



On-Farm

Quality Assurance Programme



Mission Statement

“To continue developing a profitable deer industry which uses sustainable, acceptable farming systems producing consistent quality products to meet customer requirements”



Chairman

“Ideally, an accredited producer prepares animals to specification, transports them using an accredited transport operator to an accredited plant, having sold them as part of a managed supply programme for a mutually profitable price in a ‘preferred supplier’ relationship with an exporter.”

Tim Aitken, Chairman, DeerQA On-Farm Programme

DeerQA On-Farm Programme

OPERATING STANDARDS

UNCONTROLLED

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FOREWORD

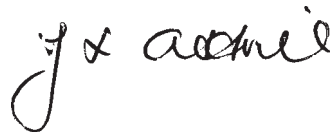
These operating standards describe the minimum standards a deer farmer must satisfy to achieve accreditation under the DeerQA On-Farm Programme.

This On-Farm Programme is part of the deer industry quality assurance programme. The deer processing plants and deer transport operators have produced their own quality programmes. Livestock agents produce their own quality programmes in line with a framework developed by Deer Industry New Zealand. These programmes support Deer Industry New Zealand's pasture to plate quality strategy which ensures New Zealand venison is recognised as a high quality premium product in the international market place.

If you require more information about this Programme, please contact Deer Industry New Zealand, PO Box 10-702, Wellington, Ph: (04) 382-8626 Fax: (04) 382-9143.

APPROVAL SIGNATURES

This manual has been reviewed and approved for use as a standard procedures manual within the New Zealand deer industry by:



Deer Industry New Zealand Representative



DeerQA On-Farm Technical Committee Chairman

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MANUAL HOLDER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

Each manual holder will be responsible for:

- destruction of the out of date manual on receipt of the newly released manual
- ensuring manuals are available for use when required
- protection of manuals from damage, loss and deterioration
- maintaining the confidentiality of the manuals

MANUAL REVIEW PROCESS

The process for review and subsequent amendment of this manual is as follows:

The manual will be reviewed annually by the DeerQA On-Farm Technical Committee.

This review will encompass:

- (a) evaluating change request forms
- (b) formulating amendments if necessary

You can participate in this review process by submitting areas and suggestions for changes to these standards. Just complete the Change Request Form at the back of this standard and send it to the address shown.

NB: Farmers should be aware of Occupational Safety & Health requirements.

Operating Standards

1.0 FACILITIES

Appropriate and suitable facilities must be available to allow handling, treatment and care of the health and welfare needs of the animals. Potential health and injury risks to animals and/or handlers must be minimised.

1.1 DEER SHEDS/YARDS

Standard

Deer sheds/yards shall be designed, constructed and located for the safe and humane confinement and handling of deer.

Qualifiers

To ensure animal safety, protrusions that may cause damage (e.g. gate hinges, gudgeons, gate catches, bolts, nails, wire knots, tie downs) shall be cut flush where practicable or modified to prevent damage to deer:

To ensure animal safety, gaps that may cause injury shall be filled or modified to prevent damage to deer:

Outside yard surfaces shall be constructed in such a manner and of such material as to minimise the presence of mud or dust and ensure safe footing at all times.

Deer shed floor surfaces shall be constructed of permanent material which must:

- *ensure secure footing*
- *ensure safety and freedom from injury for both the deer and handler*
- *the presence of mud and dust is minimised*
- *ensure minimal mud or dust present inside shed*
- *ensure adequate drainage*

There shall be sufficient ventilation and light to ensure the safety and well being of deer and handler.

Walls and gates are to be of substantial construction which prevents injury to deer.

Confinement - Deer sheds/yards shall be constructed so as to safely contain and permit ease of movement of deer.

Recommendations

For fallow the use of netting in confined yards is not recommended.

In high use work areas it is recommended that a permanent cleanable surface is provided.

1.2 LOADING RAMPS

Standard

Loading ramps shall be designed and constructed to allow safe and unobstructed loading and unloading of deer onto and off transport.

Qualifiers

To ensure animal safety, protrusions that may cause damage (e.g. gate hinges, gudgeons, gate

catches, bolts, nails, wire knots, tie downs) shall be cut flush where practicable or modified to prevent damage to deer.

There shall be no gaps which could cause injury to either the deer or handler.

