clean livestock housing, including each product brand name and active ingredient(s).  *Note: You may only use the products listed in standard 1.12.2 for the cleaning and disinfection of livestock buildings and equipment* | | | **Brand name** | | | | | | **Active ingredient(s)** | | | | |
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| **Biosecurity** | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Detail biosecurity measures you have for livestock brought in from other units (e.g. isolation for an appropriate quarantine period, testing, purchase strategy, and veterinary treatment) | | | | |  | | | | | | | | |
| Detail additional biosecurity measures on your farm (e.g. double fencing, boot dips, and controlling movement. | | | | |  | | | | | | | | |
| For dairy cows only: Detail your biosecurity measures for TB  (e.g. strategies to minimise badger contact and manure management)  *Note: Defra has a 5-point plan you can use as guidance. The five points are as follows:*   1. *Restrict contact between badgers and cattle* 2. *Manage cattle feed and water* 3. *Stop infected cattle entering the herd* 4. *Reduce risk from neighbouring herds* 5. *Minimise infection from cattle manure*   *You can find out more at* [*www.tbhub.co.uk*](http://www.tbhub.co.uk) | | | | |  | | | | | | | | |
| **Grazing Common Land** | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| If your livestock graze common land please complete this section | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Detail how you have adequate separation from non-organic animals | | | | |  | | | | | | | | |
| What additional biosecurity measures are in place to prevent disease transfer? | | | | |  | | | | | | | | |
| How do you monitor the welfare of your livestock when grazing common land? | | | | |  | | | | | | | | |
| **Youngstock Management** | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Please detail your age and method of castration and disbudding (if applicable) and any pain relief administered. | | | | |  | | | | | | | | |
| Outline your youngstock management strategy   * Colostrum management * Weaning age | | | | |  | | | | | | | | |
| What is your strategy to prevent the routine euthanasia of bull caves (Std 3.5.5)? For example, using robust breeds more suited to rearing beef cattle, markets for bull calves, or using sexed semen. | | | | |  | | | | | | | | |
| What is your strategy for calf rearing in the event of TB or other movement restrictions? | | | | |  | | | | | | | | |
| **Feeding** | | | | |  | | | | | | | | |
| List the feed (include types of forage, straights or complete rations) and their status (organic or in-conversion) for each species. Please include the company and product name for any purchased feed. | | | | |  | | | | | | | | |
| How do you monitor and maintain a diet appropriate to your herd/flock throughout the year? | | | | |  | | | | | | | | |
| How will you feed youngstock which cannot access maternal colostrum and/or milk? Provide details of the types of milk provided.  *Note: You should have a plan to provide an organic colostrum to youngstock. You may feed non-organic milk replacer for up to 72 hours in an emergency. If fed for longer the stock will lose their organic status (Std 3.10.9).* | | | | |  | | | | | | | | |

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| **Mineral/trace element supplements** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Minerals or supplements may only contain substances listed in Std 3.10.14 and their use must be justified with forage or soil analysis showing that your home-grown feeds are deficient, blood or tissue analysis, or details of previously identified deficiencies in your stock.  For products containing non-organic herbs, spices or molasses please state the product quantity, the number of days it will be fed, and the estimated daily intake per animal. Any other agricultural ingredient within a mineral or feed supplement must be organic. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Product Name and brand** | | | **Ingredients and organic status** | | | | **Species and livestock group** | | | | **Justification for use** | | | |
| *Example:*  *Garlic Bucket (Prime Feed Solutions)* | | | *Non-organic garlic 3%*  *Non-organic molasses 5%*  *Organic Maize* | | | | *Heifers* | | | | *Buckets are provided for 90 days of the year and made available for all heifers. This bucket acts as a fly-repellent* | | | |
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| **Disease Prevention** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Identify any **preventative husbandry techniques** that will be employed to reduce the incidence of the common health problems listed below. Preventative methods may include fallowing, clean grazing strategy, stocking rates, hygiene, optimising nutrition, ventilation, etc. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Endoparasites (internal worms, liver fluke, etc.) | | | |  | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ectoparasites (flies, mange, lice, etc.) | | | |  | | | | | | | | | | |
