Pasturefed Cattle Assurance System

Future Beef Webinar, 3 July 2014

www.certifiedpasturefed.com.au
Webinar Presenters

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PCAS
Why Certified Pasturefed?
What is PCAS?

- Developed with industry consultation:
  - Producers
  - Processors
  - Retailers
  - Wholesalers etc

- Parallels USDA and AGA requirements.

- **PCAS is Voluntary**
Certified Pasturefed Marks
Steps to gaining Certification

- Visit www.certifiedpasturefed.com.au
- Read the Standards, documents, checklists and guides.
- Register your property online.
- Arrange an on-site audit.
- Have records and documents ready for the audit.
What does it cost?

- Annual administration fee: $200 (ex GST).

- Subsequent property (PIC) registrations: $150 (ex GST).

- Annual audit costs: Based on complexity and location.
  - Typical range is between $500 and $800 (could be more - ex GST).

- Travel costs are over and above audit cost.

- Travel costs can be reduced through “milk-runs”.
Meeting the PCAS Standards
Meeting the PCAS Standards

- **Element 1:** Identification and Lifetime Traceability

- **Outcome:**
  On-farm systems have been implemented to ensure that cattle are individually identified and that they are fully traceable throughout their entire life.

  – Have a written statement on how your identification on eligible and ineligible animals

  – Keep a record of the devices used in a mob

  – Have a written statement on how your manage introduced cattle

  – All transactions of PCAS cattle must be accompanied with the PCAS vendor declaration
Meeting the PCAS Standards

- **Element 2:**
  No Confinement for the Purpose of Intensive Feeding for Production

- **Outcome:**
  On-farm systems have been implemented to ensure that cattle are not confined for the purpose of intensive feeding for production.

- Cattle cannot be intensively fed in confinement.
Meeting the PCAS Standards

- **Element 3:**
  Lifetime Pasturefed

- **Outcome:**
  On-farm systems have been implemented to ensure that cattle have never been fed separated grain or grain by-products and have access to graze open pasture with an Eligible Diet.

- Cattle can be fed a range of items and supplements but not cereal grain or by-products.
Cattle are never fed separated grain or grain by-products.

- Grain products or by-products in any form such as whole, ground, cracked.

- Grain products are defined as a seed or fruit of a cereal plant, caryopsis:
  - Barley
  - Corn
  - Millet
  - Oats
  - Rice
  - Rye
  - Sorghum
  - Triticale
  - Wheat
Cattle are never fed separated grain or grain by-products.

- Lick blocks and pellets are acceptable provided they do not contain cereal grain or by-products.

- Urea and Molasses are acceptable.

- Cattle may graze cereal grain crops provided the crop is in a pre-grain state or managed such that it does not ripen past this point during grazing.

- Pre-grain state is defined by the standards as stage Zadoks Decimal Code: 69.
### Cereal Growth Stages (Zadoks)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Growth Stage</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Internode &lt; 2 cm, 2nd node still less than 2 cm from 1st Node.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 32           | Node 1<br>
|              | 2nd node will be more than 2 cm from 1st Node.                              |
| 33           | Node 2<br>
|              | 3rd node will be more than 2 cm from 2nd Node, etc.                         |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-11</td>
<td>Dry seed to first leaf emerged.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>2 leaves emerged.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Tillering 1 main Stem + 1 tiller.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Tillering 1 main Stem + 2 - 9 tillers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Stem Elongation, Leaf sheath becoming erect.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Stem Elongation, First node visible at stem base.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>Stem elongation, Second node visible.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>Flag leaf just visible.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>Flag leaf ligule just visible.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51-59</td>
<td>Booting, Ear swollen in stem just under Flag leaf.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61-69</td>
<td>Heading i.e. ear emerging.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-79</td>
<td>Anthesis i.e. flowering.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>81-89</td>
<td>Clear liquid – Milk Stages (early, mid, late)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>91-99</td>
<td>Dough Stages (early, soft, hard)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ripening stage</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** DEPI Victoria
Meeting the PCAS Standards

- **Element 4:**
  Minimum Eating Quality Standards (On-farm)

- **Outcome:**
  On-farm systems have been implemented to ensure that cattle consigned to slaughter are eligible to be accompanied by a Meat Standards Australia (MSA) Vendor Declaration.
Meeting the PCAS Standards

- **Element 5 (optional):**
  Lifetime Free from Hormone Growth Promotants

- **Outcome:**
  On-farm systems have been implemented to ensure that cattle have never been treated with hormone growth promotants (HGPs).

- Never ever treated with HGPs.
Meeting the PCAS Standards

- **Element 6 (optional):**
  Lifetime Free from Antibiotics

- **Outcome:**
  On-farm systems have been implemented to ensure that cattle have never been treated with antibiotics including; low-level (sub-therapeutic) or therapeutic level doses; sulphonamides, ionophores or coccidiostats. The use of anthelmintics for the treatment of parasites are allowable.

- “Treatment” by injection or ingestion
Element 6 (optional)

LIFETIME FREE FROM ANTIBIOTICS

Cattle have never in their lives been treated with “antibiotics”.

- If an animal requires medical attention, proper treatment should be administered as required.

- Identify as ineligible cattle treated with antibiotics.

- Keep records to demonstrate which cattle are ineligible.

- Keep a register of any antibiotics that are on the property for any reason, at any time.
PCAS, what's new?

www.certifiedpasturefed.com.au
Meeting the PCAS Standards

- **Element 1:**
  Identification and Lifetime Traceability

- **Outcome:**
  On-farm systems have been implemented to ensure that cattle are individually identified and that they are fully traceable throughout their entire life.

  - *removal of NLIS as the only way to prove lifetime traceability, NLIS still remains the preferred system*

  - *opportunity for breeding only production systems to apply for approval from PCAS Admin to fit NLIS devises at a time post weaning*
Meeting the PCAS Standards

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  - revised after to match USDA changes

  - Greater clarity for producers around drenches and injections for parasite control.
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Thank you!

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