

1. FOREWORD

The Farm Assured Namibian Meat (FAN Meat) Scheme was developed in a collaborative effort between the Meat Board of Namibia (MBN) and the Directorate of Veterinary Services (DVS) following and Industry decision for the safeguarding of Namibian meat markets.

The need for livestock traceability and farm assurance in Namibia arose from an outbreak of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) or Mad Cow Disease in humans in the United Kingdom from 1986 to 2001. The Namibian Livestock and Meat Industry and DVS acted pre-emptively through the development of an extensive livestock identification and traceability system (NamLITS) which is utilized by the FAN Meat scheme to provide assurance regarding the safety, wholesomeness and quality of Namibian meat.

The FAN Meat Scheme Logo was published on 29 September 1999, Government Notice number 195, Gazette number 2193. The cabinet during the same sitting pronounced the FAN Meat Scheme as a National Scheme. The Meat Board is the mandated administrator of the FAN Meat Scheme.

The FAN Meat Scheme was developed to include all Namibians and the rules and standards of the scheme are based on National Legislation combined with Good Agricultural Practice and Animal Welfare principles.

The FAN Meat value chain includes Producers at farm level, and non-producers, which are: Livestock Feed Manufacturers, Agents and auctioneers, Transporters and Export Abattoirs.

The Farm Assured Namibian Meat Scheme Logo symbolizes assurance for safety, wholesomeness, quality and traceability of Namibian export meat. Meat produced under this scheme, is:

- Naturally produced in extensive free range conditions OR grain fed;
- Hormone free;
- Antibiotic residue free;
- Carries Negligible risk for Mad Cow Disease;
- Originates from animals which were humanely treated;
- Traceable from abattoir to the farm of origin.

This document sets out the standards for livestock feedlots under the FAN Meat scheme.



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3. DEFINITIONS

FAN MEAT GRAIN FED Means livestock are kept in an area for fattening and are fed a nutritionally balanced ration of a high energy content, meaning concentrates are fed in excess of 1% bodyweight, for a minimum period of 40 days.

Meat derived from grain fed livestock have a specific taste and colour expectation, with higher levels of intramuscular fat.

In order to be marketable as **FAN MEAT GRAIN FED** the area in which livestock are kept for fattening should be approved by FAN Meat. Livestock raised under extensive conditions with continuous and unrestricted access to pasture, but receiving feed containing concentrates in excess of 1% bodyweight will also qualify as FAN Meat Grain Fed.

HORMONE FREE Means free from any growth promoter as defined and listed as a prohibited or controlled substance in the Prevention of Undesirable Residue in Meat Act (Act 21 of 1991) and its Regulations, notices and amendments. Livestock never received any remedy in any form for the purpose of growth or fattening. In the case of controlled substances protocols for application as well as prescribed withdrawal periods were adhered to.

Further, prohibited substances in food producing animals as per the Prevention of Undesirable Residue in Meat Act includes the active ingredients phenylbutazone, clenbutarol and chloramphenicol in any form.

ANTIBIOTIC RESIDUE FREE Means antibiotics (antimicrobials) are only used when prescribed by a veterinarian registered to practice in Namibia and only in accordance with veterinarian and manufacturer instructions. Antibiotics are not used preventatively or for the purposes of growth or fattening. Livestock are only presented for slaughter after the prescribed withdrawal period for meat.

HUMANE TREATMENT Means livestock are reared, kept, transported, handled and slaughtered in accordance with the five freedoms which form the basic principles for animal welfare and applies to all links in the FAN Meat value chain.

FEEDLOT Means an area where livestock are kept for fattening without unrestricted access to pasture.

4. FEEDLOT MANAGEMENT

4.1 General

In order to comply with FAN Meat standards with regard to bio-safety, food safety as well as animal health and welfare, a well-organized and thought-through feedlot management plan is indispensable.

Such management plan should include:

- Cleaning procedures and frequency of feed yards, water troughs, feed troughs, and drains;
- Practices implemented to manage the health of livestock within the feedlot, including receiving and induction, monitoring / inspection, disease or injury diagnosis and treatment, mortality and post mortems, biosecurity and risk management;

General guidelines include:

- The person in charge should ensure all livestock are observed standing and moving during daily inspections. Identify shy feeders.