The ramp floor shall be of permanent non-slip design and construction.

Recommendations

- (i) The ramp floor should be easily and safely adjustable and securable at any vehicle height.*
- (ii) The minimum clearance from the top of the ramp to ceiling should be 1500mm.*
- (iii) Walls should be at least 2m above floor when no roof.*
- (iv) Recommended width to be 800-1200mm.*
- (v) A backing gate at the entrance to the ramp may be beneficial in some circumstances to facilitate easy loading of deer.*
- (vi) It is recommended that ramp angles should not exceed 1 in 3 or 20°.*

1.3 DEER HANDLING AND TREATMENT FACILITIES

Standard

Deer handling and treatment facilities relevant to the current farming operation shall be designed, constructed and located to allow safe, hygienic and humane handling for treatment of animals and removal of velvet.

Qualifiers

Where provided, scales, deer restraint, race, tunnel and dark room (for fallow only) shall be designed, constructed and used to ensure the safety and well being of both the deer and handler.

Any storage cupboard shall be locked if used for the storage of drugs, and maintained in an hygienic condition.

Water shall be made available as required by veterinarian and handler.

1.4 ACCESSWAYS

1.4.1 Stock Accessways

Standard

Accessways shall be designed and constructed to allow both unobstructed and safe movement of animals at all times.

Qualifiers

Accessways shall allow for the natural flow of animals. To ensure animal safety, protrusions that may cause damage (e.g. gate hinges, gudgeons, gate catches, bolts, nails, wire knots, tie downs) shall be cut flush where practicable or modified to prevent damage to the deer.

There shall be no barbed wire in laneways.

There shall be no barbed wire within 20m of gates accessing laneways or yards.

1.4.2 Stock Accessways across Public Roads

Standard

When moving deer across public roadways the welfare of the deer and the safety of road users shall be maintained.

Any local and/or national body requirements must be adhered to. These may relate to usage of the road and the appropriate signage.

Recommendations

It is recommended that appropriately placed gates or similar are used to prevent stock escape.

Note

Farmers should be aware of their responsibilities and liabilities with respect to stock on public roads.

1.4.3 Stock Transport Accessways

Standard

Stock transport accessways shall be designed and constructed to allow both unobstructed and safe movement of stock transport at all times.

Qualifiers

The route to the loadout facility for transporter use shall be accessible and safe in all weather conditions. There shall be sufficient area to manoeuvre the stock transporter to enable easy access to loading ramps.

The transporter shall be able to get access to and from the loading facilities under their own traction.

Note

Obstructions can include: trees, vegetation or overhead electric cables that may contact the vehicle.

1.5 GATES

Standard

Gates and gateways shall be designed and constructed to ensure ease of access for deer and machinery and allow the safe and secure movement and containment of deer.

Qualifiers

To ensure animal safety, protrusions that can cause damage (e.g. gate hinges, gudgeons, gate catches, bolts, nails) shall be cut flush where practicable or modified to prevent damage to deer.

Gates opening into paddocks shall be capable of being secured to a point so that animals cannot be trapped between the fence and the gate.

Gates shall be hung and secured to avoid gaps which could give rise to injury to deer.

Note

Secure containment for a boundary gate means stock proof.

1.6 FENCES

Standard

Fences shall be designed, constructed and maintained to safely contain the species of deer farmed.

Qualifiers

To ensure animal safety, protrusions that can cause injury or damage (e.g. gate hinges, wire knots, waratah or standard tie-downs, gate catches) shall be cut flush where practicable or modified to prevent damage to deer.

Barbed wire shall not be used in new fences.

Boundary Fences shall meet the requirements of Appendix.

Boundary fences are to keep infected stock in, as well as out, and prevent escapes.

Should designated areas be deemed special risk, the appropriate DOC standard shall apply.

Where electric fences are used, the power supply to the unit shall be continuous.

Barbed wire may be used as a bottom wire on fences, excluding laneways, to prevent feral animal entry.

Recommendations

High tensile wire is recommended to minimise potential entanglement.

Electric fences are not recommended for fallow deer.

The recommendation is that electric outriggers are not used unless continually powered.

1.7 WATER

Standard

To maintain animal health and welfare and ensure freedom from thirst, an adequate quantity and quality of water shall be provided for all animals.

Qualifiers

Placement and construction of water facilities shall provide for safe and ready access and freedom from thirst.

