



# Administrative Standard

## New Zealand Dairy Grass-Fed Administrative Standard

10 June 2025

## **TITLE**

New Zealand Dairy Grass-Fed Administrative Standard

## **COMMENCEMENT**

This Administrative Standard is effective from date of signing

## **ISSUING BODY**

This Administrative Standard is issued by the Ministry for Primary Industries.

Dated at Wellington, 10 June 2025

Marion Castle  
acting Director Assurance  
Ministry for Primary Industries

Contact for further information  
Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI)  
New Zealand Food Safety  
PO Box 2526  
Wellington 6140.

Email: [approvals@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:approvals@mpi.govt.nz)

<b>Contents</b>	<b>Page</b>
<b>Introduction</b>	<b>4</b>
1.1 Description and status of this document	5
1.2 Consequences of opting In	5
1.3 Crown liability disclaimer	5
<b>Part 2: Preliminary Requirements</b>	<b>6</b>
2.1 Application	6
2.2 Definitions	6
<b>Part 3: Outline of responsibilities</b>	<b>9</b>
3.1 Purpose of this clause	9
3.2 MPI responsibilities	9
3.3 Scheme owner and non-certifying scheme owner responsibilities	9
3.4 Client responsibilities	10
3.5 Conformity assessment body responsibilities	10
3.6 Accreditation body responsibilities	10
<b>Part 4: Scheme owner and non-certifying scheme owner requirements</b>	<b>11</b>
4.1 Purpose of this part	11
4.2 Eligibility criteria for scheme owners	11
4.3 Eligibility criteria for non-certifying scheme owners	11
4.4 Assessment and endorsement of QMS by an independent conformity assessment body or a relevant accreditation body	12
4.5 Assessment and endorsement of scheme by a relevant accreditation body or an independent conformity assessment body	12
4.6 QMS assessment and scheme assessment may be carried out at the same time	12
4.7 QMS requirements	12
<b>Part 5: Scheme rules requirements</b>	<b>17</b>
5.1 Purpose of this part	17
5.2 Form and contents of scheme rules – minimum requirements	17
<b>Part 6: Grass-fed attributes</b>	<b>18</b>
6.1 Purpose of this part	18
6.2 Farm dairy operator requirements	18
6.3 Dairy processor requirements	18
6.4 Dairy product requirements	20
<b>Part 7: MPI listing of grass-fed assurance schemes</b>	<b>21</b>
7.1 Purpose of this part	21
7.2 MPI to keep and maintain a list of schemes that comply with the Administrative Standard	21
7.3 Application for listing	21
7.4 Refusal to process application if application is incomplete or if fee is not paid	22
7.5 Request for further information	22
7.6 Approval of listing	22
7.7 Refusal of listing	22
7.8 Suspension of listing	22
7.9 Consequences of suspension	23

7.10	Withdrawal or surrender of listing	23
7.11	Changes to listing	23
7.12	Renewal of listing	23
<b>Part 8:</b>	<b>Transitional provisions for continuing schemes</b>	<b>25</b>
8.1	Continuing grass-fed schemes	25
<b>Schedule 1:</b>	<b>Days grazing calculation</b>	<b>26</b>
1.	Purpose of the calculation method	26
2.	Calculation method	26
<b>Schedule 2:</b>	<b>Feed types</b>	<b>27</b>
	Table 1: Grass-Fed Feed Types	27
	Table 2: Non-Grass-Fed Feed Types	28
<b>Schedule 3:</b>	<b>Calculation of grass-fed percentage for dairy animals</b>	<b>32</b>
1.	Purpose of calculation method	32
2.	Calculation method	32
<b>Schedule 4:</b>	<b>MPI scheme listing process flowchart</b>	<b>33</b>

## Introduction

This introduction is not part of the Administrative Standard but is intended to indicate its general effect.

## Purpose

- (1) The objective of this Administrative Standard is to provide consumers with confidence that:
  - a) farm dairy operators or dairy processors whose pasture-based farming system or annual milk pool are certified by a scheme owner, or an independent third-party conformity assessment body meet the grass-fed requirements and attributes specified in this Administrative Standard; and
  - b) any farm dairy operator's or dairy processor's dairy products associated with a grass-fed claim have been produced within that system and meet the grass-fed requirements and attributes specified in this Administrative Standard.
- (2) This Administrative Standard:
  - a) defines what constitutes a New Zealand pasture-based farming system; and
  - b) specifies the requirements and attributes that should be met for grass-fed claims to be made or for grass-fed certification to be issued by a scheme owner or an independent third-party conformity assessment body; and
  - c) facilitates the credible domestic and international marketing of New Zealand pasture-based farming systems and their products

## Background

- (1) New Zealand's temperate climate, plentiful rainfall and sunshine, and clean air results in its dairy production being dominated by year-round pasture-based farming systems.
- (2) A key point of difference for New Zealand's dairy systems is that animal diets are predominantly pasture based, animals live outdoors, and they are free to express their normal grazing behaviours year-round.
- (3) There are increasing marketplace demands to understand the attributes of a product relating to environment, animal welfare, labour and other factors. Some customers seek grass-fed dairy products for nutrition benefits, environmental impact of pasture-based farming systems in supporting soil health and biodiversity, and freedom of movement for the animals.
- (4) Establishing an evidence-based grass-fed framework is essential to ensure integrity, transparency, and consistency in grass-fed claims across the dairy sector. An evidence-based framework also enhances market credibility, supports sustainable land-use practices, and fosters trust throughout the value chain – from farm gate to final product.
- (5) This Administrative Standard has been developed through a partnership between government and stakeholders from the New Zealand dairy sector, including exporters, processors and sector bodies, in response to the above.
- (6) There are "New Zealand Grass-Fed Assured" logos available to support grass-fed claims on products within a grass-fed scheme operating in accordance with the Administrative Standard. Licensing, compliance monitoring and enforcement of the use of the logos is managed by the New Zealand Story Group under the FernMark Licence Programme. For more information on the logos and licensing, contact: [fernmark@nzstory.govt.nz](mailto:fernmark@nzstory.govt.nz).

## Who should read this Administrative Standard?

- (1) This Administrative Standard should be read by parties with responsibilities under it such as scheme owners and non-certifying scheme owners, conformity assessment bodies providing conformity assessment services, MPI personnel who have a part in implementing the Administrative Standard, and businesses operating under a scheme endorsed under the Administrative Standard

## Why is this important?

- (1) This Administrative Standard is not intended to be used or read in isolation. It needs to be considered in the context of broader government and/ or industry strategies, standards, and/ or guidance.
- (2) MPI will facilitate the review of this Administrative Standard a year after its release and thereafter at least every 3-years. The review will consider changing regulatory, environmental, customer and market conditions.

## Document History

Version	Date	Section Changed	Change(s) Description
	June 2025	New	New

## Other information

### 1.1 Description and status of this document

- (1) This document is an administrative standard only. It is not a standard issued under New Zealand legislation.
- (2) This Administrative Standard does not make requirements on a person that are enforceable via any legislation that MPI administers.
- (3) This Standard does not, in any way, obviate the need for any persons operating under this Standard to comply with their duties and responsibilities under any applicable legislation.

