

**LIVESTOCK  
Inspection Worksheet**



**Instructions**

1. These questions often have subjective answers and may sometimes leave you with another question rather than an answer. That's okay! Ask the farmer! If you really get confused, don't hesitate to contact the office. (Contact info is at [www.kootenaymountaingrown.ca](http://www.kootenaymountaingrown.ca))
2. The first five pages here will NOT be scanned on the internet and will NOT be seen by the public. Feel free to write notes and questions to yourself in the margins... or just use this as a guide for your inspection. **ONLY THE LAST SECTION WILL BE SCANNED IN.**
3. PLEASE REMEMBER: It is easy to get side-tracked into specific conversations and discussions. Do that AFTER the inspection is complete. Stay on track and perform a thorough investigation of the farmer's operation.

**AS YOU WALK THROUGH THE FIELDS**

Do the plants look generally healthy? How about field edges and borders?	YES / NO / Notes
Things are not always so neat and tidy on a farm, but there shouldn't be lots of scattered junked vehicles or equipment all dripping oil or fluids. Are the general grounds tidy?	YES / NO / Notes
How does the producer keep his/her weeds under control?	YES / NO / Notes
When was the last time a chemical fertilizer, pesticide or herbicide was used? If it has been less than 36 months, then the operation is classified as transitional.	At least 36 Months or Transitional
Does the farmer use rotational / intensive rotational grazing?	YES / NO / Notes
If the producer has ruminant livestock (cows, sheep, goats) does she/he ensure that at least 30% of their dry matter intake comes from pasture?	YES / NO / Notes
Does the pasture seem healthy with abundant growth?	YES / NO / Notes

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Does the farmer have soil tests done regularly? If so, ask to see them.	YES / NO / Notes
Does the farmer understand them, and can he explain them to you so they make sense? Is the farmer happy with the soil tests, or feel like there is more to work towards. If so, ask how he is working towards that goal.	YES / NO / Notes
Are the livestock on pasture most of the time during the entire growing season?	YES / NO / Notes
During what months are they on pasture?	Notes
Does the producer own his/her equipment?	YES / NO / Notes
If equipment is borrowed, does producer make sure that it is thoroughly cleaned before it is brought onto the land?	YES / NO / Notes
Do you feel the producer's water source is safe to use for irrigation purposes? Questions to consider: What is the farm's irrigation source? Is it publicly and generally known to be too contaminated to irrigate from (this is rare)? Ask if other farms are irrigating from this water source.	YES / NO / Notes
What are the primary disease problems and how are they treated?	Notes
Where are the seeds for new pasture or winter feed from?	Notes
How does the producer ensure that they are not genetically engineered or treated?	Notes

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**BUFFERS/BOUNDARIES and SPRAY DRIFT**

<p>Does the farmer have a buffer that looks adequate based on the acceptable spray concerns? For example, a hay field that is not sprayed with anything but a broadcast chemical fertilizer, low to the ground may not be much of a concern.</p>	<p>Buffer for spray drift? Concerns? Other notes:</p>
<p>What do YOU think, though? Does spray drift look like it could be a problem here?</p>	<p>YES / NO / Notes</p>
<p>Are there shrubs or trees that help to block drift?</p>	<p>YES / NO / Notes</p>
<p>What if the neighbours use high-pressure sprayers that go 50 to 60 feet (for example orchard farmers) and could easily get blown longer distances if there is a breeze? In that case a much larger buffer area and/or significant trees or taller shrubs would become a factor in determining acceptable buffer widths, as would prevailing winds.</p>	
<p>Is the Farmer confident and comfortable with their buffer zones? Ask them to explain why or why not.</p>	<p>YES / NO / Notes</p>
<p>Are there water sources that could be affected by run-off from livestock?</p>	<p>YES / NO / Notes</p>
<p>Has the farmer done anything to ensure water is protected? If so, what are those measures?</p>	<p>YES / NO / Notes</p>

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**LIVING CONDITIONS AND LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT**

Is there any strong odours such as ammonia?
Are there any hazards for the animals to get hurt with? (any sharp objects or things to get tangled with?)
Do the animals seem content and happy or do they seem stressed out? (too close together, no clean water, fighting for food etc.)
What is the general appearance of the animals? Do they look healthy?
Ask the producer the following: -Do you purchase any livestock? -Where are they purchased from? -How well do you know the source? -How do the sellers raise their animals? -Have you visited and looked around their farm? -Would you buy food from them? Why or why not? -Do they raise livestock according to organic standards (without antibiotics, hormones, or feed that has been treated with pesticides/herbicides, or mixed with animal by products)? -Do they use the same methods to raise animals as you do? If not, how are they different?
<i>-If livestock is purchased from an operation that does not adhere to Kootenay Mountain Grown standards, how do you ensure that the purchased livestock is managed at least to organic standards on your farm for at least 9 months – or in the case of dairy stock, for at least 6 months – before being sold as Kootenay Mountain Grown?</i>
Also ask the producer these questions: -What are your animal pest problems? -How do you control the pests? Is it with approved organic methods? -What are your animal illness problems?

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How do you handle the animals who are ill or diseased? -Do you separate or confine them? -Do you use methods that prevent illness? If so, what methods? -Do you worm your livestock? With what?
Are animals ever confined? -For how long and why?
Do you keep breeding livestock?
Finally, and most importantly, having interviewed the producer and observed the grounds, is this a place you would feel comfortable and eager to get your meat and poultry from? Why or why not?

-----! WAIT !-----

**This NEXT section (the Summary Inspection Report) is the one that is scanned in and made public!  
Please DO NOT write extra comments on the Summary Inspection Report, make notes on the above  
worksheet forms only.**

**SUMMARY INSPECTION REPORT**

**Livestock**

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Farm Name \_\_\_\_\_

Farmer(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Inspector \_\_\_\_\_

Inspection Date \_\_\_\_\_

Total On-Farm Inspection Time: \_\_\_\_\_

To the best of my abilities and based on my observations and interview with the producer(s), I feel confident in making the following declarations about the farm the above producer wants to have listed as Kootenay Mountain Grown :

I saw no evidence of prohibited insecticides, herbicides, fungicides, prohibited chemical fertilizer, hormones or antibiotics use.

Agree / Disagree \_\_\_\_\_ (Your initials)

The fields and pasture under consideration where appropriate look to be surrounded by an adequate buffer to protect from chemical or spray drift contamination.

Agree / Disagree \_\_\_\_\_ (Your initials)

The producer is not irrigating or providing livestock with water from a source that I know or suspect to be chemically contaminated.

Agree / Disagree \_\_\_\_\_ (Your initials)

I have read the Kootenay Mountain Grown livestock standards

Agree / Disagree \_\_\_\_\_ (Your initials)

The producer demonstrates a commitment to the health and welfare of the animals under his care and conscientiously raises them according to Kootenay Mountain Grown standards.

Agree / Disagree \_\_\_\_\_ (Your initials)

I certify that to the best of my abilities, observations, and based on my personal interview with the producer(s), I feel confident in recommending that the above listed producer(s) and their farm

**be included**

**not be included**

**(please circle one)**

in the Kootenay Mountain Grown program.

Signature of Inspector

Date

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_