Recommendations

Farmers should comply with Regulatory Authority requirements.

Avoid pollution of water supplies and waterways.

1.8 POWER SUPPLY

Standard

Where power is supplied to a facility within the deer farm it shall be designed, located and installed in such a manner that it cannot cause injury to deer and people.

Qualifier

All power cables shall be inaccessible to deer, to avoid chewing and entanglement.

1.9 OTHER BUILDINGS

Standard

Other buildings, structures, plant and equipment on the deer farm shall be designed, located and constructed in such a manner that it cannot cause injury to deer and people.

Qualifiers

Other buildings shall be constructed so that there are no protrusions which may injure deer. If deer have access to the inside of the shed (e.g. hayshed etc.) there shall be nothing inside which may be injurious to their well being.

Farm implements, maize silos, diesel tanks or materials likely to be injurious to deer must be either inaccessible to deer or modified so that they will not cause injury.

1.10 SHELTER

Standard

To maintain animal health and welfare requirements the farmer shall take action to protect animals from the adverse effects of the elements.

Qualifiers

Any shelter provided which is accessible to the deer shall not be poisonous or injurious to their health.

Where no natural shelter is present the establishment of shade and shelter is essential.

Where deer are provided undercover facilities for protection from adverse conditions for shelter and welfare needs, for short periods of time, these facilities must meet the recommended guidelines set out in the Guidelines for the Enclosure of Deer.

Note

The industry does not support any indoor production based systems. These systems are ineligible for the industry DeerQA Programme.

2.0 ANIMAL HEALTH, WELFARE & PRODUCTION

To ensure the integrity and status of the deer industry, the farming of deer should be managed so the health and welfare of the animal and handler is paramount and quality products are assured.

2.1 ANIMAL REMEDIES

Standard

To maintain animal health and product quality, animal remedies shall be administered in an approved manner.

Qualifiers

Farmers and staff shall safely store, use and administer animal remedies and shall observe manufacturers and/or veterinary recommendations.

Any facility used for the storage of animal remedies shall be locked and maintained in an hygienic condition.

Animal liveweights must be established to give correct dose as per label instructions.

Withholding times must be strictly observed.

Prescription animal remedies shall only be used after veterinary consultation.

2.2 BREEDING MANAGEMENT

Standard

The farmer shall adopt breeding management techniques which enable the animal's reproductive potential to be expressed and to avoid such things as disease transmission, physical injury and dystocia (fawning problems).

Recommendation

To enhance production genetically superior animals selected through the use of recording objective measurement and selection criteria should be used.

Note

Breeding management means planning, organising and controlling the animal's reproductive capacity to meet the optimum production target of the farm and the welfare of the animal.

2.3 CULLING

Standard

To protect the health status and improve the productive capacity of the herd, undesirable animals shall be removed.

Recommendation

The farmer should understand the procedures required when culling and disposing of undesirable animals.

Note

Undesirable animals may be aged, injured, diseased, of bad temperament, or those that impose a health or safety risk to the herd or handler.

2.4 FARM MANAGEMENT

Standard

The farmer shall, after identifying the customers requirements, use systems which manage resources on a sustainable basis to meet these needs.

Qualifier

The farmer shall adopt production management techniques which enable the optimum genetic potential of individual animals to be expressed to achieve the management objectives for the farm, while ensuring animal welfare needs are met.

Notes

Resources include land, labour, capital and machinery.

Management involves planning, organising, controlling and directing to utilise resources.

2.5 HANDLING

Standard

To ensure that the animal's welfare needs are met, an appropriate level of skill and knowledge is required during handling to minimise stress, injury or risk of disease to deer and to ensure the safety of the handler.

Note

Factors such as mob size, weather conditions, stockmanship, shed and farm design, operational planning, deer species and temperament all influence animal behaviour.

2.6 HYGIENE

Standard

To minimise the spread of pests and disease and enhance product quality, farm management shall ensure clean hygienic facilities are used for handling deer and velvet and that an appropriate whole farm attitude to cleanliness, hygiene and waste disposal is adopted.

2.7 IDENTIFICATION

Standard

A reliable and verifiable identification system is required to meet customer needs and for optimal animal management.

