

# Livestock Standard

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Kootenay Mountain Grown



15<sup>th</sup> June 2008

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## **Livestock Standard**

The livestock standards emphasize stress reduction and good nutrition to maximize animal health. Kootenay Mountain Grown livestock production requires Kootenay Mountain Grown or organically grown feeds, the active prevention of disease through nutrition and positive management of living conditions, and the humane treatment of all animals. It cannot be overemphasized that it is not acceptable to simply eliminate the use of synthetic materials. This approach can lead to exhaustion of soil resources, poor quality crops, unthrifty livestock and ultimate operation failure. Livestock producers must never deny treatment to an ill animal so that its products may be certified Kootenay Mountain Grown.

### **Transition period**

Animals intended for slaughter must be raised according to Kootenay Mountain Grown standards from birth.

It is possible to convert a non-organic dairy herd or laying flock to Kootenay Mountain Grown certified production. Dairy animals and laying stock must be managed according to these standards for specified periods prior to and during production of Kootenay Mountain Grown certified milk or eggs.

### **Living conditions**

Kootenay Mountain Grown livestock producers are required:

- To provide their animals with un-crowded living conditions, maximum fresh air and daylight, and shelter from inclement weather.
- To give each animal enough room to comfortably get up, lie down, groom, turn around and stretch its limbs.
- To provide all animals with permanent access to pasture or outside runs.
- To clean stock facilities on a regular basis.

The following practices are prohibited:

- Confining young mammals to straw or chip-lined pens.
- Confining cattle and sheep to final fattening areas.
- Confining sows and piglets to farrowing pens for a period longer than 4 days.
- Confining poultry or rabbits with no access to outside runs or any environment that does not allow free movement.
- Routinely chaining animals inside boxes or pens that do not allow free movement (as in white veal production).

### **Feed**

Livestock producers are encouraged to feed their animals an appropriate diet based on what they normally would obtain while free ranging in nature, i.e. Unprocessed foods, access to

diversified pastures containing grasses, herbs, legumes, leaves from brush and trees, and whole grains. Trace mineral and/or vitamin supplements derived from mined rocks, sea salt or plant products are also encouraged.

- Slaughter animals must be in the direct control of a certified producer and raised on a balanced diet of 100% Kootenay Mountain Grown or organic feed from birth.
- Lactating animals that are nursing slaughter stock must be fed 100% Kootenay Mountain Grown or organic feed.
- Short-lived animals, that live less than 90 days from birth to slaughter, must be in the direct control of a certified producer and fed Kootenay Mountain Grown or certified organic feeds for their entire life.
- Dairy stock must be fed Kootenay Mountain Grown or certified organic feeds for 12 months prior to the production of certified milk.
- Egg laying stock must be fed Kootenay Mountain Grown or certified organic feed for 6 months prior to the production of certified eggs.

The following are prohibited:

- Non Kootenay Mountain Grown or Non-organic feed
- Feed containing plastic pellets, urea or other synthetic materials
- Feed containing antibiotics, hormones, drugs, or other medications
- Intentional re-feeding of manure
- Maintaining animals on poorly balanced diets, including raising anaemic animals (as in veal production)
- Hormones and/or growth promoters, whether implanted, ingested, or injected
- Antibiotics, hormones or growth promoters used as feed supplements

### **Disease prevention**

Kootenay Mountain Grown livestock producers are encouraged to minimize livestock diseases through adequate nutrition, proper sanitation, reduction of animal stress, proper pasture management, isolation of ill individuals, quarantine of incoming stock and regular grooming (such as shearing and hoof trimming).

- Producers are strongly encouraged to allow young mammals to feed on colostrum for at least the first 24 hours of life.
- Livestock facilities may be disinfected using lime, chlorine bleach, hydrogen peroxide or soaps. Livestock and facilities may not be disinfected with substances containing synthetic pesticides or any material that is prohibited in the materials list.
- Iodine may be used to disinfect wounds.
- Footbaths of copper sulphate or iodine are allowed.

- Maintaining animals dependent on routine medications is prohibited.
- Producers may vaccinate stock for endemic diseases, but are prohibited from administering hormones or sub-therapeutic levels of antibiotics.

## **Disease treatment**

Kootenay Mountain Grown livestock producers are encouraged to promptly recognize ill animals, isolate diseased livestock, and treat with methods that do not require vaccinations, drugs, antibiotics or other medications. However, livestock producers are prohibited from denying a prohibited treatment to an ill animal so that its products may be certified.

Internal and topical medications, as limited by the Kootenay Mountain Grown materials list, are allowed to treat a specific and manifest disease or malady. Only approved medications are permitted in Kootenay Mountain Grown livestock production.

Each such disease or malady must be diagnosed and the treatment prescribed by a licensed veterinarian. There must be documentation for each such diagnosis and treatment. Even with (regardless of) the diagnosis and prescription of a licensed veterinarian, the regular or planned use of medication within any animal management system is considered to be a dependency on routine medication and is prohibited.

Producers should record every treatment given to an individual animal or to the herd in the appropriate farm records, noting the treatment, medicine used, date of treatment, and, where appropriate, the withholding time before sale of product.