- Mixing of livestock should be minimized and bullying behavior should be managed by segregation.
- New arrivals to the feedlot should be closely monitored and inspected for injury and illness.
- Heavily pregnant livestock should be transferred to a pen with lower stocking density or to a paddock before calving. Calves born in feed yards should be segregated with their mothers.

Environmental impact through operation of a feedlot should be considered and assessed during the planning phase of the feedlot and construction, including drainage, should take into consideration the outcome of such assessment.

4.2 Feed and Water

A person in charge must ensure feed and water is available to livestock on a daily basis. A contingency plan must be in place in case of failure of feed or water supply, and must implement appropriate actions in the event of feed or water supply failure. Stale or spoiled feed should be removed daily.

Changes in diet should be managed to minimize digestive upset and chances for illness. Diet composition and quantities should be recorded.

Water troughs must be regularly inspected and maintained. Ensure that there is clean drinking water available for livestock at all times. Water should be easily accessible for the animals without posing any risk of injury. Drinking troughs must be cleaned on a regular basis to eliminate the growth of algae and the deposit of waste feed and other contaminants.

4.3 Facilities

Design objectives of feedlot facilities should be to provide an environment for cattle where production performance and animal welfare are maximized and should provide a safe working environment for feedlot personnel.

4.4 Training

The manager of livestock in feedlots needs to ensure staff are properly instructed and trained on tasks to be performed. Initial instructions must be followed by continuous training on aspects such as animal handling, handling of chemicals/veterinary drugs, storage of feed, identification of stale feed and animal health and welfare. This is important for responsible, motivated and efficient work and for the well-being of the animals. Training of staff must be recorded.

4.5 Knowledge of Legislation

All producers and non-producers are required to be familiar with and adhere to the national legislation pertaining to their livestock producing activities.

4.6 Record-keeping

The following forms must be regularly up-dated and filed/saved, and the records must be available for inspection by an Animal Health Technician or a Meat Board auditor. Records can be kept as hard copies or electronically.

- Animal Treatment and Vaccination Register (Form 25 as per the Animal Identification Regulations)
- Feeds and Lick Register (Form B)

- Employee Training (Form C)
- Prescribed Animal Register (Form 23 Animal Identification Regulations)
- Receipts of Animal Movement Permits
- Proof of Animal Movement Notices submitted (Form 27 of Animal Identification Regulations)
- Annual Management Plan
- Imported Prescribed Animal Register (Form 26 Animal Identification Regulations)
- Proof of Return of Animals on Registered Establishment submitted (Animal Health Declaration) (Form 24 Animal Identification Regulations)
- Proof of Animal Termination Notice Submitted (Form 30 Animal Identification Regulations)

The following forms and documents must be filled in timely and submitted to the respective recipients.

- Animal Termination Notice (form 30 as per the Livestock Identification Regulations) (issued by the Directorate of Veterinary Services) for loss of officially tagged livestock – must be submitted to the district DVS office within six months of confirming the loss.
- Animal Movement Permit accompanied by the Animal Movement Notice (Departure/Arrival) must be submitted to the destination DVS office within 14 days from the date of issue.
- The Animal Health and FAN Meat Self-declaration (Form 24 as per the Livestock Identification Regulations: Return of animals on Registered Establishment) to be filled in twice a year for the periods January to June and July to December and to be submitted to the state veterinary office or submitted online (www.namlits.com) before the end of July (for the January to June period) and before the end of January (for the July to December period) respectively.
- Ear Tag Replacement cards – for livestock with official ear tags (issued by the Directorate of Veterinary Services). In the event where the primary ear tag is lost either during transit or during the period of stay in the feedlot, the official ear tag must be replaced with a new set and the registration cards submitted to the State Veterinary office for registration on the central database, or registered by the manager of livestock in the feedlot on NamLITS online.

5. ANIMAL WELFARE

5.1 General

Livestock owners, managers and their personnel have a legal and moral responsibility for the welfare of animals under their control.

The basic principles for animal welfare are the “Five Freedoms”:

1. Freedom from hunger and thirst
2. Freedom from discomfort
3. Freedom from pain, injury or disease
4. Freedom to express normal behavior
5. Freedom from fear and distress

Good husbandry principles is essential to meet the welfare requirements of animals. Good husbandry principles which also meet basic physiological and behavioural needs of livestock include:

- A level of nutrition to sustain good health and welfare. Major changes in diet should be introduced over an appropriate length of time and be closely monitored.
- Access to sufficient water of suitable quality to meet physiological needs.
- Social contact with other livestock.
- Sufficient space to stand, lie and stretch their limbs and perform normal patterns of behavior.
- Handling facilities, equipment and procedures that minimize stress.
- Procedures to minimize the risk of pain, injury or disease.
- Provision of appropriate treatment, including humane killing if needed.
- Provision of reasonable precautions against extremes of weather.

