

# Application for farmland rating

*Made under section 515 of the Local Government Act 1993*

For land to be categorised as Farmland for rating purposes it must satisfy the criteria as set out in Section 515 of the Local Government Act 1993.

## **515 Categorisation as Farmland**

1. Land is to be categorised as **“Farmland”** if it is a parcel of rateable land valued as one assessment and its dominant use is for farming (that is, the business or industry of grazing, animal feedlots, dairying, pig-farming, poultry farming, viticulture, orcharding, bee-keeping, horticulture, vegetable growing, the growing of crops of any kind, forestry or aquaculture within the meaning of the Fisheries Management Act 1994, or any combination of those businesses or industries) which:

- (a) has a significant and substantial commercial purpose or character, and
- (b) is engaged in for the purpose of profit on a continuous or repetitive basis (whether or not a profit is actually made).

2. Land is not to be categorised as farmland if it is rural residential land.

3. The regulations may prescribe circumstances in which land is or is not to be categorised as farmland.

As per section 515(1) & (1)(a)

**“Business”** means the purchase and sale of goods and services in an attempt to make a profit

**“Commercial-Commerce”** means the interchange of goods or commodities especially on a large scale

As per section 515(2) if the property is of a rural nature and not farming the land as a business for commercial purpose, Council cannot rate the land as Farmland. Example of rural property, residential dwelling, horses for personal use, vegetable garden for domestic/own use – this is not considered to be Farmland in relation to the above legislation, this property would be rated as residential.

This application is to provide Council with the information required to evaluate your eligibility to receive Farmland rating in accordance with the legislative requirements.

Additional information is available in Council’s Farmland Policy which provides detailed information on farmland activities and requirements.

**APPLICANT / Property Information****Property Number**

(As per your Council Rates Notice)  
 If you are the owner of multiple properties that are all used in conjunction  
 please list all property numbers)

**APPLICANT**

Family name / Company name

Given names

Postal address

Street no

Street name

Suburb

Post code

Mobile no

Home no

Email

**PROPERTY DETAILS**

Property name

Street No

Street  
name

Suburb

Post code

Property Identification Number (PIC)

**AREA OF PROPERTY**

Total area of whole property

Area of Land being farmed

What is the maximum carrying capacity of stock on the property?

**OCCUPANCY**Is anyone living on the property?  Yes  NoIs this property leased?  Yes  No**If leased provide copy of lease agreement or agents Management agreement****FARMING BUSINESS CONDUCTED (TICK APPROPRIATE BOXES)**

<input type="checkbox"/> Grazing	<input type="checkbox"/> dairy farming	<input type="checkbox"/> Pig farming	<input type="checkbox"/> viticulture
<input type="checkbox"/> orchards	<input type="checkbox"/> Bee Keeping	<input type="checkbox"/> horticulture	<input type="checkbox"/> vegetables
<input type="checkbox"/> crop Growing	<input type="checkbox"/> forestry	<input type="checkbox"/> Poultry	<input type="checkbox"/> other #(detail below)

other

## FARMLAND - USE OF THE LAND

### AGISTMENT

Do you permit livestock to be agisted on the property?  Yes  no

Do you receive income for the agistment?  Yes  no

If you do not receive income for the agistment do you receive any other benefit?

Are you a primary producer as defined by the Australian Taxation Office?  Yes  No

If no, Approximately what percentage of your household income is derived from farming activities? %

Does your farming business have an ABN?  Yes  No ABN:

What business records are maintained relevant to farming activities carried out on this property eg. Books of account, stock reports, management plan?

### NUMBER OF STOCK

#### CATTLE

Total Number

Is the property registered as a stud for cattle breeding?  Yes  No

No. Stock purchased in last financial year

No. Stock sold in last financial year

Progeny in the last financial year

#### OTHER STOCK

Type (eg. Goats, alpacas, llama, sheep etc)

Total Number

Usage?

