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Maryland Department of Agriculture

Organic Certification Program

(410) 841-5769 Fax (410) 841-2750

Organic Ruminant Livestock Appendix I

Farm Name:       Date:

Contact:       Title:

Organic livestock producers are required to provide ruminate animals with a feed ration which contains 30% or greater of their Dry Matter Intake (DMI) coming from pasture during the grazing season. Please complete this form to document your intended methods to comply with the National Organic Program’s requirements.

Grazing season- The period of time when pasture is available for grazing, due to natural precipitation or irrigation. Grazing season dates may vary because of mid-summer heat/humidity, significant precipitation events, floods, hurricanes, droughts or winter weather events. Grazing season may be extended by the grazing of residual forage as agreed in the operation's organic system plan. Due to weather, season, or climate, the grazing season may or may not be continuous. Grazing season may range from 120 days to 365 days, but not less than 120 days per year.

**Grazing Season:**

1. When does the grazing season begin in your area?

2. When does the grazing season end in your area?

3. How many days will your livestock have access to pasture this year?

4. At what age will livestock be allowed access to pasture?       \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Access to Outdoors:**

1. At what age is livestock allowed access to the outdoors?

2. Reasons for Temporary confinement: NOP§205.239(b) – List the circumstances and number of days for each reason.

| Reason | Circumstances | Days per year |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Inclement Weather | *Example: Storms, extreme heat, snow, ice* |  |
| Stage of Life | *May not use breeding, birthing or lactation as a stage of life* |  |
| Protection of health, safety or well-being | *Examples: Predators* |  |
| Protection of water and soil quality | *Example: Too wet to graze* |  |
| Management | *Example: Treatment, preventive measure, sorting, shipping, youth projects* |  |

3. How will you document the days animals were denied access to pasture?

**Confinement from Pasture:**

| Reason | Allowed Period | Amount of time confined from pasture (should not exceed allowed period) |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Lactation Dry Off | One week |  |
| Pre- Birthing | Three weeks |  |
| Post- Birthing | One week |  |
| Newborns | Up to 6 months |  |
| Shearing | Short periods |  |
| Milking | Short periods |  |
| Finishing of slaughter stock | 1/5 of animals life or 120 days (whichever is less) |  |

**Feed Sources:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Feed Type/Formula Name | Source  If off farm a certificate or label must be supplied. | Percentage  Dry Matter |
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**Feed Supplements or Additives:**

Feed additive*-* A substance added to feed in micro quantities to fulfill a specific nutritional need; i.e., essential nutrients in the form of amino acids, vitamins, and minerals.

Feed supplement- A combination of feed nutrients added to livestock feed to improve the nutrient balance or performance of the total ration and intended to be:

(1) Diluted with other feeds when fed to livestock;

(2) Offered free choice with other parts of the ration if separately available; or

(3) Further diluted and mixed to produce a complete feed.

List of feed supplements and additives, including vitamins, minerals, and silage/hay inoculants.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Brand Name and Formulation of Product (ex: Johns Dairy Mineral) | Manufacturer  (ex. John’s Livestock Mineral, Inc.) | Type of Material  (ex. Mineral, vitamin, etc.) |
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**Dry Matter Intake during Grazing Season:**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Class or Age Group | Approximate Body Weight | DMI Demand during Grazing Season | DMI Fed during Grazing Season (not pasture) | DMI from Grazing Pasture during Grazing Season |
| Calves/Young Stock  (Weaned up to 6 months) | Lbs. | Lbs/day | Lbs/day  % of total DMI | Lbs/day  % of total DMI |
| Heifers/Pre Breeding  (6 months to breeding) | Lbs. | Lbs/day | Lbs/day  % of total DMI | Lbs/day  % of total DMI |
| Bred Heifers | Lbs. | Lbs/day | Lbs/day  % of total DMI | Lbs/day  % of total DMI |
| Lactating Animals | Lbs. | Lbs/day | Lbs/day  % of total DMI | Lbs/day  % of total DMI |
| Dry Animals | Lbs. | Lbs/day | Lbs/day  % of total DMI | Lbs/day  % of total DMI |
| Slaughter Stock | Lbs. | Lbs/day | Lbs/day  % of total DMI | Lbs/day  % of total DMI |
| Other: | Lbs. | Lbs/day | Lbs/day  % of total DMI | Lbs/day  % of total DMI |
| Other: | Lbs. | Lbs/day | Lbs/day  % of total DMI | Lbs/day  % of total DMI |

APPENDIX II DMI Calculation Worksheets (MDA\_DOC 055) must be submitted to show calculations.

Feed Rations:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Livestock Species and Class** | **Season** | **Daily Ration/ Animal**  **(lbs of each feed and supplements)** |
| *Example: Lactating Dairy Cows* | *Ex: Fall* | *Example: 15lbs Corn Silage, 10lbs Haylage, 10 lbs Pasture, 5 lbs Lactation Feed, and Free Choice Dairy Mineral* |
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**Additional Pasture information:**

1. What type of grazing practice are you using?

If using temporary or cross fencing:

1. How much ungrazed grass is presented to livestock at a time?
2. How often are livestock or fencing moved?
3. At what height is pasture grazed?
4. What forages does pasture consist of?
5. How often are pastures renovated?
6. What is your stocking rate (animals per acre of pasture)?

**Pasture Map requirements:**

* Locations of perimeter and or permanent fence
* Identity of each pasture field.
* Size of each pasture field.
* Buffer and adjoining land use information.
* Sources of shade.
* Sources of Water.

**Record Keeping:** Record Kept Included w/Application

Pasture Map

Feeding Logs

Feed Storage

Feed Processing (grinding, mixing)

Feed Purchasing

Crop Harvest

Pasture Access

Animal Health

DMI Worksheets (MDA\_DOC\_055)