



On-farm stock disposal Information guide

SEPTEMBER 2020

Burial, burning or stockpiling (composting) carcasses are permitted activities, with consents required only if Permitted Activity conditions cannot be met.

Please consider neighbours and take care not to pollute waterways and food sources, such as crops or mahinga kai, while disposing of carcasses.

These good-practice guidelines will reduce impacts on land, water and air.

- Dairy NZ Dead Stock Disposal: www.dairynz.co.nz/environment/waste-management/dead-stock-disposal
- Dairy NZ Composting Dead Stock: www.dairynz.co.nz/environment/waste-management/composting-dead-stock

The risks of not disposing of animals correctly include contaminating water, nutrient discharges, odour from burning, disease spreading, and the discharge of pathogens and potentially pharmaceuticals.

Farm Environment Plans (FEP) require discharge point source risks to be identified and managed in accordance with Good Management Practices. If ofal pits are used to bury animals, keep records of the pit locations and the number of animals buried in them. Any sites used for burning and composting should also be recorded in the FEP.

Please contact a Land Management Advisor or Customer Services on 0800 324 636 if you have any questions.

Burning

7.18 The discharge of contaminants into air from outdoor burning of animal carcasses and offal is a permitted activity provided the following conditions are met:

1. The discharge is on a property greater than 2 ha in area; and
2. The burning does not occur within 100 m of any National Grid power line or substation unless permission has been obtained from the owner of the infrastructure; and
3. The discharge does not occur within 100 m of a property boundary.

The discharge cannot cause an offensive or objectionable effect beyond the boundary of the property of origin.

Burying

5.24 The use of land for an offal pit and the associated discharges onto or into land in circumstances where a contaminant may enter water are permitted activities, provided the following conditions are met:

1. The discharge is to a pit that:
 - a. has a volume of less than 50 m³; and
 - b. is sited and designed to prevent surface runoff entering the pit; and
 - c. is designed to prevent animals from gaining access to the pit; and
2. The discharge is only of dead animals or animal parts produced on the property where the pit is located; and
3. No more than one pit is constructed or used per 100 hectares of property area per annum; and
4. When any pit is filled to within 0.5 m of the original land surface, or is no longer used, the contents are covered with soil to a depth of at least 0.5 m or the pit is covered with an impermeable lid; and
5. No discharge occurs:
 - a. within 100 m of a surface water body, a bore used for water abstraction, the boundary of the site, or the Coastal Marine Area; or

- b. within a Community Drinking-water Protection Zone as set out in Schedule 1; or
- c. unless there is at least 3 m of soil or sand between the point of discharge and the seasonal high water table level; or
- d. within the Christchurch Groundwater Protection Zone as shown on the Planning Maps; or
- e. onto or into land listed as an archaeological site; or
- f. within any area or zone identified in a proposed or operative district plan for residential, commercial or industrial purposes.

Composting/stockpiling

5.38 The use of land for a silage pit or the stockpiling of decaying organic matter (including compost) and any associated discharge into or onto land where a contaminant may enter water is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:

1. The volume of any silage pit or stockpile is less than 20 m³; and
2. Any liquid that drains from the stockpile does not enter a surface waterbody, other than a wetland constructed primarily to treat animal effluent; and
3. Any decaying organic matter does not originate from an industrial or trade process.

Canterbury Air Regional Plan

7.3 The discharge of odour, dust or smoke into air that is not managed by any other rule in this Plan is a permitted activity provided the following conditions are met:

1. The discharge does not cause or is not likely to cause an adverse effect beyond the boundary of the property of origin; and
2. The discharge does not cause an offensive or objectionable effect beyond the boundary of the property of origin when assessed in accordance with Schedule 2.