Plans to minimize risks to livestock welfare should provide for:

- Emergency Contact Details
- Insufficient food and water supply
- Disease outbreak or injury
- Emergency humane killing and disposal
- Conditions that predispose to heat or cold stress
- Flood and fire

5.2 Diseases or injured animals

No animal that is diseased, distressed or injured must be denied appropriate and prompt treatment.

The animal should be separated for the time of treatment and recovery. A veterinarian should be consulted and veterinary instructions for treatment followed. If animals are treated with veterinary drugs, the correct dosage and mode of administration must be known and adhered to. Take note of the manufacturer recommendations of how the medicine should be kept (temperature, protected from light etc.). Overdosing can harm the animal, while under dosing may result in treatment failure and contribute to antibiotic resistance creation. Take note of the withdrawal period for all medications used.

Medical treatment of animals must be done by competent persons, using clean and hygienic equipment. Administration of veterinary drugs via syringe or applicator require a clean and sharp needle and should be done in such a way as to prevent the breaking of the needle. Responsible use of veterinary drugs, especially antimicrobials is of utmost importance, and should only be used in accordance with the instructions as per the veterinary prescription. Antimicrobials should never be used as a first line treatment and should only be used on instruction by a veterinarian. Take note of withdrawal periods for all medication used, and update the relevant form accordingly. It is

recommended that 2x the withdrawal period be adhered to when presenting livestock for slaughter. (E.g. if the withdrawal period is 14 days, wait 28 days after the last treatment before slaughter)

5.3 Handling

The handling of animals must always be performed as calmly as possible. Animal handling facilities and gathering areas must be constructed and maintained in such a way that they ensure ease of handling, minimize stress, prevent injuries and are free of protrusions. When livestock is assembled /rounded up this should be done in the calmest manner possible. Excessive noise must be avoided.

Head restraint facilities should allow for quick release and easy removal.

The lifting/twisting of cattle's tails should not be done with big physical power as this may cause pain, tail fracture and dislocation of tail vertebrae.

Sheep may not be caught by the wool, but by one leg. If they need to be carried, they should not be lifted by the wool.

Horned goats may be restrained by holding the horn at its base, not at its tip, as this may cause the horn to break. Goats should be lifted up bodily, not by their hair or their horns.

The use of goads or prodders must be limited to the minimum and not be a permanent action while handling and moving animals. Goads should be considered an extension of the human arm rather than a means to increase the physical power of the person. Goads should be made of plastic, canvas or leather. Metal or wooden pickets, pipes or fencing wire are not acceptable for animal use. The use of electric goads (prodders) should be avoided. Moreover, the use of electric goads on animals with no room to move is not tolerated. Livestock should never be struck or prodded in the face.

Unnecessary handling should be avoided during extreme weather.

5.4 Facilities

See section 6.

Animal handling and holding facilities must be sound, be free from protrusions and obstacles and be species specific to allow ease of handling and prevent injury to animals and handlers alike. Visual barriers should be used as appropriate and passage ways, races and entrances should be designed to take advantage of livestock behavior and to reduce stress during movement.

5.5 Heat Load

Occasional periods of excessive ambient heat impact growth performance and welfare of feedlot livestock. Initially excessive heat load will lead to a reduction in feed intake and therefore production losses. However, with severe or prolonged elevations in body temperature, tissue organ damage can result, leading to livestock losses in feedlots.

High heat load in feedlot livestock is a result of local climatic conditions and animal factors which lead to an increase in body heat content beyond the animals' normal physiological range and its ability to cope.

Threshold for heat load is influenced by: Genotype, coat colour, health status, acclimatization, access to shade, area of shade available, days on feed, depth of manure and water trough temperature.

Feedlot infrastructure and management can influence heat load:

- Obstacles to air flow
- Provision of shade
- Sprinklers: can contribute to local feedlot humidity, moisture and ammonia levels. Sprinklers are most effective when producing large droplets and when not operated on a continuous basis
- Sufficient supply of potable water
- Pen environment: shade, sprinklers, overflow of water troughs and pen management can influence the pen environment. Pen cleaning and drainage reduces moisture and aids in drying after rains, which reduce the impact of humidity.