Qualifier

An identification system shall include either:

- *Individual animal identification, or*
- *Colour coded/number coded identification which allows traceback for age and farm of origin.*
- *All deer one month of age and over being moved off the property, shall be moved in accordance with the AHB tagging requirements.*

2.8 KNOWLEDGE & TRAINING

Standard

The farmer shall ensure that deer handlers have either the relevant knowledge and training or appropriate supervision to ensure the animal's health and welfare needs are recognised and met and the handler's safety is ensured.

Farmers shall have an emergency response procedure in place and displayed to ensure that he/she and his/her staff are aware of the steps to take in the event of a human or animal emergency.

Qualifiers

Farmers should be aware that deer have specific seasonal needs, e.g. fawn shelter at fawning and weaning; weaners kept out of exposed paddocks.

To maintain a healthy animal the farmer and his staff should be aware of the disease susceptibility of the species farmed, e.g. fading elk syndrome, facial eczema in fallow.

Note

Handlers include staff, consultants, advisors, agents, veterinarians and visitors.

2.9 NUTRITIONAL MANAGEMENT

Standard

The animal will be able to express its full production potential by the farmer employing optimum nutritional management practices.

To maintain animal health and welfare, animals shall be fed as appropriate to the differing feed requirements of age, breed, sex, size, production systems, season and climate.

Note

Optimum nutritional management includes the provision of adequate fertiliser, minerals, vitamins, water, pasture and browse species, quantity and quality of crops and supplementary feeds.

Fertiliser accreditation programmes will be of assistance.

2.10 PURCHASING

Standard

To maintain herd health only animals which are healthy and disease free shall be purchased.

Qualifier

Any deer offered for sale by public auction shall be weaned no less than 10 days prior to sale.

Recommendations

Use an accredited or reputable agent.

A reputable vendor will freely provide all documentation on health and general status of the deer concerned.

2.11 RECORDS

Standard

Accurate records appropriate to the customers needs and the farm production system shall be kept by farmers giving details of herd health and farm practices which affect animal health and final product quality.

Qualifiers

To function effectively any recording system shall be able to accurately record and recover information relevant to the needs of a farmer's potential customers.

Records shall include:

- *Age*
- *Origin*
- *Animal remedies applications, product name, volume administered and the date*
- *Health status, including any Tb declaration cards and animal status declarations*
- *A minimum 90 days records shall be kept before accreditation will be granted.*
- *Use of vaccines and animal remedies shall be recorded and withholding periods strictly adhered to.*

Note

The farmer should identify the needs of his/her customers and maintain records which guarantee the quality and safety of the product.

2.12 SEPARATION OF AGE/SEX GROUPS

Standard

To aid in the prevention of disease, injury or management problems, deer shall only be farmed and/or transported in mobs which are compatible.

Recommendation

Mixing of different sexes, ages or types should be avoided, unless necessary, e.g. during mating, weaning and velvet removal.

2.13 WEED AND PEST CONTROL

Standard

To maintain animal health and farm productivity, an effective programme shall be implemented to control weeds and pests that present potential health and production risks.

Qualifier

Farmers and staff shall safely use chemicals, herbicides and pesticides and observe manufacturers recommendations concerning withholding periods and provide locked storage.

Note

Farmers should be aware of OSH and local body requirements.

3.0 ENVIRONMENT

Deer Farmers should demonstrate progressive achievement of environmentally sustainable land management. Every deer farmer has a duty to “avoid, remedy or mitigate any adverse effects that their activities may have on the environment.”

Standard

Achieving sustainable land management and sustainable deer farming includes an awareness of environmental risk and developing management techniques to:

- Protect water bodies
- Protect soils from erosion and degradation
- Take specific care of indigenous flora and fauna both on land and in water bodies.

Recommendations

Farmers are encouraged to develop an active risk identification plan that classifies land, water and indigenous vegetation areas of a deer farm, into a minimum of three risk categories - low, medium, high.

Matching of the farm practices to the land capabilities for sustainable production (ie low, medium or high risk), with appropriate livestock husbandry and agricultural farming techniques, that best suits the land being farmed.

Farmers should take practical steps to minimise or avoid the following:

- *Accelerated erosion of farmland.*
- *Accelerated sedimentation and degradation in water bodies.*
- *Stock access to water bodies.*
- *Any adverse effects of deer farming on water quality.*
- *Blocking, impeding or diverting water flow in a river or stream.*

Note

More detailed information regarding Risk Identification and Best Management Practices, to meet the above standards and recommendations will be detailed in the forthcoming Deer Farmers Landcare Manual due for release in May 2004.

