

PREPARING FOR COVID-19 ON-FARM CHECKLIST FOR FARMERS

It's only a matter of time before a positive case of COVID-19 turns up on-farm. Is your business prepared if one does?

It's important you have a plan to ensure your farm can continue to operate if you, an employee, or a family member contracts COVID-19. You may be required to leave your property quickly.

Having a plan will help give you peace of mind that others will be able to step in and help.

This document is intended to help you create a plan in the event you are required to leave your property and are unable to look after your animals, staff and business. The detail contained in your plan is unique to your own property and circumstances to allow family, friends or neighbours to come in and tend to the immediate needs of your livestock.

In the situation that a COVID-19 positive case or close contact is located on your farm, it will also help the Ministry of Health decide the best place for you and those around you to isolate. Having the right information and a plan could help you or your staff stay on farm.

Use the questions below as a guide to work out how ready you are to deal with a case of COVID-19 on your farm. Circle or tick the answers that apply to you. **It is important that all staff and family have a copy of the completed plan as well as an easy to access copy available.**

We have broken the plan into four sections. These are:

- Section 1:** About your farm – How it works.
- Section 2:** COVID-19 on farm – the next 14 - 21 days
- Section 3:** Information to assist the Medical Officer of Health
- Section 4:** Personal wellbeing

We encourage you to involve your staff (if you have them) and your family with this planning. Please remember, this checklist is not exhaustive and you can add anything that will assist your planning.

Supported by:



Inconjunction with:



Section 1: Your Farm

Information to assist someone coming onto your farm to undertake daily duties if you are unable to.

List key industry contacts who will visit the farm or provide advice <i>Some suggestions below</i>		
Staff: Feed supplier: Vet: Processor: Transport company: Fuel supplier: Electrician: Stock agent: Consultant: Mechanic: Shearing contractor: Milk company: Seed company: Other:		
Back up team (i.e. friends, neighbours, family)	Name:	Number:
Dogs' names, feed requirements and location of dog food (include pets here):		
Animal welfare – Storage locations and instructions (medicines, covers, lifters, calving gear etc.):		
How the water / irrigation system works:		
Fuel and chemical location and storage instructions:		
Instructions for other systems: power, ventilation control, automated feeding:		
Plant and machinery – Tips and tricks (Motorbike, tractor, dairy platform etc.):		
Access to planning tools (wifi password, coverage details etc.):		

To minimise the risk of COVID-19 can you please:	Yes	No
Ask everyone to wear a face mask while on farm		
Supply hand sanitizer for use before doing anything on farm		
Ensure physical distancing be maintained – 1m minimum		
Minimise contact with suppliers, where possible contactless drop off/pick up – create a zone?		
Communicate your farm protocols to suppliers/visitors when pick up/delivery is required		
Minimise physical sharing of documents – email photo and txt docs through where possible		
Support all team members and their close contacts to be vaccinated		
Scan in when off farm for supplies/living life		
Isolate bubbles between yourself and relief staff or work in teams		
Use gloves in enclosed spaces/wipe down high traffic surfaces with cleaning agent		
Use Virkon spray or equivalent on gear between users/pickup gear from service providers		

Attached to this plan:

☐ Farm Management Plan

☐ Farm Hazard Map

☐ Health & Safety Plan

☐ Animal Health Plan

Section 2: COVID-19 on farm - the next 14-21 days

What daily and weekly tasks must happen on the farm while I am isolated for 14 to 21 days? *Please list below:*

What things have I planned to do in the next 14-21 days?

Does this involve people coming onto the farm, e.g. new fencing/building maintenance, AI technicians, vets?

Please list below:

Date	Task	Does this involve visitors to farm? Y/N	Can this be delayed? Y/N

What stock classes are on farm at present? What are their feed and water requirements, including pets?

Please list below:

Stock classes and location	Daily feed requirements	Feed location

Watering instructions:

Stock movements on farm; paddock rotation and/or pens

Please list below:

What stock classes are planned to move on or off the farm in the next 14 to 21 days: how many and when?

Please list below:

Can this be done in a contactless way including ASD forms?

Stock classes	Number	Date

Transporter contact details and instructions:

Can I split my workers into shifts (bubbles) to avoid them encountering contact with each other?

Yes No

Shift (Bubble) details, duties and instructions:

Can I manage my staff/run the farm remotely, by laptop/smartphone, while I am isolated? *(Have you practiced doing this?)*

Yes No

Do I have enough face masks, soap, paper towels, disinfectant and hand sanitiser for people coming onto the farm while I am isolated (14 - 21 days)?

Location:

Yes No

Do I have somewhere safe and secure for people to dispose of used masks/paper towels?

Location:

Yes No

Are there options on farm for people to isolate, away from the main dwelling(s)

If yes, what and where:

Detail:

Yes No

Additional Information i.e., Would staff be prepared to share a dwelling? Consider options like motorhomes, caravans with access to water, power, gas and internet access. (Please test all facilities are functioning) *Please list below:*

Section 3: Information to assist the Medical Officer of Health

Who is on my farm every day?		
	Who: Write down names you can think of	Number
Staff or employees		
Family (Including yourself)		
Industry people		
Extended family / friends		
Full names and contact details for those on farm		
Full names and contact details for those who visit the farm regularly		
Do I have a contract tracing QR code at the entrance(s) to my farm? ☐ Yes ☐ No		
Where do the staff who work on the farm live?		
If people (other than family members) live on the farm is this: ☐ In the same house as myself ☐ In a separate building(s)		
Have my family, my workers and I been vaccinated against COVID-19? ☐ Yes ☐ No		
If yes, have we had: ☐ 1 shot ☐ 2 shots		
Is anyone on my farm not vaccinated against COVID-19?		
If so, please write their names below, if unsure consider them unvaccinated:		
Do you or anyone else on the farm have health problems, e.g., lung or heart disease, diabetes or other pre-existing conditions that interferes with their health regularly? ☐ Yes ☐ No		
If yes, who & please explain:		

Section 4: Personal wellbeing

Consider the five ways of wellbeing, a proven concept to look after our wellbeing.

What are the things I can do to keep myself physically active? Exercise, stretches, do you need any equipment?
Details
What can I learn or investigate? It's great to keep learning! Read a new book, learn something new, attend online webinars, investigate future plans for the farm, clean out all the files & docs on your computer. <i>(Please consider limiting screen time through regular breaks)</i>
Details
What are the things that I can do to stay in contact with friends and family? Have a meal together via zoom / face time. Make a phone call. Send regular messages.
Details
What are the things that I can do to be mindful? Take some time to reflect on the people and things in your life and appreciate what you have.
Details
What are the things I can do to give? Help yourself by helping others. Who do you know that would benefit from a phone call and a chat? Do you have experience you can pass to others by writing step by step procedures for something or general information?
Details

If your staff, your family or you need to reach out for help:

Ring Rural Support Trust on 0800 787 254

Txt or call 1737 to speak to a trained counsellor