The groups of livestock most vulnerable to excessive heat load are: heavily finished livestock, newly received livestock, hospitalised livestock, particularly those suffering from respiratory illness, bos taurus cattle breeds, European sheep breeds and livestock with dark coat colour.

Livestock handling, movement and transportation should be minimised during hot conditions.

The main source of body heat load is metabolic heat produced during digestion and metabolism of feed ingredients. The main route of heat loss during hot weather is evaporative cooling from the skin and the respiratory tract.

A number of observations and measurements can be used to assess the impact of hot and/or humid conditions on feedlot livestock. These include:

- respiration rate and panting score
- animal behaviour
- dry matter intake (DMI)
- internal body temperature

Respiration rate and panting score are very useful indicators of heat load in livestock.

Panting Score	Character
0	No panting
1	Slight panting, mouth closed
2	Fast panting, occasional open mouth
3	Open mouth and some drooling
4	Open mouth, tongue out and drooling

Source: <https://researchrepository.murdoch.edu.au/id/eprint/437/2/02Whole.pdf>

Source: <https://futurebeef.com.au/wp-content/uploads/Heat-load-in-feedlot-cattle.pdf>

For management purposes, if more than 10% of livestock are exhibiting panting scores of 2 or above, all handling and movement of the affected livestock should be stopped and only resumed when conditions become cooler and livestock have returned to normal. Livestock with a panting score of 3.5 or greater are in danger of death if they do not receive some form of relief from the hot conditions. If more than 10% of livestock are exhibiting panting scores of 3.5 or greater, there is potential for a serious problem to develop if they do not have the opportunity to dissipate the accumulated heat load.

Behaviour changes which indicate excessive heat load include increased time spent standing, reduced dry matter intake (DMI) and crowding over water troughs.

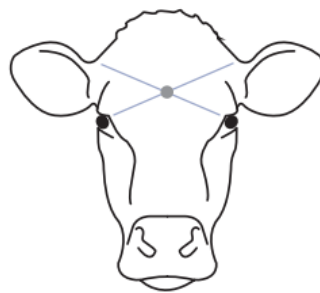
During very hot conditions additional water troughs should be provided to ensure sufficient trough space and to prevent the effect of dominant animals and crowding over water troughs. Water should preferably be cooled (pipes to water troughs should be underground). Troughs should preferably be lengthy and relatively shallow with a high volume water delivery (Cattle: 15L/100kg/day, Sheep: 6,5L/head /day).

Feeding regimens can be adopted by feeding livestock during the cooler parts of the day. Roughage can be increased or the total amount of feed decreased to reduce metabolic heat production.

Shade structures can be used in feedlots to improve livestock comfort and to decrease the risk of reduced productivity due to excessive body heat loads. Shade should be designed to maximise ventilation and afternoon shade and to prevent excessive moisture buildup.

5.6 Humane Killing

If euthanasia or emergency slaughter is recommended, it should be done promptly and humanely, and only by an authorized person. The most recommended method for cattle with regard to animal welfare is the use of firearms or captive bolt. Cattle should be killed by shooting them in the brain at a short range while the animal is not moving the head.



Sheep should also be killed with a firearm. Alternatively, they can be clubbed (lambs only - stunning by a heavy blow on the back of the head to reach unconsciousness followed by bleeding) or bled out, using a very sharp knife.



Adult goats should be destroyed using the behind-the-horn method, (the firearm is directed to the skull behind the horns in line with the animal's mouth. Kids can also be shot from the front, directing the shot at a point of intersection of lines taken from the base of each ear to the opposite eye. This method is not suitable for adult goats, since their brain is small, compared to that of other livestock, and is located well back in the skull. Destruction of goats by severance of the throat and spinal cord should only be done if no firearm is available, and then only by an experienced operator.

The following are signs of an effective kill:

- The animal collapsed immediately;
- The animal stopped rhythmic breathing;
- The animal has a fixed, glazed expression to its eyes, with no eye movement;
- the animal has lost the corneal reflex, i.e. it should not blink when you touch the cornea (the clear surface) of the eye with a finger.

The effectiveness of the method of killing must be determined by observing at least three of the above signs.

6. FACILITIES

Production pens are the main animal housing unit for feedlot livestock. Sound design will ensure optimum animal performance, good animal welfare and high standards of environmental impact.