### 1.2 Consequences of opting In

- (1) Where a scheme owner or non-certifying scheme owner has chosen to opt into this Administrative Standard, it will be treated as an agreement to be bound by all applicable requirements of this Administrative Standard
- (2) MPI will only refuse or cancel the listing of a grass-fed scheme under this Administrative Standard on the basis of confirmation from the accreditation body which accredited the scheme or the conformity assessment body which carry out conformity assessments under the scheme.

### 1.3 Crown liability disclaimer

- (1) The Crown expressly disclaims any liability to any person in respect of anything, and the consequences of anything done or omitted to be done in reliance, whether wholly or partly, upon the whole or part of the provisions of this Administrative Standard.

## Part 2: Preliminary Requirements

### 2.1 Application

- (1) This Administrative Standard applies to:
- a) scheme owners.
  - b) non-certifying scheme owners.
  - c) clients.
  - d) MPI.
  - e) relevant accreditation bodies; and
  - f) relevant accredited conformity assessment bodies.

### 2.2 Definitions

- (1) In this Administrative Standard, unless the context otherwise requires:

**accreditation body** means an independent body that assesses the suitability of a conformity assessment body to carry out conformity assessments e.g., the International Accreditation New Zealand (IANZ) or the Joint Accreditation Standard Australia and New Zealand (JASANZ).

**Administrative Standard** means this New Zealand Dairy Grass-Fed Administrative Standard.

**adverse event** means a climatic event such as a storm, flood or drought, or a natural disaster such as a volcanic eruption, earthquake or tsunami, or a pandemic, or a biosecurity incursion.

**animal management** means practices undertaken in the responsible care of animals, including animal health and nutrition needs, milking and transportation.

**certification** means the issuance of a certificate by a scheme owner or conformity assessment body under a scheme operating in accordance with this Administrative Standard to a client to confirm that a farm dairy operation meets the requirements in clause 6.2; or a dairy processor's milk pool meets the requirements in clause 6.3.

**conformity assessment** means the process to demonstrate whether a product, service, process, claim, system or person meets the relevant requirements as stated in standards, regulations, contracts, programmes, or other normative documents. Conformity assessment may include testing, inspection, and certification.

**conformity assessment body** means an organisation that engages in conformity assessment, and typically includes an inspection body, certification body, or laboratory.

**client** means an individual farm dairy operator, dairy processor or exporter who:

- a) is approved by a scheme owner under its scheme and this Administrative Standard, or who has applied to join a scheme and is in the process of obtaining approval; or
- b) is a non-certifying scheme owner.

**dairy animals** mean buffalo, cattle, deer, goats and sheep used for milk production in New Zealand.

**dairy material** means:

- a) animal material that is:
  - i) milk extracted from a milking dairy animal; and
  - ii) any material derived or processed from a milking dairy animal up until delivery of the material at the place of sale for consumption or for end use for purposes other than consumption, or its export; and
- b) includes dairy product that, having been purchased, is further processed.

**dairy processing** means all processing activities in relation to dairy material in New Zealand.

**dairy processor** means a person who, for reward or the purposes of trade, carries out dairy processing operations or processes in New Zealand.

**dairy product** means:

- a) animal product that, having originally been dairy material:
  - i) has been delivered to the place of sale for consumption, or for end use for purposes other than consumption; or
  - ii) has left New Zealand's territorial waters in the course of its export.
- b) includes **dairy produce** within the meaning of the Dairy Industry Act 1952 (as in force before its repeal by [section 75](#) of the Animal Products (Ancillary and Transitional Provisions) Act 1999)

**dough stage** means the growth stage of a plant (typically a cereal) when the kernel is filled with starch and is well formed, and there is no milky fluid, only a rubbery, dough-like substance.

**dry matter** means the weight of a feed when dried, typically expressed as a % dry matter in relation to the freshweight.

**extenuating circumstances** means where a short-term event, e.g., a plant breakdown or electricity supply failure, affects the ability of a dairy processor or product to meet the requirements of this Administrative Standard.

**farm dairy operator** means the person responsible for the activities on a dairy farm or farms in New Zealand.

**forage crop** means a leafy or bulb forb, grown to be grazed by animals.

**forb** means a broadleaf herbaceous flowering plant, including legumes, that is not a grass.

**freshweight** means the weight of the feed including its water.

**grass** means a monocotyledonous plant of the *gramineae* or *poaceae* family.

**grass-fed certified** means a farm dairy operation certified by a scheme owner or conformity assessment body under a scheme operating under this Administrative Standard as meeting the requirements in clause 6.2; or a dairy processor's milk pool certified by a scheme owner or conformity assessment body under a scheme operating under this Administrative Standard as meeting the requirements in clause 6.3.

**grass-fed feed type** means a plant listed in Table 1 Schedule 2.

**inspection** means an assessment or regular checking by an inspection body under this Administrative Standard of product, service, process, claim, system or person to make sure the requirements of the relevant scheme rules and this Administrative Standard are being met.

**inspection body** means a conformity assessment body that meets the requirements of this Administrative Standard and is permitted to carry out inspection under this Administrative Standard.

**ISO17020** means the International Standards Organisation standard *ISO/IEC 17020: 2012 Conformity assessment - Requirements for the operation of various types of bodies performing inspection*.

**ISO17065** means the International Standards Organisation standard *ISO/IEC 17065:2012 - Conformity assessment - Requirements for bodies certifying products, processes and services*.

**milk pool** means the total annual volume of raw milk collected from a group of dairy farms in New Zealand.

**MPI** means the Ministry for Primary Industries

**non-certifying scheme owner** means a scheme owner that has all of the following characteristics:

- a) is a client.
- b) develops, operates and maintains a Grass-Fed Scheme under this Administrative Standard; and



- c) exclusively delegates all conformity assessment services under the scheme to an independent conformity assessment body.

**non-grass-fed feed type** means a plant listed in Table 2 Schedule 2.

**pasture** means an area covered by grass and/ or forage crops suitable for grazing by animals.

**pasture-based farming system** means a farming system where animals predominantly live outdoors and graze pasture and/ or forage crops.

**QMS** means a scheme owner's or non-scheme owner's Quality Management System as required under Part 4 of this Administrative Standard.

**scheme** means a grass-fed assurance scheme that meets the requirements of, and is operating in accordance with this Administrative Standard.

**scheme owner** means an entity or conformity assessment body who owns and operates a grass-fed scheme under this Administrative Standard and is providing independent conformity assessment services to clients.

**supplementary feed** means an imported feed, which may include concentrates or food manufacturing byproducts or wastes but not animal protein or animal fat other than dairy, or a homegrown feed that is harvested and used later, to meet an energy or nutritional deficit in an animal's diet

## Part 3: Outline of responsibilities

### 3.1 Purpose of this clause

- (1) This clause 3.2 sets out the responsibilities of the relevant parties who are responsible for the operation of this Administrative Standard, which are:
- a) clients;
  - b) scheme owners;
  - c) non-certifying scheme owners;
  - d) conformity assessment bodies;
  - e) accreditation bodies;
  - f) MPI;

### 3.2 MPI responsibilities

- (1) MPI is responsible for:
- a) facilitating the maintenance of the contents of this Administrative Standard;
  - b) listing of scheme owner's and non-certifying scheme owner's schemes under this Administrative Standard.
- (2) The total costs to MPI for the maintenance of the Administrative Standard will be split equally amongst the listed scheme owners and non-certifying scheme owners, who will receive an invoice for their share of the total costs at the end of the financial year.

