

41306 Implement livestock feeding to meet production requirements

Kaupae Level	3
Whiwhinga Credit	10
Whāinga Purpose	This skill standard is for people working on a pastoral livestock farm. Learners will be able to explain feed demand and farm performance indicators, and implement livestock feeding practices that meet farm production requirements, under limited supervision. This skill standard is aligned to the New Zealand Certificate in Agriculture (Level 3) [Ref: 5680].

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

Hua o te ako Learning outcomes	Paearu aromatawai Assessment criteria
1. Explain feed demand and farm performance indicators for livestock feeding.	a. Identify key production targets relevant to livestock class and farm system.
	b. Describe how feed quantity and quality influence production targets.
	c. Relate livestock class and feed demand to production outcomes.
	d. Describe how supplementary feed is used to manage feed deficits and support production requirements.
	e. Describe how feeding decisions and practices influence achievement of production targets.
2. Implement livestock feeding practices to meet production requirements.	a. Implement grazing management to meet feed allocation requirements.
	b. Measure and interpret pasture quantity to inform feeding decisions.
	c. Assess pasture quality to determine suitability for livestock needs.

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 ākonga/learner's performance.

Evidence must be gathered from feeding at least two different livestock classes or production groups.

Definition:

Farm systems refers to the type of farm defined by its production focus, management style, and resource use, e.g. dairy, sheep and beef, or mixed. The farm system may vary in intensity, inputs, and outputs.

Ngā momo whiwhinga | Grades available

Achieved

Ihirangi waitohu | Indicative content

Feed and production requirements

- production targets relevant to livestock systems, e.g. kg milk solids per cow or per hectare, liveweight gain, lambing percentage, weaning weights, body condition score.
- relationship between feed supply and production targets.
- feed demand in relation to livestock class, e.g. age, weight, stage of production (growth, pregnancy, lactation).
- aligning feed supply with livestock requirements, e.g. meeting or not meeting production targets.
- effects of underfeeding and overfeeding on livestock performance and welfare.
- role of farm staff in supporting production targets through feeding.
- variation in feed demand due to environmental and management factors, e.g. weather, terrain, walking distance.
- purpose of supplementary feeding, e.g. managing feed deficits, maintaining or lifting production, supporting animal welfare.
- when supplementary feed is used, e.g. seasonal feed shortages, drought, high production demand.
- types of supplementary feeds, e.g. forage crops, conserved feeds (hay, silage, baleage), concentrates, grain, fodder.
- factors influencing supplementary feed use, e.g. feed availability, livestock requirements, farm system.

Implementing livestock feeding

- grazing management practices, e.g. feed allocation, rotational grazing, set stocking, break feeding, controlling intake.
- estimating available feed, e.g. pasture cover, dry matter, pre- and post-grazing.
- measuring pasture quantity, e.g. plate meter, ruler, or visual assessment.
- interpreting pasture quantity measurements for feeding decisions.
- assessing pasture quality, e.g. pasture length, density, clover content, presence of seed head or weeds.
- matching pasture quality to livestock requirements.
- identifying feed deficits and surpluses.
- adjusting grazing management in response to feed availability and livestock requirements.
- maintaining feed quality and accessibility.
- observing livestock response to feeding, e.g. behaviour, intake, condition.

Rauemi | Resources

- [Animal Welfare Act 1999](#)
- [Health and Safety at Work Act 2015](#)
- [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)
- [Feed resources](#) (DairyNZ)
- [Feed planning](#) (Beef + Lamb NZ)
- [Feeding](#) (Deer Industry NZ).

Pārongo Whakaū Kounga | 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	N/A		
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.