Design should take into consideration:

- Providing safe access for livestock to and from the pens;
- Minimizing environmental impact such as dust and odour;
- Promote drainage;
- Optimize the management and removal of manure from the pens;
- Minimizing ongoing maintenance costs;
- Provide a safe working environment for feedlot personnel.

6.1 Pen design

Pen design requires consideration for:

- Stocking density;
- Bunk space per head;
- Pen slope;
- Pen head capacity;
- Access to the pen;
- Provision for shade.

Stocking density: Stocking density has a significant influence on the environmental performance of a feedlot and should be set to achieve a balance between a pen surface that is too dry and one that is too wet. There should be sufficient space for livestock to stand, lie and stretch their limbs and perform normal patterns of behavior.

Cattle: ensure a minimum area of 20m² per Large Stock Unit (LSU) (LSU = 450kg live mass)

Group (on the hoof kg)	Minimum space allowance (m ²)
200kg	9
250kg	11
300kg	13
350kg	16
400kg	18
450kg	20
500kg	22

Adapted from: Australian Beef Cattle Feedlot Environmental Code of Practice, 2nd edition and Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines for Cattle, 2013

Sheep: minimum space allowance per Small Stock Unit (SSU) (1LSU = 6 SSU):

Group	Minimum space allowance (m ²)
Lambs up to 41kg	1
Adult sheep	1.3
Heavy wether	1.5
Ewe and lamb(s)	1.8

Source: Australia Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals: The Sheep Edition 2, 2006

Bunk Space per Head: Typically this should be in the range of 200mm/head to over 300mm/head in the case of cattle. In the case of sheep the bunk space will depend on the method of feeding (ad libitum vs restricted feeding)

Water troughs: each pen should preferably have access to two water troughs so that livestock can have access to water if one trough is blocked.

7. ANIMAL HEALTH

7.1. General

The implementation of preventive measures can decrease the outbreak, transmission and severity of livestock diseases. Such measures include: –

- regular surveillance and inspection of livestock
- preventative treatment of livestock against internal and external parasites
- provision of good quality and sufficient quantity feed and water, and
- establishing a trustful working relationship with a veterinarian.

7.2. Treatment of sick animals

Sick or injured livestock should be physically presented to a veterinarian. If this is not possible, the animal should be treated immediately if the exact cause and proper treatment is known or after consultation with a veterinarian and strictly according to the veterinarian’s instructions. This should be the case for all livestock treated with antibiotics. Only trained and competent staff members are entitled to administer treatments to an animal.

7.3. Veterinary drugs and equipment

All veterinary drugs that are used must be registered according to legislation. The use of any remedy for the purposes of growth or fattening is not allowed.

Medicines for treatment are only used when necessary and when prescribed by a veterinarian or for preventive purposes in the case of external and internal parasites (e.g. Worming)

Any treatment that involves a surgical operation to livestock must only be done by a competent person, preferably a veterinarian.

After treatment, details must be entered in the Animal Treatment and Vaccination Form. (Form 25 of the Animal Identification Regulations, Animal Health Act (Act 1 of 2011))

Any buyer of recently treated animals must be informed if the withdrawal period (WDP) has not lapsed at the time of buying. No animal may be slaughtered before the end of the withdrawal period. It is recommended that a period equal to 2x the withdrawal period be adhered to prior to presenting the animal for slaughter.

Veterinary drugs must be kept securely locked away and be stored according to the manufacturer's instructions (including refrigeration when required) in the original container with the original label. They must not be used after their expiry date. Inventory of veterinary drugs should be done every six months and out-of-date drugs should be returned to the veterinarian to be disposed of in a proper manner.

Veterinary drugs shall only be used according to label instructions to ensure successful administration and avoiding risks to livestock, workers, consumers and the environment.

Access to veterinary drugs shall be limited to workers with adequate training on the handling of medicine.

Emergency information and corresponding equipment shall be available to deal with accidents during application (e.g. eyewash, plenty of clean water)

Empty medicine containers shall not be re-used and shall be disposed of in a manner that avoids contamination of the environment. This includes the disposal of needles, gloves and infectious biological material (puss). Needles, gloves and empty medicine containers should be disposed of in a designated container, and returned to the veterinary practice or alternatively a pharmacist for the correct disposal.

Veterinary equipment must be stored and used under clean and hygienic conditions. After contact with potentially infectious substances, equipment must be cleaned and, if possible, disinfected.