Animals that have been medicated with prohibited substances must be withdrawn from Kootenay Mountain Grown production as follows:

- Slaughter animals: permanently (though they can be used as breeding stock or dairy stock after the required withdrawal period).
- Dairy stock and laying stock: for 30 days

Thereafter the animal may return to the herd and the products may be sold as Kootenay Mountain Grown. Stock requiring medications but unable to meet this withdrawal timetable cannot be sold as Kootenay Mountain Grown.

## **Parasite control**

Kootenay Mountain Grown livestock producers are required to minimize the use of parasiticides. Applications of organophosphate, benzimidazole and other synthetic pesticides are prohibited. Infestations should be minimized through use of these alternatives:

- Quarantine and fecal exams for all incoming stock
- Adequate pasture rotation and good pasture management
- Maintaining clean facilities
- Periodic fecal exams
- Culling seriously infested individuals

- Vector and intermediate host control
- Using biological control methods (such as fly parasites)
- Maintaining dusting wallows for poultry

### **Stock sources**

Livestock producers are encouraged to raise their own stock or purchase replacement animals from other Kootenay Mountain Grown or certified organic producers.

Slaughter stock from non-certified producers may be used if an affidavit verifying the producer's compliance with Kootenay Mountain Grown livestock standards is on file with the review committee. Kootenay Mountain Grown will actively verify these affidavits at the expense of the producer. Purchasing slaughter stock from non-organic sources is prohibited, with the exception of day-old poultry, which may be purchased from any source.

Dairy stock from non-organic sources cannot be certified for at least 12 months after entering the certified production unit.

Egg laying stock from non-organic sources cannot be certified for at least 6 months after entering the certified production unit.

Breeding stock must be managed according to these standards for one year prior to certification. Producers are encouraged to maintain a breeding herd as a source of replacement animals for their own production or sale to other certified producers. Breeding stock or breeder operations may be certified by Kootenay Mountain Grown and are the preferred source of replacement. Kootenay Mountain Grown certified meat products may only come from animals raised according to these standards from birth.

### **Record keeping**

Livestock producers are required to ear-tag or individually mark in some way all livestock with the exception of poultry.

All records must be kept by individual (or flock in the case of poultry) from birth/purchase to slaughter/sale. The following records must be kept (including dates, amounts and sources):

- All medications administered
- All feeds bought and fed
- All feed supplements used
- Weight of slaughter animals when they enter the certified production unit (with the exception of poultry)
- Live Weight of animals at slaughter
- Production records

Receipts and sales invoices must be kept for purchased stock and materials, to ensure a complete audit trail.

Additional records may be required by the review committee.

All Kootenay Mountain Grown certified livestock products must be kept physically separate from conventionally produced animal products and they must be clearly labelled with the Kootenay Mountain Grown seal.

Additional records may be required by the review committee.

Livestock Standard

June 15, 2008

**Livestock Requirements**

**Space**

Livestock	Indoor Space in sq.ft.
Adult cows	150 sq. Ft (10 ft x 15 ft) (Winter only)
Calves	Incremental increase of 80 sq. Ft (8 ft x 10 ft) to 100 sq. Ft (10 ft x 10 ft) for growing (1 year old) steer and heifers (Winter only)
Sheep and goats	32 sq. Ft (8 ft x 4ft) / head plus 10sq. Ft/head (5 ft x 2 ft) for each additional lamb / kid.
Sows and piglets (up to 40 days' old)	150 sq. Ft (15 ft x 10 ft) for each sow and litter
Growing pigs	Incremental increase of 10 sq. Ft (5ft x 2 ft)/ head at weaning to 40 sq. Ft (10 ft x 4 ft)/head at finishing or breeding size
Sows in group pens	40 sq. Ft (5 ft x 8ft)/head
Boars in individual pens	40 sq. Ft (5 ft x 8 ft)/head
Laying hens	3.5 sq. Ft / bird
Broilers	3.5 sq. Ft / bird
Turkeys, geese and other large birds	20 sq ft (5 ft x 4 ft)/ bird (night time only)

Livestock	Outdoor Runs and Pens in sq. Ft.
Adult cows	Outdoors only – No overstocking of pasture.
Calves	Outdoors only – No overstocking of pasture.
Sheep and goats	50 sq ft (5 ft x 10 ft)/head plus 10 sq. Ft (2 ft x 10 ft)/head for each additional lamb/kid
Sows and piglets (up to 40 days' old)	150 sq. ft (15ft x 10 ft) for each sow and litter
Growing pigs	Incremental increase from 10 sq ft (2 ft x 5 ft)/head at weaning to 100 sq ft (10 ft x 10 ft)/head at finishing or breeding size
Sows in group pens	100 sq ft (10 ft x 10 ft)/head
Boars in individual pens	100 sq. Ft (10 ft x 10 ft)/head
Laying hens	1 bird / 5 sq ft
Broilers	1 bird / 5 sq ft
Turkeys, geese and large birds	150 sq ft (15 ft x 10 ft)/bird over 10 weeks' old

