

# Livestock

This fact sheet is for people who keep livestock for agricultural operations. (Livestock includes animals kept as part of farming operations; this includes animals such as horses and cattle, but does not include family pets).

It provides guidance on how to comply with record-keeping rules set out in the Pesticides Regulation 2017 (the Regulation).

## What pesticide uses do I need to record?

Under the Regulation, you are required to make a record if you treat livestock for external parasites using a dip bath or powered spray equipment that is not hand-held. This means you must make a record if, for example:

- you treat your cattle, sheep, goats (or other livestock) for pests or skin conditions, such as flies, lice, mange or ticks, by dipping your livestock in a plunge or dip bath containing pesticides such as cypermethrin, temephos, amitraz or other pesticide products
- you treat your cattle, sheep, goats (or other livestock) for pests or skin conditions such as flies, lice, mange or ticks, by putting your livestock through a powered spray race, including a portable powered spray race (whether self-replenishing or otherwise)
- you treat your livestock with a pesticide by putting them through a shower dip.

Under the Regulation you **do not** need to make a record of:

- any internal parasite livestock treatments, or where a ready-to-use pour-on or back-line or

spot treatment is applied. Such treatments are regarded as stock medicines rather than pesticides and are not covered by the Regulation

- any product you mix up from a concentrate and apply using hand-held equipment.

You may, however, be required to keep a record of these treatments for quality assurance scheme purposes. There may also be record-keeping requirements for veterinary practitioners under the *Stock Medicines Act 1989*.

## What information do I have to record?

You must record the following information to comply with the record-keeping rules set out in the Regulation:

- the **full product name** of the pesticide applied (for example, BLOGGS Di-Jet Sheep Dip/Jetting Fluid Cattle and Pig Spray, not just 'cattle and pig spray')
- the **situation** in which you used the pesticide (for example, lice control on sheep)
- the **rate** of application (this is on the product label) and **quantity** of pesticide applied (for example, record the total amount of pesticide concentrate you used in a mix, the total amount of mix you made up, how much you used, and the number of animals treated)
- the property **address**, and a clear delineation of the **area** where the pesticide was used (for example, 'Number-two dip site'; you can mark the location on a property map if this is easier)
- the **date** of the pesticide application
- the **name, address and contact details** of the person who applied the pesticide. If you applied the pesticide yourself, write down your own details. If you employed someone to apply the pesticide then that person must record **their** name and your **name, address and the contact details**, as their employer. If the pesticide was applied by a contractor, the contractor must record their own name, address and contact details

- if the pesticide was applied **outdoors** and **through the air using spray equipment** (for example, a **spray race**) then you must make a record of weather conditions. You must record:
  - an estimate of the **wind speed and direction** at the start of the application, and any significant wind changes during the application. You can use the adapted Beaufort scale shown at the end of this fact sheet to help estimate the wind speed. If wind speed and direction are variable, you should note this (for example, 'wind light and variable'). Copies of the Beaufort scale are also available from the [Bureau of Meteorology website](#)
  - if **other weather conditions** are specified on the product label as relevant to the proper use of that pesticide (such as temperature, humidity or rainfall) you must record a description of these weather conditions at the start of the application and any significant changes in the conditions during the application. For example, if the label says, 'do not apply when temperatures are above 30°C', then you should record the temperature at the start of the application and any significant temperature changes during spraying.

## Do I need to record weather conditions if I use a dip bath?

You **do not** need to record **weather** details if you use a **dip bath** to treat your livestock. You only need to make a record of weather conditions if you use spray equipment.

## What form do I use?

You may use the NSW Environment Protection Authority's (EPA's) sample record-keeping form, or make your record in any way you wish, provided each record includes the information required. If you already keep records for other purposes, such as quality assurance scheme purposes, you can simply add to that record any of the requirements listed

above not already in that record. Information may be stored electronically.

## Who makes the record?

If you applied the pesticide it is your responsibility to make the record. You can get someone else to write it down for you, but it is up to you to make sure the record is made and that it is accurate. **The record must be made in English.**

## When do I make the record?

If you need to make a record you must do so within 48 hours of applying the pesticide.

## Who keeps the record and for how long?

If you are required to make a record under the Regulation, you must keep the record for three years.

You need to keep the record if you are the owner or the person who manages or controls the property on which you or your employees applied pesticide.

You will need to give the record to your employer to keep if you are an employee.

You need to keep the record if you are a contractor. However, if you are applying the pesticide to an agricultural property, you also need to provide a copy to the owner or the manager of the property on which the pesticide was applied if they request it.

## Where can I get more information?

More information about record keeping is available from the EPA's Environment Line on 131 555 (NSW only) or on the [EPA website](#).

The Pesticides Regulation 2017 has full details of the record-keeping requirements. A copy of the *Pesticide Act 1999* and the Regulation can be viewed on the [NSW Government legislation website](#).

# Sample pesticide record

## Property

Name: Green Grass Wool & Meat  
 Address: 122-126 Dusty Road, Meadowville, NSW 2999  
 Phone: (02) 6223 3226

## Applicator contact details

Employees: John Williams (as above)

Table 1 Pesticide application record keeping.

Product	Date	Situation	Rate	Quantity (L)	Size	Location	Applicator	Wind speed/direction (weather conditions)
Elanco Cyrex liquid sheep blowfly and lice treatment	16 Nov 2013	Lice control sheep	200 ml in 100 L water, approx. 5 L per sheep	1000	20 head of sheep	Main spray race, north-east corner of property	John	Calm, hot and dry
Coopers Clout blowfly destroyer liquid	02 Feb 2013	Blowfly strike	2 ml per 1 L water, approx. 4 L per sheep	1200	300 head of sheep	Main spray race, north-east corner of property	Jack	Light wind NE, scale 2; approx. 27 degrees

**Note:** This is a sample record only. This information can be recorded in other ways, for example, incorporated into industry quality assurance scheme records.

## Beaufort scale

Table 2 This modified Beaufort scale is provided to help you determine wind speed for pesticide record-keeping purposes.

Beaufort or force number	Wind speed km/h	Description
0	Less than 1	Calm: Smoke will rise vertically.
1	1–5	Weather vane is inactive, rising smoke drifts.
2	6–11	Leaves rustle, can feel wind on your face, weather vane is inactive.
3	12–19	Leaves and twigs move around. Light-weight flags extend.
4	20–28	Moves thin branches, raises dust and paper.
5	29–38	Small trees move or sway.

**Note:** This table only includes the lower wind speed portion of the Beaufort scale. The full Beaufort scale also includes higher force numbers, which describe stronger wind speeds.

**Source:** [www.bom.gov.au](http://www.bom.gov.au)

NSW Environment Protection Authority  
 Email: [info@epa.nsw.gov.au](mailto:info@epa.nsw.gov.au)  
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