7.4. Record-keeping

After each treatment/vaccination of livestock, details must be recorded in the Veterinary On-Farm Drug and Treatment Register. The name of the drug, batch number, the date of treatment and the identity of the animals treated are entered in the respective columns. The animal's identity is entered as the species (cattle, sheep or goat) followed by:

- a) for cattle and individually identified small stock: ear tag number
- b) sheep/goats: number, age group and gender of animals and ear tag or tattoo number. (It is recommended that treated animals be marked individually)

If the enclosed leaflet or label indicates a withdrawal period, this period must be entered in the column 'withdrawal period.'

7.5. Notifiable diseases

In case of suspicion of one of the following diseases, the nearest State Veterinarian must be informed immediately:

- Foot-and-mouth disease
- Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia (Bovine lung sickness)
- Lumpy Skin disease (Knopvelsiekte)
- Rift Valley Fever (Slenkdalkoors)
- Blue tongue disease
- African Horse sickness
- African swine fever
- Avian Influenza (Bird flu)
- Newcastle disease
- Rabies (Hondsolheid)
- Bovine Tuberculosis
- Bovine Brucellosis (Besmetlike nageboorte)
- Sheep scab (Brandsiek)
- Anthrax (Miltsiek)
- Bovine Malignant Catarrh (Snotsiekte)
- Rinderpest

Or any other disease as described in the Government notice no 180 of 12 July 2013: Declaration of notifiable diseases: Animal Health Act, 2011

Any unknown disease or cause of death or disease should be reported to the nearest State Veterinarian immediately.

7.6. Antibiotics

In the absence of a clear diagnosis and indication, antibiotics should NOT be used as a first line treatment, and should not be used preventatively. This includes antibiotics like Terramycin. The responsible use of antibiotics is needed to prevent the development of resistance to antibiotics, and antibiotics should only be used when and as prescribed by a veterinarian. When antibiotics are prescribed it is also very important to complete the treatment course and not stop treatment sooner than recommended. The prescribed dose must be adhered to as well as the withdrawal period prior to presentation for slaughter.

7.7. Needles

A written procedure must be available to deal with the situation of a needle which broke during treatment and remained in an animal. The procedure must provide for identification of such animal to prevent it from being slaughtered at an abattoir.

Used needles, gloves, empty drug containers and sharp instruments must be safely disposed of by placing into a 'SHARPS BOX'. This box is disposed of in an environmentally safe manner (incineration)

and all staff needs to be familiar with this requirement. Alternatively, the box can also be returned to the veterinary practice or pharmacist for correct disposal. The “Sharps Box” can be a clearly marked dedicated container for the disposal of used needles, gloves, empty drug containers and sharp instruments (blades).

8. FEEDS AND LICKS

8.1. General

Only registered feeds and licks may be used as a livestock feed in Namibia. Besides commercially available feeds and licks, on-farm mixtures may also be fed but must only contain /consist of farm feeds or licks previously registered for use in Namibia and may not contain any prohibited substances. A balanced energy-rich feed should be used in such a way as to support production needs of livestock, for the purpose of fattening and rounding off, without jeopardizing the health of the animal.

8.2. Prohibition of ingredients in farm feeds

No feeds containing ingredients obtained from ruminants (carcass meal, blood meal, bone meal or any other bone product, including hoofs and horns, meat meal or meat) and chicken manure may be acquired, disposed of, sold or fed to ruminants. It is recommended not to use any mammalian protein as an ingredient in ruminant feed.

No growth promoters or other illegal substances (like antibiotics) as described and listed in the legislation may be used. Feed must not contain any feedstuff known for excess heavy metal and pesticide disposition.

8.3. Record-keeping

The feeding of feeds and licks must be recorded in the Feed and Lick Register (Form B) and retained in the farm file or kept electronically. If a commercial lick is used, the registered name and the batch number should be entered. If an own mixture is fed, the composition (ingredients quantities or percentages) must be recorded. The number, type (e.g. dry cows) and identification of animals (group-identification) are recorded in the respective columns. The other two columns are reserved for the recording of the time period, and the quantity (total kilograms fed per group over the entire period).

Invoices or copies of invoices of commercial licks/supplements must be kept together with the records.

8.4. Storage

Feeds and supplements must be stored in a dry and clean place in such a way that no contamination with other substances (e.g. pesticides) can occur.