4.0 VELVET ANTLER

Velvet production techniques shall ensure the safety and welfare of the animal and the handler in the production of a quality product.

4.1 REMOVAL OF VELVET ANTLER

Standard

Velvet antler removal shall be carried out according to the established Animal Welfare Act and the Code of Recommendations* and in a manner which ensures the welfare of the stag at all stages of the process.

* NAWAC Code of Recommendations and Minimum Standards for the Welfare of Deer During the Removal of Antlers

Qualifiers

Velvet removal includes all activities necessary to safely and humanely remove velvet and return the animal to its normal state.

It is a legal requirement that all velvet antler, including spikes and regrowth, shall only be removed by a registered veterinarian or a certified velvetter.

4.2 VELVET ANTLER & ANTLER MANAGEMENT

(a) Velvet Antler

Standard

Broken or diseased velvet which is likely to cause stress or compromise the welfare of affected stags, shall be attended to immediately.

(b) Hard Antler

Standard

All hard antler or regrowth shall be removed from stags by 1 March to ensure the safety, welfare and health status of the herd and/or handler.

Qualifiers

Hard antler may be left on master stags, or trophy stags for sale that season providing that appropriate management procedures are undertaken to ensure the continued safety and welfare of the stags and their handlers.

Hard antler may be left on master stags, or trophy stags for sale that season provided they are exclusively maintained for the purpose of trophy blocks.

Appropriate management procedures must be demonstrated to ensure the continued safety and welfare of the stags and their handlers.

Spiker antlers may be grown out also provided there is evidence that links this operation solely to trophy blocks or safari parks.

Recommendations

Facilities should be designed to safely handle stags with hard antlers.

Stags with hard antlers should not be contained in paddocks with electric outriggers carrying electric wires or electrical tape.

These animals should have adequate scope within the farm environment to be able to display their normal patterns of behaviour.

These animals should not be held in close confines of small paddocks or enclosures and should never be paddocked adjacent to each other without separation of laneways, shelterbelts or some other barrier.

Farmers should be able to demonstrate skills in handling these animals in any situation of emergencies or animal health issues that may arise.

Evidence of intent of future sale and purchase of spikers to trophy blocks and/or safari parks in the future may be provided through contracts, sale notes or other documents pertaining to intent.

When transporting these animals an approved transport operator with an appropriate crate should be used. Farmers and handlers should be aware of the safety and welfare issues involved at all times. Refer to DeerQA Transport Programme.

4.3 VELVET ANTLER HANDLING & STORAGE

Standard

Farmers must correctly handle, freeze and store velvet.

Qualifiers

Post cut handling shall ensure:

- *velvet is clean*
- *the prevention of blood loss from velvet*
- *velvet is frozen promptly after removal*
- *velvet is tagged by the NVSB approved unique identification system*

Storage/Freezing:

An adequate freezer facility shall

- *freeze velvet rapidly*
- *provide a clean and hygienic environment*
- *maintain velvet in a frozen state*
- *prevent blood loss*
- *store velvet at an angle of 15° prior to and during freezing.*
- *freezer to be dedicated to the freezing and storage of velvet antler only*

Transportation and Delivery:

- *Clean packaging shall be used at all times.*
- *Velvet shall remain frozen during transport.*
- *All velvet antler sold or transferred for sale shall be tagged and receipted at the point of transfer*

Recommendations

Recording:

To improve product quality and animal performance, records should be maintained. These should include:

- *the velvet grade*
- *the velvet weight*
- *style and traits*
- *animal behaviour and response to tranquilising and removal management*

Note

Velvet is a food/pharmaceutical product and shall at all times be handled and treated accordingly.

5.0 TRANSPORT

Standard

To ensure animal health and welfare a transport operator who is accredited to the DeerQA Transport Programme shall be used, where reasonably available.

Deer for transportation shall have no hard antler or velvet growth greater than 60mm in length; the only exception to this being when trophy stags in hard antler are being transported, in which case deer must be placed in individual pens.

Deer shall not be transported until 7 days after velveting except where NaturO™ Rings have been used . Refer to DeerQA Transport Programme.