| Scour | | | |  | | | | | | | | | | |
| Respiratory disorders (e.g. pneumonia) | | | |  | | | | | | | | | | |
| Fertility/reproductive disorders | | | |  | | | | | | | | | | |
| Lameness (e.g. regularity of mobility scoring, associated diseases and treatments, foot trimming, provision of rubber matting, foot hygiene etc.) | | | |  | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mineral deficiencies | | | |  | | | | | | | | | | |
| Detail any additional persistent health problems or causes of mortality which occur on your farm. | | | |  | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Routine Treatments** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Identify all veterinary treatments that you use on a routine/regular basis. Please include details of any vaccination (not covered in your farm assured health plan), phototherapeutic and homoeopathic products. Please note any chemically synthesised allopathic veterinary medicinal products or antibiotics must be used under the responsibility of your vet (Std 3.4.3). You must not use chemically synthesised allopathic veterinary medicines or antibiotics for preventative treatment in the absence of illness or surgical intervention.  Please include mastitis/drying-off treatments in the separate mastitis section below. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Treatment / Vaccine** | **Livestock Group** | | | **Disease/parasite targeted** | | | | **Monitoring incidences of disease** | | | | **Threshold for use/timing** | | |
| *(Example) Albendazole/Benzimidazole drench* | *Ewes* | | | *Internal parasites* | | | | *Regular FECs and body condition* | | | | *Pre-lambing dose (based on FECs as prescribed by vet) leaving 10% fittest untreated* | | |
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| For any treatments that are used against endoparasites and ectoparasites please detail what measures are taken to prevent resistance to the treatments (e.g. rotation of products).  Provide details of any efficacy testing conducted on your farm (e.g. post-dosing FECs). | | | |  | | | | | | | | |
| How is the welfare of your livestock assessed and how often are they visually checked? | | | |  | | | | | | | | |
| What facilities do you have if sick or injured animals require isolation? (Std 3.4.3) | | | |  | | | | | | | | |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Mastitis Prevention and Monitoring** | | | How does your breeding or replacement policy minimise mastitis? |  | | How do you maintain the parlour and milking equipment (e.g. liner changes, vacuum checks, and other general)? |  | | Details of your parlour routine, including (as applicable):   * Foremilking * Pre & post dipping/wiping * Spraying * Cluster cleaning * Grouping of animals |  | | Do you have any other husbandry practices to minimise mastitis in your herd? (e.g. diet and youngstock management) |  | | How do you monitor somatic cell counts? |  |   **Mastitis Treatments** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|  | **Product used** | | | | | **Criteria for use/threshold** | | | **How incidences are monitored** | | | | |
| *(Example)*  *First line treatment* | *Uddermint*  *Metacam* | | | | | *Milk changes (clots, flecks, changes in colour or consistency) detected and/or inflammation of the udder.*  *Metacam is only used when swelling is present* | | | *During milking routine each cow is foremilked for milk changes and their udders are inspected for signs of swelling or damage* | | | | |
| First line |  | | | | |  | | |  | | | | |
| Second line |  | | | | |  | | |  | | | | |
| Third Line |  | | | | |  | | |  | | | | |
| Severe/toxic mastitis |  | | | | |  | | |  | | | | |
| **Management at Drying off** | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Target Group** | | **Product used** | | | **Criteria for use/threshold** | | | | | **Instructions for use** | | | |
| *(Example) All dry cows* | | *Orbeseal (teat sealant)* | | | *<200 SCC at previous 3 milk recordings* | | | | | *Clean & disinfect teat, clean 3 times & dry. Take care not to contaminate teat when applying to the teat canal. Spray post-milking spray.* | | | |
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| **Johne’s Management Plan (for dairy cows only)** | | |
| If you have a Johne’s management plan covering testing, cow management, and replacement, calf management, and manure management then you may submit that plan otherwise complete the questions below. | | |