### 3.3 Scheme owner and non-certifying scheme owner responsibilities

- (1) Scheme owners are responsible for:
- a) having their scheme endorsed by a:
    - i) relevant accreditation body; or
    - ii) an independent conformity assessment body; and
  - b) obtaining accreditation to ISO17020 or ISO17065 for the relevant scheme or having a QMS which has been assessed and endorsed by an independent conformity assessment body as compliant with this Administrative Standard; and
  - c) developing, operating, and maintaining scheme rules in accordance with Part 5 of this Administrative Standard;
  - d) carrying out conformity assessment services in accordance with their scheme rules and this Administrative Standard;
  - e) processing applications from clients applying to join their scheme;
  - f) complying with the requirements for scheme owners under Part 4 of this Administrative Standard; and
  - g) having their scheme listed and renewing their listing by MPI where required.
- (2) Non-certifying scheme owners are responsible for:
- a) all of the responsibilities in sub clause (1) except subclause (1)d) and f);
  - b) delegating all conformity assessment services to an independent conformity assessment body; and
  - c) complying with the requirements for non-certifying scheme owners under Part 4 of this Administrative Standard.

### 3.4 Client responsibilities

- (1) Clients are responsible for:
- a) where applicable, obtaining certification from the relevant scheme owner or conformity assessment body for their farm dairy operator or milk pool under the relevant scheme;
  - b) arranging any required initial pre-certification inspection by an accredited conformity assessment body where required under the relevant scheme rules;
  - c) arranging and facilitating conformity assessments by an accredited conformity assessment body as required under the relevant scheme rules or this Administrative Standard;
  - d) where applicable, providing the data referred to in Part 6;
  - e) operating in accordance with the scheme rules;
  - f) complying with any conformity assessment conditions and with any contractual arrangement with the scheme owner in relation to activities under the scheme.

### 3.5 Conformity assessment body responsibilities

- (1) A conformity assessment body carrying out any conformity assessment functions and activities under this Administrative Standard is responsible for:
- a) holding accreditation to one or more of the following ISO standards as applicable:
    - i) ISO17020;
    - ii) ISO17065.
  - b) providing conformity assessment functions under this Administrative Standard, including, where applicable:
    - i) endorsing a scheme owner's or non-certifying scheme owner's scheme under this Administrative Standard; and
    - ii) assessing a scheme owner's or non-certifying scheme owner's QMS in accordance with this Administrative Standard; and
    - iii) informing MPI where the conformity assessment body has refused to endorse a scheme owner's or non-certifying scheme owner's scheme or QMS or withdrawn its endorsement of a scheme or QMS.

### 3.6 Accreditation body responsibilities

- (1) Accreditation bodies are responsible for:
- a) the accreditation of conformity assessment bodies providing conformity assessment services under this Administrative Standard;
  - b) where applicable, endorsing a scheme owner's scheme in accordance with this Administrative Standard;
  - c) where applicable, the accreditation of scheme owners operating a scheme under this Administrative Standard; and
  - d) informing MPI where the accreditation body has refused to accredit a scheme owner or non-certifying scheme owner to the relevant ISO standard or refused to endorse a scheme owner's or non-certifying scheme owner's scheme or QMS or withdrawn such accreditation or endorsement.

## Part 4: Scheme owner and non-certifying scheme owner requirements

### 4.1 Purpose of this part

- (1) This part sets out:
  - a) the eligibility criteria for a scheme owner or non-certifying scheme owner to participate under this Administrative Standard;
  - b) the pathways (e.g. accreditation or QMS assessment or recognition) that a scheme owner or non-certifying scheme owner may use to demonstrate it has the necessary systems and processes in place to operate its scheme in compliance with this Administrative Standard.

### 4.2 Eligibility criteria for scheme owners

- (1) A scheme owner operating a scheme under this Administrative Standard must:
  - a) have scheme rules that:
    - i) comply with the requirements for scheme rules under Part 5 of this Administrative Standard;
    - ii) are easily accessible by clients under the scheme;
  - b) have their scheme endorsed by a:
    - i) relevant accreditation body; or
    - ii) an independent conformity assessment body accredited to ISO 17020 or ISO17065.
- (2) In addition to sub clause (1), a scheme owner must:
  - a) where applicable, hold accreditation to ISO17020 or ISO17065 for conformity assessment services under the relevant scheme under this Administrative Standard; or
  - b) have a QMS that complies with clause 4.7 and have that QMS assessed and endorsed by an independent conformity assessment body.
- (3) Despite sub clause (2), a scheme owner that is itself a conformity assessment body and holds accreditation to ISO17020 or ISO17065 may:
  - a) conduct an internal audit of its QMS to ensure compliance with this Administrative Standard; and
  - b) keep a copy of its internal audit report; and
  - c) must have its scheme endorsed by the relevant accreditation body within the scope of its ISO accreditation within 12 months of commencement of this Administrative Standard; and
  - d) where the scheme owner intends to obtain MPI listing under Part 7, provide a copy of the internal audit report to MPI as part of its listing application.

### 4.3 Eligibility criteria for non-certifying scheme owners

- (1) Non-certifying scheme owners must:
  - a) meet the criteria in clause 4.2; and
  - b) not carry out any conformity assessment services; and
  - c) fully and exclusively delegate or subcontract all conformity assessment services to an independent conformity assessment body or bodies.

#### **4.4 Assessment and endorsement of QMS by an independent conformity assessment body or a relevant accreditation body**

- (1) Where a scheme owner or non-certifying scheme owner has chosen the QMS option in clause 4.2(2)(b) (i.e. to have their QMS assessed by a relevant accreditation body or an independent conformity assessment body instead of being accredited to the relevant ISO standard by the relevant accreditation body e.g. JASANZ), the relevant accreditation body or the independent conformity assessment body that has been engaged to assess the QMS must:
  - a) assess the QMS against the requirements of clause 4.7;
  - b) only endorse the QMS if satisfied that it complies with all of the applicable requirements of clause 4.7; and
  - c) issue an assessment report to the scheme owner or non-certifying scheme owner; and
  - d) ensure that the report specifies whether the QMS is endorsed or not.

#### **4.5 Assessment and endorsement of scheme by a relevant accreditation body or an independent conformity assessment body**

- (1) Where a scheme owner or non-certifying scheme owner has chosen to have their scheme assessed and endorsed by a relevant accreditation body or an independent conformity assessment body in clause 4.2(1)(b)(ii), the relevant accreditation body or independent conformity assessment body that has been engaged to assess the scheme must:
  - a) assess the scheme against the applicable requirements of this Administrative Standard, in particular, clauses 4.2, 4.3, 4.7 and Parts 5, 6, 7 and where applicable Part 8 of this Administrative Standard;
  - b) only endorse the Scheme if satisfied that it complies with the applicable requirements of clause 4.7; and
  - c) issue an assessment report to the scheme owner or non-certifying scheme owner; and
  - d) ensure that the report specifies whether the Scheme is endorsed or not.

#### **4.6 QMS assessment and scheme assessment may be carried out at the same time**

- (1) Where a scheme owner or non-certifying scheme owner has chosen to have its QMS and Scheme assessed by an independent conformity assessment body under clause 4.2(2)(b) and 4.2(1)(b)(ii) respectively, such assessment may be carried out at the same time.
- (2) For the avoidance of doubt, if the assessment of a QMS is part of scheme endorsement then a separate assessment of the QMS is not required.