No. Stock purchased in last financial year

No. Stock sold in last financial year

Progeny in the last financial year

#### HORSES (other than stud farms or personal use)

Total Number

Usage?			
What is the maximum carrying capacity of stock on the property?			
<b>DAIRY FARMING - DAIRY - CATTLE</b>			
Total Number			
Usage?			
Does the dairy have a milk quota? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> no			
What is the average annual income made from the sale of milk?			
<b>DAIRY - GOATS</b>			
Total Number			
Usage?			
how many litres sold in last 12 months			
What is the average annual income made from the sale of milk?			
<b>PIG FARMING</b>			
Please provide the number of pigs on the property at the time of completing this application			
Sows	Piglets	Boars	Other
Have any of the stock been used in medical research? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Please provide details of purpose			
<b>POULTRY (DOES NOT INCLUDE POULTRY KEPT FOR DOMESTIC USE)</b>			
Usage?	<input type="checkbox"/> Free Range Poultry <input type="checkbox"/> Meat Poultry		
No. Stock purchased in last financial year			
No. Stock sold in last financial year			
Progeny in the last financial year			
No. Eggs sold in last financial year			
<b>AQUACULTURE / FISH FARMING</b>			
Total Number currently held		Type	
	No. stock Purchased	No. stock sold	
as at last financial Year			

**BEE KEEPING**

Number of Beehives in operation

What periods of the year are they operating?

Are the beehives transferred to other properties during the year?

If so for what periods? *Please provide detail*

Please provide details of honey/honeycomb etc. extracted and sold during the last 12 months.

Honey

Honeycomb

Other Products

**AGRICULTURE / HORTICULTURE** includes crops, orchards, vegetable, viticulture etc.

Please provide details of area under cultivation, types of plants grown and quantity of produce sold during the last 12 months. Do not include details of domestic vegetable or floral landscaping around dwelling.

crops/trees fruit/vegetables	specify type	total amount of produce sold in the last financial year	area of property used for this purpose	Where produce is sold

**FORESTRY**

type of tree	number of trees presently	no. of trees felled in last financial year	area of property used for this purpose	Where produce is sold

Please provide detailed plans of cutting, plantation, include details of thinning programmes, fire precautions and provisions, removal of weeds, watering and management plans of remaining hardwood stand (if applicable)


## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

How many paddocks is your property presently divided into?

How many are presently used?

**Provide a list of the main agricultural equipment and infrastructure relevant to your farming business (ie. Tractor, Hayshed, Motorbike, cattle yards etc)**


Additional information: include any additional information which you feel may be relevant to the application eg. proposed future development, memberships of relevant farming organisations, details of irrigation, management plans etc


## DECLARATION & CONSENT

I (name)

I (name)

declare that all the information that I have provided in this application is true and correct.

I hereby consent to council, or any person(s) authorised by council, to enter onto the property for the purpose of carrying out an inspection in connection with this application.

Owner/applicant signature

Date

Owner/applicant signature

Date

Please note that:

An inspection will only be required if a determination cannot be made from the information provided within the application or subsequent supporting documentation.

Council will not attend your property without contacting you to arrange a suitable date and time.

Council will not enter your property without you being present

Council will only enter your property for the sole purpose of assessing Farmland use.

## PRIVACY AND PERSONAL INFORMATION

council is bound by the provision of the Privacy and Personal information Protection act 1998 (the act), in the collection, storage and utilisation of personal information provided. accordingly, the personal information will only be utilised for the purposes for which it has been obtained and may be available for access and/or disclosure under various NSW Government Legislations.

All of the information requested in this application is necessary to determine eligibility for Farmland purposes and Council does not consider under section 11 (b) of the Act that this information intrudes to an unreasonable extent on the personal

affairs of the individual to whom the information relates. In the event that a determination is unable to be made based on the information provided then an inspection will be arranged.

**To further assist Council with assessing your application copies of the following documents MAY be requested.**

Type of Farming	Copies of documentation to be provided with application
All	diagram of the farm – Please provide a sketch of the property layout e.g. house, farm buildings, paddocks, crops & stock (Note – alternatively Council can arrange an inspection of your property)
Grazing	Local Land Services Documentation
Dairying	Licence for dairy farming with NSW food authority
Agistment	agreement/contract showing full details of owner of stock etc
Viticulture	Proof of registration with the Wine Producers association or other relevant body
Horticulture	agreement between grower and trader
Nursery products	documentation stating registered nursery
Bee keeping	registration with the department of Primary industries
Fish/oyster farming	<b>Aquaculture permit from the department of Primary industries</b>
Pig farming	Local Land Services Documentation

This form should be returned to [council@lithgow.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@lithgow.nsw.gov.au)