8.5. Rodent Control

Entry points into buildings used for storing feed must be suitably protected to prevent entry from birds and rodents. If bait boxes are used, these must be fixed to the floor/wall, tamper proof and locked to ensure that non-target species do not have access to the bait. Bait boxes must be indicated on a site plan and detailed records kept of pest control inspections with necessary actions taken.

9. IDENTIFICATION AND TRACEABILITY

9.1. General

In order to meet national and international requirements and standards, livestock must be identified and marked so as to trace them and products derived from them back to the farm of origin. Feedlot operators must be aware of and comply with the national legal framework.

9.2. Ownership identification

Every livestock owner must have his/her registered stock brand. This provides group identification of cattle, sheep and goats.

9.3. Identification of cattle

Brand identification of cattle is compulsory before or at the age of six months. However, if a producer intends to remove cattle from the farm before they reach the age of six months, it is mandatory to mark them with the owner's registered stock brand symbol before the removal. If animals are bought or otherwise legally acquired, they must be branded with the new owner's stock brand within 30 days of change of ownership.

Size, form and position of the brand must follow the current legislation. Imported cattle must be branded with a “(-)” on the left neck. Such imported cattle will not qualify to be marketed under the FAN Meat Scheme.

All cattle in Namibia are individually identified the latest at the age of six months or when leaving the holding of origin, whichever occurs first. Cattle must be identified using a set of official identification ear tags. All tagged cattle must be registered on the central database within 14 days from attaching the official ear tags. The ear tags remains for life, regardless of changes in ownership, the new owner is only required to add his/her brand mark at the next available brand area as per the branding sequence according to the Stock Brands Act 24 of 1995.

Imported cattle must be individually identified and registered as such on the central database. Import ear tags can be obtained from the State Veterinary office. Imported cattle are tagged with red ear tags-

9.4. Identification of small livestock

Small livestock are currently identified by means of group identification based on the owner's registered stock brand on a metal ear tag or a tattoo. Sheep and goats must be marked by a metal ear tag or tattoo in the left ear before they are older than three months. If animals are bought or otherwise legally acquired, the old ear tag/tattoo remains, but they must, within 30 days, be marked with the new owner's registered stock brand according to the legislation.

Imported small stock must be individually identified and registered as such on the central database.

9.5. Compliance of stock with FAN Meat Standards

For livestock to be eligible under the FAN Meat Scheme, livestock should have been born and raised in Namibia and should have been resident on FAN Meat accredited farms for a continuous period of 40 days prior to movement to a FAN Meat Accredited Feedlot.

9.6. Record-keeping

Details of animals moved in or out (as recorded in movement permits) are entered as movements occur. To keep track, it is compulsory to fill in information whenever changes in livestock numbers occur.

Loss, death, and theft of livestock need to be recorded on the Livestock Termination Register. This information must be submitted to the district DVS office within six months of confirming the loss.

10. FAN MEAT DOCUMENTATION

10.1. Farm file

A farm file must be regularly updated and available for document review. The Forms A, B and C should be saved as hard copies or electronically.

10.2. Annual management plan

An annual management plan must be in place and available for inspection.

10.3. FAN Meat standards for feedlot operators

All feedlot operators are required to be in possession of a copy of the FAN Meat Rules and Standards for Feedlot operators and must be able to show it.

10.4. National legislation pertaining to livestock production

Acts as amended with their Regulations, amendments and Government Notices:

- Animal Health Act 1 of 2011
- Animal Identification Regulations: Health Act, 2011 (GRN gazette No 6476, 23 November 2017)
- Stock Brands Act 24 of 1995
- Regulations in terms of the Stock Brand Act No. 24 of 1995 from 2004
- Prevention of Undesirable Residue in Meat Act No. 21 of 1991
- Regulations in Terms of The Prevention of Undesirable Residue in Meat Act No. 21, 1991 from 1994 (prohibition of hormonal growth promoters and other substances) Medicines and Related Substances Control Act No. 13 of 2003
- Fertilizers, Farm Feeds, Agricultural Remedies and Stock Remedies Act No. 36 of 1947
- Prohibition in terms of the Fertilizers, Farm Feeds, Agricultural Remedies and Stock Remedies Act 36 of 1947 (prohibition of the feeding of ruminant derived proteins to ruminants)
- Stock Theft Act 12 of 1990
- Animal Welfare Act of 1962
- Meat Industry Act No. 12 of 1981 as amended

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