#### **4.7 QMS requirements**

##### **4.7.1 Purpose of this clause**

- (1) This clause 4.7 sets out the procedures or components that a scheme owner's or non-certifying scheme owner's QMS should contain.

#### 4.7.2 Conformity assessment service agreement

- (1) The scheme owner must have a legally enforceable agreement for the provision of conformity assessment services to its client and the agreement should require the client to always comply with the scheme rules, including implementing appropriate changes within the required timeframe.
- (2) The non-certifying scheme owner must:
  - a) have a legally enforceable agreement with an independent conformity assessment body for the provision of conformity assessment services under the scheme; and
  - b) require the conformity assessment body to also have a legally enforceable agreement for the provision of conformity assessment services to clients and the agreement should require the client to always comply with the scheme rules, including implementing appropriate changes within the required timeframe.

#### 4.7.3 Use of license, certificates and marks of conformity

- (1) The scheme owner must have procedures which specify;
  - a) how the scheme owner exercises control as specified by the scheme over ownership, use and display of licenses, certificates, marks of conformity and any other mechanisms for indicating a farm dairy operator or dairy processor is grass-fed certified;
  - b) the actions the scheme owner has deemed suitable for dealing with incorrect references to the scheme, or misleading use of licenses, certificates, marks, or any other mechanism for indicating a farm dairy operator or dairy processor is certified, found in documentation or other publicity.
- (2) The non-certifying scheme owner must have procedures to ensure that any conformity assessment bodies they contracted out their conformity assessment services to have their own procedures covering the matters in sub clause (1).

#### 4.7.4 Management of impartiality

- (1) The scheme owner must have procedures which ensure:
  - a) that conformity assessment activities under the scheme are carried out impartially;
  - b) that commercial, financial or other pressures do not compromise impartiality in relation to adherence to the scheme rules;
  - c) effective management of conflict of interest.
- (2) A non-certifying scheme owner must have procedures to ensure that any conformity assessment bodies they contracted out their conformity assessment services to have their own procedures covering the matters in sub clause (1).

#### 4.7.5 Non-discriminatory conditions

- (1) The scheme owner or non-certifying scheme owner must have procedures, which ensure:
  - a) that scheme rules and procedures under which the scheme owner or non-certifying scheme owner operates, and their administration are non-discriminatory;
  - b) that its procedures are not used to impede or inhibit access by applicants other than as provided for in the scheme rules and this Administrative Standard;
  - c) where applicable, that its services under the scheme are accessible to all applicants whose activities fall within the scope of the scheme;
  - d) that access to conformity assessment services under the scheme is not conditional upon the size of the client or membership of any association or group, or conformity assessment conditional upon the number of conformity assessment services already in used;
  - e) that there are no undue financial or other conditions;
  - f) that it confines its requirements, evaluation, review, decision and surveillance (if any) to those matters specifically related to the scope of the conformity assessment as provided for under the scheme rules and this Administrative Standard.

#### 4.7.6 Confidential information

- (1) The scheme owner must have procedures, which:
  - a) set out the responsibility, preferably through legally enforceable commitments, for the management of all information obtained or created during the performance of activities under the scheme:
  - b) informs the client, in advance, of the information it intends to place in the public domain:
  - c) when the scheme owner is required by law or authorised by contractual arrangements to release confidential information, how the client, unless prohibited by law, is to be notified of the information provided:
  - d) ensure that information about the client obtained from sources other than the client (e.g. complainant, regulators) is treated as confidential.
- (2) A non-certifying scheme owner must have procedures to ensure that any conformity assessment bodies they contracted out their conformity assessment services to have their own procedures covering the matters in sub clause (1).

#### 4.7.7 Staffing

- (1) The scheme owner or non-certifying scheme owner must have procedures, which ensure that staff involved in the development, implementation and ongoing maintenance of the scheme are:
  - a) trained and competent to perform the services for which they are employed or engaged to do; and
  - b) trained in the scheme rules and the requirements of this Administrative Standard; and
  - c) regularly monitored in relation to their performance.
- (2) A non-certifying scheme owner must ensure that any conformity assessment bodies they contracted out their conformity assessment services to have their own procedures covering the matters in sub clause (1).

#### 4.7.8 Resourcing

- (1) The scheme owner or non-certifying scheme owner must have procedures which ensure:
  - a) it is adequately resourced (including having, or having access to, relevant technical expertise) to carry out its responsibilities under the scheme and this Administrative Standard;
  - b) it has arrangements in place with conformity assessment bodies to effectively carry out ongoing inspection of clients under the scheme and this Administrative Standard.
- (2) A non-certifying scheme owner must ensure that any conformity assessment bodies they contracted out their conformity assessment services to have their own procedures covering the matters in sub clause (1)a).

#### 4.7.9 Registration process under the scheme

- (1) The scheme owner must have procedures, which outline:
  - a) the application process, application review process, registration decision and conformity assessment documentation
  - b) the process for a directory of certified clients and how these are added or removed from the directory.
- (2) A non-certifying scheme owner must have procedures to ensure that any conformity assessment bodies they contracted out their conformity assessment services to have their own procedures covering the matters in sub clause (1).

#### **4.7.10 Surveillance**

- (1) The scheme owner must have procedures, which cover the process for conducting surveillance activities, including periodic surveillance of licenses, certificates or marks of conformity to ensure ongoing validity of the demonstration of fulfilment of scheme rules.
- (2) A non-certifying scheme owner must have procedures to ensure that any conformity assessment bodies they contracted out their conformity assessment services to have their own procedures covering the matters in sub clause (1).

#### **4.7.11 Changes affecting the scheme**

- (1) The scheme owner or non-certifying scheme owner must have procedures for:
  - a) effective consultation with clients:
  - b) ensuring that changes are communicated to all clients:
  - c) where applicable, verifying the implementation of the changes by its clients and take actions required by the scheme.

#### **4.7.12 Non-conformance and corrective actions**

- (1) The scheme owner must have procedures for:
  - a) identifying and reporting any client non-conformance with a requirement of this Administrative Standard or the scheme rules;
  - b) identifying and monitoring corrective actions that clients must carry out.
- (2) A non-certifying scheme owner must have procedures to ensure that any conformity assessment bodies they contracted out their conformity assessment services to have their own procedures covering the matters in sub clause (1).

#### **4.7.13 Termination, suspension or withdrawal of conformity assessment services under the scheme**

- (1) The scheme owner must have procedures for ensuring that termination, suspension or withdrawal of conformity assessment services comply with the scheme rules.
- (2) A non-certifying scheme owner must have procedures to ensure that any conformity assessment bodies they contracted out their conformity assessment services to have their own procedures covering the matters in sub clause (1).

#### **4.7.14 Records**

- (1) The scheme owner must have procedures for keeping the following records and reports for at least 4 years:
  - a) records relating to staff members' competency and performance:
  - b) inspection and surveillance reports:
  - c) records relating to each client or product approved under the scheme:
  - d) records and reports of any non-conformances or compliance issues.
- (2) A non-certifying scheme owner must ensure that any conformity assessment bodies they contracted out their conformity assessment services to have their own procedures covering the matters in sub clause (1).

