

41300**Implement and manage a livestock mating plan**

Kaupae Level	4
Whiwhinga Credit	10
Whāinga Purpose	This skill standard is intended for people working in an autonomous capacity with livestock in pasture-based farming systems. They will be able to plan for implementation of a mating plan, implement mating management, and report on breeding outcomes. This skill standard aligns with the New Zealand Certificate in Agriculture (Level 4) [Ref: 5677].

Hua o te ako me Paearu aromatawai | Learning outcomes and assessment criteria

Hua o te ako Learning outcomes	Paearu aromatawai Assessment criteria
1. Plan for implementation of a livestock mating plan.	a. Interpret a mating plan in terms of production and business goals.
	b. Develop operational planning to support implementation of the mating plan.
2. Implement mating management.	a. Assess whether livestock are fit for mating.
	b. Plan and carry out health measures in preparation for mating.
	c. Implement mating arrangements in accordance with the mating plan.
	d. Determine appropriate mating management actions in response to observations and data.
3. Report on livestock breeding outcomes in relationship to breeding goals.	a. Record mating data.
	b. Interpret mating data in relation to breeding goals.
	c. Report breeding outcomes against goals and explain variation.

Pārongo aromatawai me te taumata paearu | Assessment information and grade criteria***Assessment specifications:***

All activities must be carried out in accordance with workplace health and safety requirements, workplace procedures, and, wherever relevant, the Code of Welfare appropriate to the species and context for which the learner is being assessed.

Providers must give due consideration to embedding ngā kaupapa (principles) o Te Tiriti o Waitangi when designing delivery activities relevant to this standard. These principles are outlined in [Guidelines for Providers: Embedding Tirohanga Māori](#).

Providers must give due consideration to the needs and values of Pacific peoples and other cultural groups when designing delivery activities relevant to this standard, ensuring practices are inclusive and equitable.

Ākonga/learners should be assessed against this standard in a real-life context using naturally occurring evidence. A verifier's checklist with appropriate comments confirming competency is acceptable if accompanied by evidence that includes examples from the learner's performance.

For assessment criterion 2.d, evidence must show that the learner interpreted relevant observations and data and determined appropriate mating management actions. Actions may include adjusting mating management where observations or data indicate this is required, or continuing current management where observations and data indicate the mating plan is on track. Any decision to adjust or continue current management must be justified using relevant observations and data.

Definition

Pasture-based farming systems refers to farming systems where pasture or other forage grown on-farm is a primary feed source for livestock. These systems may be supported by supplementary feed, crops, and farm infrastructure.

Ngā momo whiwhinga | Grades available

Achieved

Ihirangi waitohu | Indicative content**Breeding plans**

- breeding goals, e.g. desirable traits, genetic selection and gain, heterosis/hybrid vigour, pregnancy rates, scanning results, foetal wastage rates, birth rates or percentages, mortality rates, and weaning rates.
- role of reproductive technology in mating, e.g. DNA testing, scanning, drafting technology, heat detection, precision breeding.
- parturition targets, e.g. Body Condition Scoring (BCS) at pre-parturition, live births.
- interpreting breeding plan, e.g. gather information, discuss plan with business owner.
- operational planning to support implementation, e.g. discuss plan with team, arranging resources, roster staff, confirm timing.
- industry expectations, e.g. reducing the number of bobby calves, sustainability, NZFAP expectations, production and processing requirements.
- social licence, e.g. animal welfare, environmental requirements.
- breeding values and indices.
- economic factors, e.g. market drivers.

- tools to support breeding goals, e.g. nProveSheep, nProveBeef.
- sire ratios.

Breeding management

- assessing breeding livestock for fitness for mating, including sires and dams as relevant to the system, e.g. condition, conformation, age, weight, soundness, cycling status, health status, reproductive readiness.
- health data and testing.
- health measures for mating, e.g. supplementation, vaccinations, blood tests, reproductive health checks, metrichecks and metricures, palpation of rams, tup crutching, feeding management (e.g. flushing, rising plane of nutrition).
- assessing risks and risk management.
- mating arrangements and management strategies, e.g. mating groups, sire allocation (AI or natural), drafting for mating or AI, preparing for the AI technician, sire rotation, bull rotation or bull of the day, timing and duration of mating.
- observations and data used to inform mating management, e.g. returns to service, heat activity, submission rates, conception rates, non-return rates, sire performance, animal health or condition changes.

Monitoring and reporting

- recording mating data, e.g. mating dates, sire information, animal identification, returns, and reproductive events.
- interpreting mating data in relation to breeding goals.
- monitoring farm mating performance against breeding goals and industry KPIs, e.g. conception rate, empty rate, pregnancy scanning data, submission rate, in-calf rate, non-return rate.
- fertility performance reporting, e.g. Fertility Focus, fertility breeding values (BVs).
- reporting breeding outcomes against goals and explaining variation.

Rauemi | Resources

- [Animal Welfare Act 1999](#).
- [Health and Safety at Work Act 2015](#).
- [Animal Welfare \(Care and Procedures\) Regulations 2018](#).
- [Code of Welfare – Dairy Cattle](#) (Ministry for Primary Industries).
- [Code of Welfare – Deer](#) (Ministry for Primary Industries).
- [Code of Welfare – Goats](#) (Ministry for Primary Industries).
- [Code of Welfare – Sheep and Beef Cattle](#) (Ministry for Primary Industries).
- [Knowledge hub](#) (Beef + Lamb New Zealand).
- [Knowledge hub](#) (Deer Industry NZ).
- [Tools and resources](#) (Dairy NZ).
- Farm-specific animal health plans and calendars.
- Farm-specific Standard Operating Procedures.

Pārongo Whakaū Kouna | Quality assurance information

Ngā rōpū whakatau-paerewa Standard Setting Body	Food and Fibre Industry Skills Board
Whakaritenga Rārangi Paetae Aromatawai DASS classification	Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries > Agriculture > Farming Skills
Ko te tohutoro ki ngā Whakaritenga i te Whakamanatanga me te Whakaōritenga CMR	0052

Hātepe Process	Putanga Version	Rā whakaputa Review Date	Rā whakamutunga mō te aromatawai Last date for assessment
Rēhitatanga Registration	1	27 August 2026	N/A
Kōrero whakakapinga Replacement information	This skill standard replaced unit standard 28857		
Rā arotake Planned review date	31 December 2031		

Please contact the Food and Fibre Industry Skills Board at info@foodandfibreisb.nz to suggest changes to the content of this skill standard.