



# Grazing Income Loss

## *Mycoplasma bovis* Programme Questions

### Can I claim compensation for my losses?

You may be eligible for payment of compensation if the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) has exercised powers under the Biosecurity Act 1993 (the Act) as part of the *Mycoplasma bovis* (M. bovis) Programme and these powers have caused you to incur a verifiable loss.

The exercise of powers is usually a Notice of Direction (NOD) or a Restricted Place notice (RP). Here are some examples that may apply to your situation:

- My grazing land (farm) is under an RP that has stopped other farmers from bringing stock on and off my property.
- I have lost a grazing agreement because stock cannot come onto or off my property.
- My grazing land (farm) was under a NOD that restricted another farmer's stock from moving off my property.
- My pastures were destroyed because the stock stayed on longer.
- I needed to repair the damage to my pastures and had to hire more staff and equipment than I normally would for that time of the season.
- I have lost a future grazing agreement because the pastures need to be rested and regrown.
- The stock grazing on my property have been directed to be culled.

### How do I minimise my loss?

In your claim form, give us details that demonstrate what reasonable steps you had considered or taken to reduce or avoid any ongoing loss.

## Frequently Asked

Examples of possible alternatives include:

- Farmers who are fattening stock in preparation for culling.
- Other farmers under NOD who are looking for available pastures to graze their cows (where MPI provides permission to move the cattle).
- Farmers seeking to purchase your excess grass, hay or silage.

### When can I make a claim?

You can claim compensation for the loss of grazing income from the date the loss was incurred, or within ONE YEAR from the date that your loss was verifiable e.g. the date the grazing agreement was cancelled (MPI will only accept claims beyond this date in exceptional circumstances).

### How do I claim compensation?

You will need to complete and submit a **compensation claim form**. This form is available either from your Incident Control Point (ICP) manager, the MPI webpage or by contacting the MPI Compensation Co-ordinator. We will be happy to email it to you.

Once you have completed it, you can email it along with your supporting information, or send it in via post/courier to MPI's compensation team.

You will also need to provide the following documents:

- Financial statements for the previous three years showing your 'business as usual' expenses with respect to the standing grazing arrangement history, compared to activity for the time you were affected by MPI's exercise of powers.
- Evidence of product or operating costs associated with the lost grazing.
- Information to support the amount of your loss e.g. the grazing agreement or standing arrangement via bank statements, or

correspondence with clients relating to past and future grazing.

- Description of your normal business operations prior to the M. bovis Programme and what happened as a direct result of MPI's exercise of power. This could include what time of year, how the event occurred and any seasonal impact. This should fully explain the agreement, the number of head, rate per head and grazing start and end dates.

## Who can claim and who is paid compensation?

You must provide documentation to support that you are the legal owner of the property which was affected by MPI's exercise of powers or that you had contracted to receive goods (stock) that are subject to movement restrictions.

## When will I be paid?

The average compensation claim process takes 25 working days. Each claim is different and some are more complex and require more time. Claims for loss of grazing income have a number of variables that need to be taken into account, consequently they can only be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

## Process

Once MPI has received your application form and all the supporting information, we will begin the process of assessment and seeking approval of the decision to pay you. You will be contacted as soon as the decision has been made.



In some instances, we might need to contact you for further information if this is missing.

## Next steps – checklist

- Completed Claim Form
- Signed Statutory Declaration
- Attached supporting documentation and evidence
- Additional information that explains your circumstances

## Contact and Information

**For general information** about compensation under section 162A of the Biosecurity Act 1993, and for a copy of the compensation claim form contact the MPI Compensation Coordinator:

Tel: 0800 00 83 33

Email: [compensationcoordinator@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:compensationcoordinator@mpi.govt.nz)

Website: [www.mpi.govt.nz/bovis](http://www.mpi.govt.nz/bovis)

Post: Ministry for Primary Industries  
PO Box 2526, Wellington 6140

Courier: Ministry for Primary Industries  
Pastoral House,  
25 The Terrace, Wellington 6011

**For help with writing your claim**, contact:

DairyNZ, Beef + Lamb Compensation Assistance Team (this is a free service for affected farmers):

Phone: 0800 32 22 81

Email: [dbcat@BeefLambNZ.com](mailto:dbcat@BeefLambNZ.com)  
[dbcat@DairyNZ.co.nz](mailto:dbcat@DairyNZ.co.nz)