#### **4.7.15 Complaints and disputes**

- (1) The scheme owner must have procedures for investigating and managing complaints and disputes relating to:
  - a) approved clients under the scheme:



- b) the performance of any of the scheme owner's staff involved in the development, implementation and ongoing maintenance of the scheme.
- (2) A non-certifying scheme owner must ensure that any conformity assessment bodies they contracted out their conformity assessment services to have their own procedures covering the matters in sub clause (1);
- (3) The scheme owner or non-certifying scheme owner must have procedures to ensure that the decision resolving the complaint or appeal is made by, or reviewed and approved by, person(s) not involved in the conformity assessment activities related to the complaint or appeal.

#### **4.7.16 Internal management**

- (1) The scheme owner or non-certifying scheme owner must have procedures for:
  - a) oversight of the scheme by the relevant internal management team; and
  - b) providing for the regular review of the QMS.
- (2) The non-certifying scheme owner must ensure that any conformity assessment bodies they contracted out their conformity assessment services to have their own procedures covering:
  - a) oversight of conformity assessment services under the scheme by the relevant internal management team; and
  - b) providing for the regular review of the conformity assessment body's QMS.

#### **4.7.17 Internal audits**

- (1) The scheme owner or where applicable the non-certifying scheme owner must have procedures for:
  - a) internal audits including frequency and scope (e.g. once a year or review broken up into segments (or rolling internal audits) completed within a 12-month timeframe; and
  - b) the competency of internal auditors, documenting audit reports and for implementing audit recommendations or corrective actions.
- (2) The non-certifying scheme owner must ensure that any conformity assessment bodies they contracted out their conformity assessment services to have their own procedures covering the matters in sub clause (1).

## Part 5: Scheme rules requirements

### 5.1 Purpose of this part

- (1) This part sets out the minimum contents for a scheme owner's or non-certifying scheme owner's scheme rules.

### 5.2 Form and contents of scheme rules – minimum requirements

- (1) A scheme owner or non-certifying scheme owner must ensure that scheme rules are in written form and, at a minimum, contain the following components (where applicable):
  - a) the eligibility criteria for clients under the scheme;
  - b) the definition of grass-fed aligned to this Administrative Standard;
  - c) the application process for clients to join the scheme;
  - d) a directory of certified clients and requirements for adding and removing clients to and from the list;
  - e) requirements relating to labelling (including use of scheme logo or brand), traceability, identification and differentiation;
  - f) the requirements for ongoing performance-based verification by an accredited conformance assessment body to verify continuous compliance with the scheme (frequency, scope, assigning of outcomes) in accordance with Part 6 of this Administrative Standard;
  - g) management of non-conformance;
  - h) requirements for suspension, withdrawal or termination of approval in the case of serious or repeated non-conformance;
  - i) requirements for notifying or consulting on material changes to the scheme;
  - j) fees;
  - k) complaints and dispute resolution.

## Part 6: Grass-fed attributes

### 6.1 Purpose of this part

- (1) This part sets out the requirements that the following clients and products must meet for grass-fed certification by a scheme owner or an independent third-party conformity assessment body or grass-fed claims to be made under this Administrative Standard:
  - a) farm dairy operator extracting raw milk from dairy animals;
  - b) dairy processors processing dairy products derived from milk of dairy animals;
  - c) dairy products derived from milk of dairy animals.
- (2) For grass-fed certification by a scheme owner or an independent third-party conformity assessment body or claims to be made under this Administrative Standard, a farm dairy operator must meet the requirements in clause 6.2, a dairy processor the requirements in clause 6.3, and dairy product the requirements in clause 6.4.
- (3) For the avoidance of doubt, grass-fed certification by scheme owners and conformity assessment bodies will only apply to matters in clauses 6.2 and 6.3 and does not include any consignment-based certification.

### 6.2 Farm dairy operator requirements

- (1) The requirements in sub-clauses (2) to (6) are to be used where an individual farm dairy operator wishes to have their farm dairy operation certified by a scheme owner or conformity assessment body to this Administrative Standard.
- (2) Dairy animals from the farms of the farm dairy operator must on average graze pasture or forage crops at least 340-days per year for at least 8-hours per day.
- (3) The assessment of conformity to the days grazing requirement in sub-clause (2), must be calculated using the method in Schedule 1.
- (4) Dairy animals' diets from the farms of the farm dairy operator must on average constitute at least 90% (freshweight) grass-fed feed types as listed in Schedule 2.
- (5) The assessment of conformity to the grass-fed requirement in sub-clause (4), must be calculated using the method in Schedule 3.
- (6) A farm dairy operator must keep records of:
  - a) types, numbers and production of dairy animals as required for Schedule 3;
  - b) types and amounts of crops and supplementary feeds as required for Schedule 3;
  - c) the time dairy animals spend off pasture and/ or forage crops, including times where this is related to an adverse event as required for Schedule 1.

### 6.3 Dairy processor requirements

- (1) The requirements in 6.3.1 and 6.3.2 are to be used where a Dairy Processor wishes to have a scheme owner or conformity assessment body certify its:
  - a) total annual milk pool to this Administrative Standard (6.3.1 sub-clauses (2) to (12)); or
  - b) a physically segregated component of the total milk pool to this Administrative Standard (6.3.2 sub-clause (1)).

### **6.3.1 Grass-fed certification by a scheme owner or an independent third-party conformity assessment body of total annual milk pool**

- (1) Dairy animals that comprise the dairy processors annual milk pool must on average graze pasture or forage crops at least 340-days per year for at least 8-hours per day.
- (2) The assessment of conformity to the days grazing requirement in sub-clause (1), must be calculated using the method in Schedule 1.
- (3) The diets of dairy animals that comprise the dairy processors annual milk pool must constitute, on a 3-year rolling average, at least 90% (freshweight) grass-fed feed types as listed in Schedule 2.
- (4) The assessment of conformity to the grass-fed requirement in sub-clause (3), must be calculated using the method in Schedule 3.
- (5) Farm dairy operators supplying the annual milk pool must keep records of:
  - a) types, numbers and production of dairy animals as required for Schedule 3;
  - b) types and amounts of crops and supplementary feeds as required for Schedule 3;
  - c) the time dairy animals spend off pasture and/ or forage crops, including times where this is related to an adverse event as required for Schedule 1.
- (6) A dairy processor must have a documented system in place to demonstrate how it collects, verifies and manages the quality of the data from farm dairy operators supplying its annual milk pool.
- (7) The system for collecting data from farm dairy operators supplying the annual milk pool should ensure greater than 80% of farm dairy operators provide data for the annual milk pool calculation.
- (8) Subject to sub clauses (9) – (11), the system for verifying data from farm dairy operators supplying the annual milk pool should ensure greater than 33% of farm dairy operators have their data verified annually so that all the farm dairy operators (100%) have their data verified over a 3-year cycle.
- (9) Where adverse events or extenuating circumstances result in a dairy processor having to receive milk from another dairy processor, this must be recorded, including the impact on the annual milk pool.
- (10) Where a dairy processor (principal dairy processor) has a contractual arrangement with another dairy processor (agent dairy processor) who is not certified to the relevant scheme under the Administrative Standard to collect their milk pool for short periods, i.e., during planned plant maintenance, the collection and verification of data from these farm dairy operators is not required if the volume of milk collected constitutes less than 5% of the total annual milk pool of the principal dairy processor.
- (11) Where a dairy processor (principal dairy processor) has a contractual arrangement with another dairy processor (agent dairy processor) who is certified to the relevant scheme under the Administrative Standard to collect their milk pool for short periods, i.e., during planned plant maintenance, the collection and verification of data from these farm dairy operators is not required if the agent dairy processor provides a copy of their certificate to the principal dairy processor.

