

Pasturefed Cattle Assurance System

Future Beef Webinar, 3 July 2014

www.certifiedpasturefed.com.au



Webinar Presenters



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Why Certified Pasturefed?



Why Certified Pasturefed?



**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



**CERTIFIED
PASTUREFED**



**CERTIFIED
PASTUREFED**
+ HGP-FREE



**CERTIFIED
PASTUREFED**
+ ANTIBIOTIC-FREE



**CERTIFIED
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+ HGP-FREE
+ ANTIBIOTIC-FREE

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.**

Element 3



LIFETIME PASTUREFED

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
 - Rye
 - Corn
 - Sorghum
 - Millet
 - Triticale
 - Oats
 - Wheat
 - Rice

Element 3



LIFETIME PASTUREFED

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 Zadocks Decimal Code: 69 .

Cereal Growth Stages (Zadoks)

Growth Stage 31

Growth Stage 32

2nd node will be more than 2 cm from 1st Node.

Growth Stage 33

3rd node will be more than 2 cm from 2nd Node, etc.

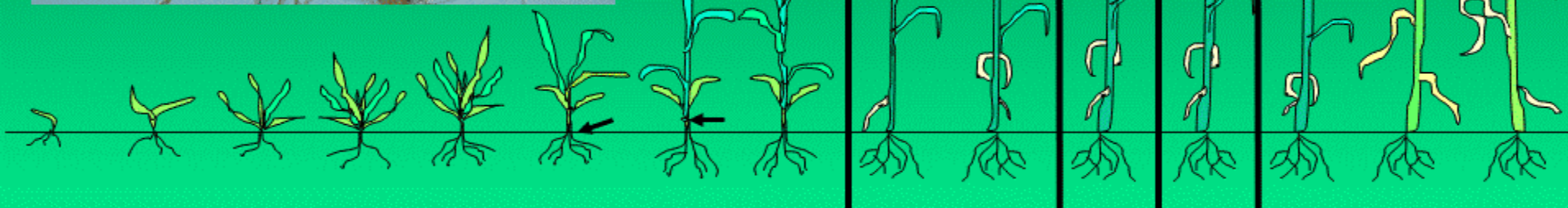
Internode
< 2 cm

Node 2

Node 1

Growth Stage 31

2nd node still less than 2 cm from 1st Node.



0-11	12	21	22-29	30	31	32	37	39	45	51-59	61-69	70-79	81-89	91-99
Dry seed to first leaf emerged	2 leaves emerged	Tillering 1 main Stem + 1 tiller	Tillering 1 main Stem + 2-9 tillers	Stem Elongation beginning Leaf sheath becoming erect	Stem Elongation. First node visible at stem base	Stem elongation. Second node visible	Flag leaf just visible (Last leaf before ear emergence begins)	Flag leaf ligule just visible	Booting (Ear swollen in stem just under Flag leaf)	Heading i.e. ear emerging	Anthesis i.e. flowering	Clear liquid - Milk Stages (early, mid, late)	Dough Stages (early, soft, hard)	Ripening stage
Vegetative Stages										Heading/Flowering		Grain Formation Stages		

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?

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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 devices at a time post weaning*

Meeting the PCAS Standards



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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.*
 - *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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