Deer weaned less than 10 days shall not be presented at public auction.

Where deer are transported at weaning they must proceed directly from farm to farm immediately following weaning and the total duration of yarding and transport shall not exceed six hours. These deer, when weaned less than 10 days, shall not be transported on the same unit as their mothers.

Only fit and healthy deer shall be offered for transport/slaughter.

Groups of deer with young at foot shall not be transported. In exceptional circumstances veterinary or MAF direction shall be sought.

Qualifiers

Deer should be placed in yards a minimum of two hours before transport .These deer should have access to water.

Pregnant hinds due to calve must not be transported (See Recommendations).

Only stags under 2 years of age can be transported to DSPs during the roar.

Individual hinds with their fawn at foot can be transported together in a single pen.

Recommendations

It is recommended, in association with the DeerQA Transport Programme, that:

Where transport is imperative, stags should be kept in age groups and loaded to minimise movement and reduce aggression.

Pregnant hinds should not be transported after 1 October.

It is recommended that all deer, including hinds, be weaned a minimum of 10 days prior to transport.

Note

Transport of newly weaned deer (even short distances, less than 6 hours) can result in stress related illness and behaviour. It is noted from experience that young deer should be weaned at least 10 days prior to transport to avoid compromise to weaner health, wellbeing and productivity.

Velvet antler should not be greater than 60mm in length, measured from the pedicle not the skull and is measure in any direction.

5.1 THE DEER CRATE

Standard

Deer transported by the farmer shall be conveyed in crates which allow for safe, humane and effective transportation.

Farmers transporting their own deer to DSPs in trucks exceeding a gross laden weight of 3.5 tonnes shall have their crate approved under the DeerQA Transport programme. Contact Deer Industry New Zealand.

Qualifiers

A crate shall:

- *have no internal protrusions*
- *provide adequate ventilation*
- *have a sliding rear entrance door, that can be securely fastened*
- *be securely fastened to the conveying vehicle*
- *be of solid construction*
- *provide secure non-slip footing (for instance mesh, rubber matting or wooden slats)*
- *be of appropriate dimensions to ensure the deer's freedom from injury*
- *be purpose built for the species of deer it is designed to carry*

Maximum internal dimensions to not exceed 2.5m x 1.4m (based on 0.4 sq m floor space per 100 kg liveweight deer).

100mm continuous ventilation gap or equivalent along the sides (not rear) of pen.

6.0 QUALITY IMPROVEMENT AND COMMUNICATION

The following recommendations embody the principle of continued improvement within the deer industry.

6.1 COMMUNICATION/PUBLIC PERCEPTION

Recommendations

To enhance public perception of the deer industry the farmer and his/her staff should be aware of the issues concerning animal health and welfare.

The farm should be managed in such a fashion that it enhances the credibility of, and does not bring disrepute to, the programme and the wider deer industry.

6.2 INDUSTRY COMMUNICATION

Recommendation

Open communication and involvement should be maintained with industry services, e.g. veterinarians, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF), Deer Industry New Zealand and NZ Deer Farmers Association (NZDFA) discussion groups and the media.

APPENDIX

BOUNDARY FENCING SPECIFICATIONS

(for Non-Risk / Non-Regulated areas) *

TYPE	SPECIFICATIONS
Notification to DOC	Not required
Species	All deer
Min fence height above ground	1.7m (2m for At Risk / Regulated Areas)
Line wires	Minimum 11 Line wires can be fastened to either side of the post
Wire Spacings	Below 800mm in height - not to exceed 150mm Above 800mm in height - not to exceed 200mm
Height above ground to first wire	No greater than 75mm
Wire gauge	Min. 2.5mm galv high tensile or wire of similar tensile strength.
Post spacings	Max distance - 8m between posts, less under difficult terrain or if Lightweight posts or strainer assemblies are used.
Post sizes	Must be adequate to support the fence and handle animal pressure. <i>NB</i> Beware of posts damaged severely by stag rubbing.
Strainer posts & strain distances	Appropriate to maintain the wire tension on the fences.
Top-up fences	Min. height 1.7m (a) netting - max stay wire spacing 600mm - min 4 line wires - distance between supporting posts must not exceed 8m (b) other - min 4 line wires - vertical supports (battens, posts etc.) every 3m or less - vertical supports must be attached to all line wires to ground level. <i>NB</i> The fence being topped must have at least 7 line wires with appropriate wire spacings and tension. Batten spacings must not exceed 1.2m.
Netting fences	Stay wire spacings: (a) max 450mm up to 1.2m high (b) max 600mm above 1.2m high <i>NB</i> No hinge joint stay wire spacings greater than 300mm to be used.
Batten and wire fences	Batten spacings up to 1.2m in height < 600mm fallow < 1200mm other species Above 1.2m in height < 1200mm fallow < 3000mm other species
Natural barriers and flood gates	Approved on an individual basis.