### **6.3.2 Grass-fed certification by a scheme owner or an independent third-party conformity assessment body of a physically segregated component of annual milk pool**

- (1) Where a dairy processor wishes to have a physically segregated component of the total milk pool certified to this Administrative Standard:
  - a) the requirements in clause 6.3.1(1) – (11) applies;
  - b) the dairy processor must demonstrate physical separation of the grass-fed milk pool to show that the grass-fed and non-grass-fed milk pool have not been mixed during milk collection and/ or product manufacturing, and the dairy processor can only claim products are certified as grass-fed where such products are manufactured from the grass-fed milk pool.

## 6.4 Dairy product requirements

- (1) Dairy products intended to be labelled by the clients or certified by the scheme owner or the relevant conformity assessment body as grass-fed under this Administrative Standard must be processed from dairy material by dairy processors or farm dairy operators certified by the scheme owner or the relevant conformity assessment body in accordance with clauses 6.2 and 6.3.

## Part 7: MPI listing of grass-fed assurance schemes

### 7.1 Purpose of this part

- (1) This part sets out the process that scheme owners and non-certifying scheme owners should follow to have their scheme listed by MPI as confirmation of their compliance with this Administrative Standard. A diagram of the listing process is provided in Schedule 4.

### 7.2 MPI to keep and maintain a list of schemes that comply with the Administrative Standard

- (1) MPI will keep and maintain a list of all the schemes it has confirmed as meeting the application requirements in clause 7.3.
- (2) The list will be published on the MPI website and contain the following information:
  - a) the name of the scheme owner or non-certifying scheme owner; and
  - b) the name of the scheme;
  - c) the date of listing and the expiry date; and
  - d) the name of the accreditation body or independent conformity assessment body that endorsed the scheme and the date of endorsement; or
  - e) the name of:
    - i) the accreditation body that accredited the scheme owner or non-certifying scheme owner to ISO17020 or ISO17065 or endorsed the scheme owner's or non-certifying scheme owner's QMS; or
    - ii) the name of the independent conformity assessment body that assessed and endorsed the scheme owner's or non-certifying scheme owner's QMS and the date of assessment.

### 7.3 Application for listing

- (1) A scheme owner or non-certifying scheme owner should apply for listing in the form made available by MPI.
- (2) Subject to Part 8 of this Administrative Standard, the application form should contain the following information:
  - a) the name and address of the scheme owner or non-certifying scheme owner (including electronic address);
  - b) the name of the scheme; and
  - c) either of the following:
    - i) the certificate of accreditation of the scheme owner or non-certifying scheme owner issued by a relevant accreditation body confirming the scheme owner or non-certifying scheme owner is accredited to either ISO17020 or ISO17065; or
    - ii) the assessment report from the independent conformity assessment body that assessed and endorsed the scheme owner's or non-certifying scheme owner's QMS; and
  - d) either of the following:
    - i) the letter of endorsement issued by a relevant accreditation body confirming that the scheme has been endorsed; or
    - ii) the assessment report issued by an independent conformity assessment body confirming that the scheme complies with the requirements of this Administrative Standard; and
  - e) the application fee.

## **7.4 Refusal to process application if application is incomplete or if fee is not paid**

- (1) MPI will not process an application that does not comply with clauses 7.3.

## **7.5 Request for further information**

- (1) MPI may request further information from a scheme owner or non-certifying scheme owner to facilitate the assessment of its application.
- (2) The scheme owner or non-certifying scheme owner will endeavour to provide the information within two weeks of the request being made or any such timeframe that MPI deems reasonable under the circumstances.

## **7.6 Approval of listing**

- (1) MPI will approve a scheme owner's or non-certifying scheme owner's application where all of the information required in clause 7.3 has been provided.
- (2) Once listing is granted, MPI will:
  - a) add the relevant details to the list of schemes as specified in clause 7.2;
  - b) notify the scheme owner or non-certifying scheme owner of the listing by providing a listing letter and recognition document.

## **7.7 Refusal of listing**

- (1) Where MPI refuses a listing application because it is not satisfied of the matters in clause 7.6, MPI will:
  - a) notify the scheme owner or non-certifying scheme owner in writing giving reasons;
  - b) give the scheme owner or non-certifying scheme owner a reasonable opportunity to make a submission before making a final decision.
- (2) MPI will consider any submissions before making a final decision and once the final decision is made, the matter is considered closed.

## **7.8 Suspension of listing**

- (1) MPI will suspend the listing of a scheme if:
  - a) the relevant accreditation body has suspended the scheme owner's or non-certifying scheme owner's accreditation or the scheme's endorsement; or
  - b) a subsequent assessment of the scheme owner's or non-certifying scheme owner's QMS or operations by an independent conformity assessment body returns an unacceptable outcome.
- (2) Before suspending a listing, MPI will:
  - a) notify the scheme owner or non-certifying scheme owner in writing giving reasons; and
  - b) give the scheme owner or non-certifying scheme owner a reasonable opportunity to respond before making a final decision.
- (3) Where a suspension has been issued:
  - a) MPI will notify the scheme owner or non-certifying scheme owner of the suspension giving reasons, including the period of suspension and any deficiencies that need to be addressed;
  - b) change the status of the scheme's listing on the published list to "Suspended".

- (4) MPI will only lift the suspension if written confirmation is provided from the relevant accreditation body or independent conformity assessment body that the reasons for its suspension have been sufficiently addressed.

## 7.9 Consequences of suspension

- (1) Where MPI has suspended the listing of a scheme:
  - a) it will also suspend any endorsement of the scheme as complying with this Administrative Standard; and
  - b) from the date of suspension, the scheme owner or non-certifying scheme owner must not make any claim, certification or assurances to state, suggest or imply that a product, process, service, or system complies with this Administrative Standard; and
  - c) any certification or assurances issued by the scheme owner or an independent third-party conformity assessment body on behalf of a non-certifying scheme owner to a client in relation to a product, process, service, or system under this Administrative Standard prior to the suspension remains valid unless subject to the non-compliance.

## 7.10 Withdrawal or surrender of listing

- (1) A scheme owner or non-certifying scheme owner may withdraw or surrender its listing or its participation under this Administrative Standard at any time and for any reason.

## 7.11 Changes to listing

- (1) Scheme owners and non-certifying scheme owners shall notify MPI of any changes in the information provided in their initial application under clause 7.3.
- (2) A change application should be submitted in the form and manner made available by MPI and should include the description of the change, any relevant supporting documentation, and the application fee.
- (3) Upon receipt of a renewal application that complies with the above, MPI will:
  - a) make the necessary changes to the public list referred to in clause 7.2;
  - b) notify the scheme owner or non-certifying scheme owner in writing to confirm that the changes have been made.

## 7.12 Renewal of listing

- (1) Scheme owners and non-certifying scheme owners shall renew their listings every 12 months.
- (2) A renewal application should be submitted in the form and manner made available by MPI and should include:
  - a) either of the following documentation:
    - i) written confirmation of ongoing accreditation of the scheme owner or non-certifying scheme owner to ISO17020 or ISO17065 from the relevant accreditation body (accreditation certificate); or
    - ii) written confirmation of ongoing endorsement of the scheme owner's or non-certifying scheme owner's QMS from the relevant accreditation body or independent conformity assessment body (latest QMS assessment report); and
  - b) written confirmation of ongoing endorsement of the scheme by the relevant accreditation body or independent conformity assessment body;
  - c) the application fee.



