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FOOTROT ERADICATION POLICY AND PROCEDURES

The attached document is a **WRITTEN INSTRUMENT** issued with the concurrence of the Director-General of NSW Agriculture under Clause 8.3 of Memorandum of understanding between the Director-General of NSW Agriculture and State Council of Rural Lands Protection Boards.

APPROVED

for R F SHELDRAKE
DIRECTOR-GENERAL
NSW AGRICULTURE

Date: 27/8/03

APPROVED

S ORR
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
STATE COUNCIL
RURAL LANDS PROTECTION BOARDS

Date: 27/8/03



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FOOTROT ERADICATION POLICY

This policy should be read in conjunction with the Footrot Eradication Procedure Circular and should be included with section 4.16 of the NSW Footrot Eradication Manual.

This policy, and associated Procedure Circular, outlines actions to be followed for the eradication of footrot.

The Footrot Strategic Plan has resulted in significant progress being made with footrot eradication throughout NSW, to the stage where all of the State is now gazetted as Control or Protected Area status. It will become increasingly necessary to deal with owners who, despite all advisory efforts, do not eradicate footrot within a reasonable period of time. Producers, particularly those who have voluntarily eradicated footrot, have an expectation that the non-cooperators who continue to place the industry at risk will be dealt with.

To ensure footrot eradication is maintained, a high level of advisory input into on-farm eradication programs will continue. Where progress is not made, regulatory measures will be applied.

The policy for footrot eradication on properties will be:

- Following quarantine of infected flocks, technical information and advice must be provided.
- Eradication targets must then be agreed between the producer and inspector and an Approved Footrot Eradication Program developed.
- Where these targets are not met, and in the absence of a reasonable excuse, appropriate escalating regulatory action must be taken to achieve eradication of the disease.

There should be a clear understanding by all quarantined producers of what constitutes non-cooperation with the program, the likely consequences of non-cooperation, and a consistent application of the rules within and between all districts.

This policy is intended to strike a balance between maintaining the support of cooperative producers, while at the same time making it clear that regulatory measures will be taken with non-cooperative producers. The reduction in disease prevalence leads to progressive gazetting of Control or Protected areas. The initial voluntary participation in an advisory program, which applied in the former Residual Areas, has now changed to an obligation to comply with a regulatory program when progress is not being made.



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