* Non-Regulated / Non-Risk areas are those areas not deemed Regulated/ At Risk by DOC. Refer your local DOC office if in doubt.

NB Wires shall be strained to a level adequate to achieve a stockproof fence. Advanced corrosion of staples and line wires is not acceptable.

PROPOSED BOUNDARY FENCING REGULATIONS FOR REGULATED/AT - RISK AREAS

TYPE	SPECIFICATIONS
Notification to DOC	Required
Species	All deer
Min fence height above ground	2m
Line wires	13 - all line wires fastened to inside of posts with exception of angle posts)
Wire spacings	Min of 8 wires up to 1.2m high, max of 150mm apart. Min of 5 wires above 1.2m high, max of 250mm apart.
Height above ground to first wire	No greater than 75mm
Batten and stay wire spacings	Netting - max 300mm up to 1.2m high. Above 1.2m max 800mm.. No Hinge joint netting with stay wire spacings greater than 200mm to be used for up to 1.2m in fence height. Battens - Max 600mm apart (fallow); Max 800mm apart. (other deer species)
Wire gauge	2.5mm galv high tensile or wire equal to or of greater tensile strength
Post spacings	Max. 5m
Post sizes	Rounds min. 100mm SED; half rounds 175mm min. face width; quarter rounds 100mm smallest face width. Or posts of similar or greater strength. Min. post length of 2.7m
Strainer posts	Min of 175mm SED; half rounds 175mm min. face width; quarter rounds 100mm smallest face width. Or post length of 2.7m
Strainer distances	Max of 400m
Stays	Min of 120mm SED and min length of 2.7m. Tie backs and internal angle stays are acceptable.
Footings	Responsibility of person erecting the fence to use suitable footings according to soil types, soil acidity and soil conditions.
Top-up fences	Base fence must be in a sound condition, contain min of 8 line wires up to 1.2m with max wire spacings no greater than that listed above.
Gates	Timber min height of 1.9m Rails min 100mm x 25mm. Three uprights (on centred) and two diagonal stays on each side of gate. Min of MS bolts to be used. Rail spacings to .2m high max 100mm apart. Above 1.2 max 150mm apart. Steel min height over frame of 1.9m min wall thickness of 3mm min. Internal dia. 25mm. Gate covered with chain link of max aperture of 75mm and min wire gauge of 3.15mm. Mesh should be laced with min 2mm gauged wire. Hardfill under all external gates.
Gates Hinges	Hinges and gudgeons to be a min of 20mm dia. One hinge reversed or otherwise constructed to prevent the gate from being lifted off.
Gate Locks	Must comprise a sturdy chain and padlock
Hanging Gates	Hung gates must butt against the full inside surface of the latching post and open inwards.
Flood Gates	As approved (should not allow light through).
Staples	Post - min of 50mm in length and min gauge of 4.0mm. Batten - softwood min of 30mm in length and min gauge of 3.15mm. - hardwood min of 27mm x 2.8mm. Steel fasteners for concrete posts can be used.
Netting	No hinge joint netting with greater than 200mm. Stay wire spacings shall be use below 1.2m in height above ground level.
Natural barriers	As approved.

* Regulated / At-Risk areas are to be defined by a DOC gazette.
Refer your local DOC office if in Doubt

CHANGE REQUEST FORM

**DEERQA ON-FARM PROGRAMME
CHANGE REQUEST FORM**

Date:

Request Made By:

Details of Change Requested:

Reason for Change:

Suggested Amendment:

(If necessary attach additional pages to this form)

Signature

Send to:

FREEPOST No. 3942

DeerQA On-Farm Technical Committee

PO Box 10-702

Wellington



DEER INDUSTRY
NEW ZEALAND