- (3) Upon receipt of a renewal application that complies with the above, MPI will:
- a) renew the listing of the scheme for a period of 12 months;
  - b) change the listing expiry date on the published list;
  - c) notify the scheme owner or non-certifying scheme owner of the renewal with the revised listing letter and recognition document.

## Part 8: Transitional provisions for continuing schemes

### 8.1 Continuing grass-fed schemes

- (1) Under this part, a **continuing grass-fed scheme** means a grass-fed scheme owned and operated by a scheme owner or on behalf of a non-certifying scheme owner before the commencement of this Administrative Standard.
- (2) From the date of commencement of this Administrative Standard, a continuing grass-fed scheme is deemed to meet the requirements of this Administrative Standard if:
  - a) the scheme owner or non-certifying scheme owner arranges for an independent conformity assessment body to carry out an interim desktop assessment of the scheme and QMS against the requirements of the Administrative Standard; and
  - b) the independent conformity assessment body endorses the scheme as meeting the requirements of the Administrative Standard.
- (3) The scheme owner or non-certifying scheme owner should provide the interim assessment report to MPI as part of their application.
- (4) The scheme owner or non-certifying scheme owner must comply with the relevant eligibility requirements in clause 4.2 and 4.3 respectively within 12 months of the commencement of the Administrative Standard, or where the scheme owner or non-certifying scheme owner chooses to apply to MPI for listing, within 12 months of the listing date.

## Schedule 1: Days grazing calculation

### 1. Purpose of the calculation method

- (1) The intent of this method is to provide a simple calculation of the time (in days per year) dairy animals graze pasture or forage crops for greater than 8-hours per day.
- (2) The calculation excludes the time dairy animals spend off pasture or forage crops for animal management.
- (3) The calculation may also exclude the time dairy animals spend off pasture or forage crops to safeguard animals or the environment from adverse events.
- (4) Data from the previous full milking season should be used for the calculation.

### 2. Calculation method

- (1) To calculate the days per year dairy animals graze pasture or forage crops for greater than 8-hours per day, the following method should be used:
  - a) For each month, calculate the potential time (in hours per day) that dairy animals could graze pasture or forage crops by subtracting the hours per day for animal management from 24-hours  
*Where no animal management data is collected, 3-hours per day should be used for lactating dairy animals and 0-hours per day for non-lactating dairy animals.*
  - b) For each month, record the number of days dairy animals spend on the following structures:
    - i) Feed pads (covered and uncovered)
    - ii) Stand-off or Loafing pads (covered and uncovered)
    - iii) Loose housed barns (includes slatted concrete, e.g., herd home, or soft bedding material, e.g., composting barn)
    - iv) Free stall barns (housed dairy production systems)
  - c) For each month where dairy animals spend time on structures, calculate the average number of hours per day dairy animals spend on these.  
*It should be assumed all dairy animals are on structures unless data is available to support an alternative assumption.*
  - d) For each month, calculate the number of days where dairy animals graze pasture or forage crops for less than 8-hours per day - 'non-grazing day':
    - i) Subtract the average number of hours per day dairy animals spend on structures calculated in b) from the potential hours per day dairy animals could graze pasture or forage calculated in a).
    - ii) Where this time is less than 8-hours then this is recorded as a 'non-grazing day'.
    - iii) For months with 'non-grazing days', adjust the number of 'non-grazing' days for that month using the number of days dairy animals spend on structures recorded in c).
- (2) To calculate the number of days per year dairy animals graze pasture or forage crops for greater than 8-hours per day, sum the number 'non-grazing' days for each month and subtract this from the days in the year.
- (3) For the milk pool calculation, sum the number of days per year each farm dairy operator's dairy animals graze pasture or forage crops and then divide this by the number of farm dairy operators from which the data has been collected.
- (4) For years in which adverse events occurred (and there is data to support this), the days dairy animals spend off pasture due to adverse events should be listed alongside the number of days per year animals graze pasture or forage crops for greater than 8-hours.

## Schedule 2: Feed types

**Table 1: Grass-Fed Feed Types**

	Metabolisable Energy <sup>1</sup>	Dry Matter <sup>2</sup>
	(MJME/ kg DM)	(%)
<b>Pasture</b>		
Grazed Pasture <sup>3</sup> (grass or mixed sward of grass(es) and/ or forbs)	10.6	18
Grazed Kikuyu Pasture	9.0	25
<b>Supplementary feeds (conserved feeds)</b>		
Barley Baleage/ Silage (pre dough stage)	9.8	33
Barley Straw	6.9	85
Lucerne Hay	9.4	85
Lucerne Baleage/ Silage	10	28
Maize Straw/ Corn Stover	6.9	85
Oat Baleage/ Silage (pre dough stage)	8.5	33
Oat Straw	6.9	85
Pasture Baleage/ Haylage	10	35
Pasture Hay	8.5	85
Pasture Silage	10	25
Pea Straw/ Straw Silage	6.9	85
Plantain Baleage/ Silage	8.9	29
Ryegrass Straw	6.9	85
Sorghum Baleage/ Silage (pre dough stage)	8.1	33
Triticale Baleage/ Silage (pre dough stage)	8.6	33
Wheat Baleage/ Silage (pre dough stage)	9.5	33
Wheat Straw	6.9	85

<sup>1</sup> Sources of data include:

- MPI Agricultural GHG emissions methodology, Appendix 4 <https://www.mpi.govt.nz/dmsdocument/66654-New-Zealand-Farm-Emissions-Method-A-farm-level-approach-for-estimating-biogenic-emissions>
- DairyNZ feed values, <https://www.dairynz.co.nz/feed/fundamentals/feed-values/>
- Overseer Technical Manuals - Characteristics of Pastures; Supplements
  - o <https://support.overseer.org.nz/hc/en-us/articles/37861650371865-Overseer-Technical-Manual-Characteristics-of-Pastures>
  - o <https://support.overseer.org.nz/hc/en-us/articles/37862069704473-Overseer-Technical-Manual-Supplements>
- Manufacturer product data sheets

<sup>2</sup> Sources of data include the DairyNZ feed values, Overseer Technical Manuals and manufacturer product data sheets.

<sup>3</sup> Seasonal and/ or regional variations in the ME value and DM% of pasture may be considered in the grass-fed calculation. Sources of data for this include the MPI Agricultural GHG emissions methodology, Appendix 4; DairyNZ feed values; Overseer Technical Manual: Characteristics of pastures.