| Are you a member of [The National Johnes Management Plan](https://www.actionjohnesuk.org/) (NJMP)? | Yes  No | |
| If yes, please provide details of the [control strategies](https://www.actionjohnesuk.org/control-strategies/) you have identified with your BCVA or NI JMP Accredited Johne’s Veterinary Advisor | 1. Biosecurity Protect and Monitor  2. Improved Farm Management  3. Improved Farm Management & \_\_.....Strategic Testing | 4. Improved Farm Management and Test & Cull  5. Breed to Terminal Sire  6. Firebreak Vaccination |

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| How are you monitoring Johne’s in your herd?  (e.g., how, who, frequency) |  | | |
| What are your current rates of Johne’s in the herd? (e.g., % of J0-J5 or green/amber/red cows) |  | | |
| What is your culling strategy? |  | | |
| What is your replacement policy? | Closed Herd | Purchased | Both |
| How do you minimise the risk of buying Johne’s infected animals if you buy replacements? |  | | |
| Do you identify low-risk cows (i.e., green cows or J0-J3) to breed replacements? |  | | |
| Do you breed from red cows or J5 cows? |  | | |
| Do you remove calves from Johne’s positive or at-risk dams? If yes, at what age are they removed? |  | | |
| What hygiene measures do you have in place to reduce infection of calves through faecal matter? |  | | |
| Do you separate at-risk calves from other calves? |  | | |
| Are you using a milk replacer or pasteurising milk to minimise infection from risk cows?  Please include details of the milk replacer or pasteuriser. |  | | |
| If you use a milk replacer, for how long have you used it and when do you anticipate stopping using a milk replacer? |  | | |
| Please provide additional details of farm management to minimise other sources of infection (e.g., slurry and manure management, pasture management, water supply and water bodies, and infection from other animals). |  | | |
| **Transport and Slaughter** | | | |
| Please detail the maximum duration you will transport livestock entering or leaving your site. |  | | |
| Detail the site of the slaughter of your livestock |  | | |
| Detail the method of euthanasia for young stock and adult stock. Name the person(s) who will carry this out. |  | | |

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| **Record Keeping** |
| Record keeping is essential to effective management and forms a critical part of demonstrating compliance with organic standards.  You must keep the records detailed in section 1.7 of the standards. This includes records of bought-in feeds, livestock movements, mortality records (planned/unplanned culls, scanning percentage and rearing percentage) and veterinary treatments (including withdrawal periods) along with your field and crop records. The relevant invoices must also be kept.  You will also need to demonstrate through your records that individual livestock rations have complied with the standards both on a daily and annual basis.  Records can be kept in your own format (either computerised or on paper) if all the information required is provided. Record keeping sheets are available on the [Soil Association Certification website](https://www.soilassociation.org/certification/farming/organic-certification-resources-for-farmers-and-growers/record-keeping-templates/) or by searching for ‘soil association producer licensee resources’. |
| **Additional Resources** |
| * Farm Health Online: <https://www.farmhealthonline.com/> * SCOPS (Sustainable control of parasites): <https://www.scops.org.uk/> * AssureWel: <http://www.assurewel.org/index.html> * Government Website: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/controlling-disease-in-farm-animals> * AHDB: <http://beefandlamb.ahdb.org.uk/returns/> * Soil Association Technical Guides: <https://www.soilassociation.org/farmers-growers/technicalinformation/> * Noah Compendium: <https://www.noahcompendium.co.uk/> * Withdrawal factsheet:<https://www.soilassociation.org/media/18493/organic-withdrawal-factsheet-2019.pdf> * The National Action Group on Johne's – https://actionjohnesuk.org/ * Johne’s Disease – AHDB – <https://ahdb.org.uk/johnes-disease> |
| Thank you for taking the time to complete this plan, please return it to the producer certification team at [farming.growing@soilassociation.org](mailto:farming.growing@soilassociation.org) or post it to Soil Association Certification Limited, Spear House, 51 Victoria Street, Bristol, BS1 6AD |
| **Additional Notes:** |

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| **Housing Plan(s)** |
| Please use this space to draw or copy a diagram of your housing including the dimensions.  **A white square with a blue border  Description automatically generated**  **A white square with a blue border  Description automatically generated** |