	Metabolisable Energy <sup>1</sup>	Dry Matter <sup>2</sup>
	(MJME/ kg DM)	(%)
<b>Crops for grazing</b>		
Barley (greenfeed pre-dough stage)	9.8	14
Chicory	12.8	10
Fodderbeet	12.1	14
Japanese Millet	9	14
Kale	12.7	15
Lucerne	11	24
Maize (greenfeed pre-dough stage)	9.5	22
Oat (greenfeed pre-dough stage)	9	14
Plantain	11.5	14
Rape	13	12
Raphno	13.3	12
Rye Corn (greenfeed pre-dough stage)	12.5	14
Sorghum (greenfeed pre-dough stage)	9	14
Sugar Beet	11	24
Sulla	10	15
Swede	13.5	11
Triticale (greenfeed pre-dough stage)	8.6	14
Turnip	13.5	10
Wheat (greenfeed pre-dough stage)	9.5	14

**Table 2: Non-Grass-Fed Feed Types**

	Metabolisable Energy <sup>4</sup>	Dry Matter <sup>5</sup>
	(MJME/ kg DM)	(%)
<b>Supplementary feeds (concentrates, byproducts and food wastes)</b>		
Apple Pomace	13	65
Apples	11.9	18

<sup>4</sup> Sources of data include:

- MPI Agricultural GHG emissions methodology, Appendix 4 <https://www.mpi.govt.nz/dmsdocument/66654-New-Zealand-Farm-Emissions-Method-A-farm-level-approach-for-estimating-biogenic-emissions>
- DairyNZ feed values, <https://www.dairynz.co.nz/feed/fundamentals/feed-values/>
- Overseer Technical Manuals - Characteristics of Pastures; Supplements
  - o <https://support.overseer.org.nz/hc/en-us/articles/37861650371865-Overseer-Technical-Manual-Characteristics-of-Pastures>
  - o <https://support.overseer.org.nz/hc/en-us/articles/37862069704473-Overseer-Technical-Manual-Supplements>
- Manufacturer product data sheets

<sup>5</sup> Sources of data include the DairyNZ feed values, Overseer Technical Manuals and manufacturer product data sheets.

	Metabolisable Energy <sup>4</sup>	Dry Matter <sup>5</sup>
	(MJME/ kg DM)	(%)
Asparagus	12	7
Barley Grain	13	88
Barley Silage (dough stage)	9.8	33
Beans	10.5	88
Bread	14	63
Brewers Grains	10	24
Brewers Yeast	11.5	25
Broll/ Bran/ Wheat Middlings	11.1	88
Bypass Fat/ Tallow	31	99
Cabbage	13	9
Canola	11	88
Canola Meal	11.5	90
Carrots	13.3	13
Chickpea	10.5	88
Citrus Pulp	12.6	20
Condensed Distillers Syrup	15	42
Copra Meal	12.9	88
Corn Grits/ Hominy/ Gluten	13.5	88
Corn Steep Liquor	8.2	45
Cotton Seed	12	88
Cotton Seed Meal	11.1	89
Dried Distillers Grain	12.8	90
Dried Distillers Grain (corn + maize)	13.5	88
Eggplant Fruit	13	8
Fishmeal	11	88
Grape Marc	13	38
Grape Pomace	13	38
Kiwifruit	12	15
Lentil	10.5	88
Linseed	10.5	88
Lucerne Meal	10	85
Lupin	12.1	89
Maize Grain/ Kibbled	13.8	88
Maize Silage	10.9	33
Millscreen	13	25

	Metabolisable Energy <sup>4</sup>	Dry Matter <sup>5</sup>
	(MJME/ kg DM)	(%)
Molasses	12	75
Oat Hull Pellets	11	90
Oat Silage (dough stage)	9	25
Oat Grain	11.5	88
Onions	12	10
Palm Kernel Extract	11.6	88
Papaya	12	8
Pea Silage	8.8	33
Peas	13.2	88
Pineapple	10.8	11
Pollard	11	88
Potatoes	12.5	20
Prolif	11.3	38
Sorghum Silage (dough stage)	8.1	33
Soyabean Hull	12	88
Soyabean Meal	12.8	88
Squash/ Pumpkins	13	25
Sunflower Seed	10.5	88
Sunflower Pellets	10.7	89
Sweetcorn Waste	8	32
Tapioca	11.3	88
Triticale Silage (dough stage)	8.6	33
Urea	0	99
Wheat Grain	13.4	88
Wheat Silage (dough stage)	9.5	33
Whey Concentrate	11.3	18

### Feed Types Not Contained in the Grass-Fed Feed Type List

- Where a feed type is not contained in the grass-fed feed type list above, either:
  - A feed type of similar characteristic/ physiology may be selected; or
  - The manufacturers product data sheet may be used where this can be shown to be robust and credible; or
  - Where no similar feed or manufacturer data is available, the following generic values should be applied:

Feed Type	Metabolisable Energy	Dry Matter
	(MJME/ kg DM)	(%)
Concentrates	13	88
Food Wastes	12.1	12

**Utilisation Rates**

- For forage crops a utilisation rate of 80% should be used
- For supplements fed out to pasture a utilisation rate of 80% should be used
- For supplements fed on structures a utilisation rate of 90% should be used
- Where no data is available around supplements fed out to pasture or supplements fed on structures a utilisation rate of 85% should be used for all supplements fed.



## Schedule 3: Calculation of grass-fed percentage for dairy animals

### 1. Purpose of calculation method

- (1) The intent of this method is to determine the percentage, on a freshweight basis, of grass-fed feed types in the diet of a dairy animal.
- (2) The calculation may exclude non-grass-fed types fed to dairy animals during adverse events.
- (3) Data from the previous full milk production season should be used for the calculation.

### 2. Calculation method

- (1) To calculate the grass-fed percentage the following methodology should be used:
  - a) Calculate the total metabolisable energy requirement for dairy animal maintenance, grazing, gestation and milk production.

*The method set out in Section 3: Total Metabolisable Energy Requirements and Section 4: Diet Composition, of the New Zealand Farm Emissions Method (2024)<sup>6</sup>, or an equivalent method should be used for this.*
  - b) Calculate the metabolisable energy from non-grass-fed feed types in dry matter using farm records of the tonnes of each feed type fed, alongside the related metabolisable energy values and dry matter freshweight conversion factors in Table 2 Schedule 2 and utilisation rates in Utilisation Rates Schedule 2.
  - c) Calculate the metabolisable energy required from grass-fed feed types by subtracting the total metabolisable energy provided by non-grass-fed feed types from the total metabolisable energy requirement.
  - d) Calculate the metabolisable energy from grass-fed crops for grazing and supplementary feeds in dry matter, using the values in Schedule 2:
    - i) For grass-fed crops use farm records of the tonnes of each feed type fed, alongside the related metabolisable energy values and dry matter freshweight conversion factors in Table 1 Schedule 2 and utilisation rates in Utilisation Rates Schedule 2.
    - ii) For grass-fed supplementary feeds use farm records of the tonnes of each feed type fed, alongside the related metabolisable energy values and dry matter freshweight conversion factors in Table 1 Schedule 2 and utilisation rates in Utilisation Rates Schedule 2.
  - e) Calculate the metabolisable energy required from Grazed Pasture or Grazed Kikuyu Pasture, using the values in Table 1 Schedule 2, by subtracting the metabolisable energy from grass-fed crops for grazing and supplementary feeds from the metabolisable energy required from grass-fed feed types.
  - f) Calculate the tonnes of Grazed Pasture or Grazed Kikuyu Pasture in dry matter, by dividing the metabolisable energy required from pasture by the pasture metabolisable energy value in Table 1 Schedule 2.
  - g) Convert all grass-fed and non-grass-fed types to tonnes fed in freshweight using Table 1 Schedule 2 and Table 2 Schedule 2 respectively.
  - h) Calculate the grass-fed feed percentage by dividing the total tonnes of grass-fed feed types fed by the total tonnes of all feed fed.

<sup>6</sup> MPI (2024), New Zealand Farm Emissions Method: A farm-level approach for estimating biogenic emissions, Technical Paper No: 2024/27

Schedule 4: MPI scheme listing process flowchart

