

GOATMAP GOATBIO (GENERAL BIOSECURITY)

Protecting you, your property, your animals, your industry



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GoatMAP is a multi-disease market assurance program for goats. The current modules are **General Biosecurity (GOATBIO)**, Johne's Disease (JDMAP) and Caprine Arthritis Encephalitis (CAEMAP).

August 2022

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

GoatMAP is the Market Assurance Program for important endemic diseases of goats. The GoatMAP Biosecurity module (GOATBIO) sets the basic biosecurity requirements that are required to enter the program. GOATBIO therefore underpins the assurance program. Once GOATBIO requirements have been met, you can subsequently seek disease-specific accreditation through meeting the requirements for Johne's disease (JDMAP) and/or Caprine Arthritis Encephalitis (CAEMAP) modules.

GoatMAP has been developed by members of the Goat Industry Council of Australia and associated industry organisations and Animal Health Australia (AHA). Advice has also been received from the state and territory government animal health authorities. This document has been revised to be consistent with the Livestock Production Assurance Program and other Market Assurance Programs (such as for sheep), taking into consideration the recommendations of goat breeders.

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- Mail out information materials related to the program.

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- Property name
- Postal address
- Phone number
- Email address
- Status
- Breed
- Expiry date
- Year that current status was achieved.

If you do not want your information visible in the public database, you should let your GoatMAP Administrator know.

Individuals should note that it is a requirement of the program that herd/herd owners may need to participate in an external audit in accordance with GOATMAP requirements.

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Contents

GOATMAP4		
GO	ATMAP OBJECTIVES	
GO	ATMAP REQUIREMENTS	
RE\	/IEWS AND AUDITING6	
GO	ATBIO	
GOATBIO STRUCTURE		
INTRO	DDUCTION TO GENERAL BIOSECURITY (GOATBIO)	
STA	ARTING EFFICIENTLY	
GA	THER INFORMATION BEFORE THE VET VISITS	
ELEMENT 1: ENTRY REQUIREMENTS, HERD STATUS AND PROPERTY/HERD RISK ASSESSMENT		
1.	GETTING STARTED13	
2.	DETERMINING HERD STATUS	
3.	REMAINING IN GOATMAP	
ELEM	ENT 2: INTRODUCED LIVESTOCK (INCLUDING STRAYS)	
1.	BACKGROUND INFORMATION	
2.	WHICH ANIMALS CAN BE INTRODUCED?	
3.	RECORD KEEPING FOR INTRODUCED GOATS/ELIGIBLE SPECIES	
4.	STRAYING ANIMALS	
ELEMENT 3: MOVEMENT OF ASSESSED ANIMALS 19		
1.	INTRODUCTION	
2.	WALKING	
3.	TRANSPORTING	
4.	SHOWS, STUD SALES AND EXHIBITIONS	
5.	AGISTMENT AND HOLDING GOATS ON OTHER LAND	
6.	ANIMALS THAT STRAY	
7.	RECORD KEEPING	
ELEMENT 4: LIVESTOCK IDENTIFICATION		
1.	GETTING STARTED	
2.	RECORD KEEPING	
ELEM	ENT 5: HERD MANAGEMENT PLAN	
1.	GETTING STARTED	
2.	PREPARING THE HERD MANAGEMENT PLAN	
3.	WHAT ELSE MUST YOU DO?	
ELEM	ENT 6: TESTING STRATEGIES	
ELEM	ENT 7: APPROVED CONTROLS	
ELEM	ENT 8: MAINTAINING YOUR GOATMAP SYSTEMS	
1.	THE IMPORTANCE OF MAINTAINING THE SYSTEM	
2.	RECORD KEEPING	
3.	DOCUMENT CONTROL	
4.	CONDUCTING OR PARTICIPATING IN REVIEWS AND AUDITS	

GOATMAP

INTRODUCTION TO GOATMAP

Welcome to GoatMAP the Australian disease assurance program for endemic diseases of goats. Currently GoatMAP has a base module for biosecurity (GOATBIO) and specific disease modules to provide assurances for Johne's disease (JDMAP) and for Caprine Arthritis Encephalitis (CAEMAP).

GoatMAP was originally focused on JD but has been broadened to allow assurance for more diseases. GoatMAP uses a modular approach whereby seeking accreditation for any individual disease requires you to build upon your baseline accreditation for biosecurity by demonstrating herd disease freedom in your herd and meeting any disease-specific biosecurity requirements. The biosecurity base module (GOATBIO) underpins the program and describes essential, general biosecurity requirements for a property and herd to enter the program. GOATBIO requirements are described in this manual.

Specific disease accreditation modules (JDMAP and CAEMAP) are described elsewhere but build upon and cross reference the requirements for GOATBIO accreditation. GoatMAP disease modules collect evidence of disease freedom at the herd level. This is combined with any extra biosecurity requirements (on top of GOATBIO requirements) to determine individual disease accreditation. Information on the absence of disease within the herd must be obtained to attain, maintain, or advance disease accreditation status. Herd information overrides any individual animal (negative) test.

GoatMAP has a modular construction; the biosecurity module (GOATBIO), JDMAP (the JD assurance module, previously known as GoatMAP) and CAEMAP (the new national herd assurance program for CAE) are stand-alone components. Each provides a complete description of the requirements for the module; noting that JDMAP and CAEMAP requires GOATBIO accreditation be obtained before allowing progression towards these individual disease accreditations. Accreditation for each disease module in GoatMAP operates independently. Herds may be accredited for one or more diseases.

Whether you have been involved in the original GoatMAP for some time or are new to market assurance programs, your participation in the program is an important part of ongoing efforts to control important endemic diseases of goats in Australia. This will help to reduce disease impacts on Australian goats and domestic and export trade and to ensure sustainability of the goat industry in Australia.

This introduction provides the background on GoatMAP the quality assurance system, brief details on how testing operates in the program modules and how and by whom the program is managed. Taking the time to read this introduction will allow you to use the modules more efficiently and to reap the benefits of having accreditation for one or more of the diseases within GoatMAP.

GoatMAP does not guarantee that a herd is free of any disease, but the higher the status a herd achieves for that disease, the greater the assurance that it is not infected. Accreditation will be most attractive to herd owners who wish to assure clients their goats have a low risk of infection.

GoatMAP disease specific modules aim to identify, protect, and promote herds that are at low risk of being infected with that disease. Assurance is based on a testing and on the adoption of property and herd management that minimises the risk of the introduction of that disease into the herd. The assessment of this management and the testing of stock is the responsibility of veterinarians who have agreed to be the GoatMAP veterinarian.

Although not essential, training for veterinarians can be obtained formally by completing the modules for the Accreditation Program for Australian Veterinarians (APAV) and the Market Assurance Program (both available through the Animal Health Australia website) or informally by familiarisation with the various MAP program requirements and processes. It should be noted that signing a contract to deliver GoatMAP services assumes you have familiarised yourself with the requirements of GoatMAP and agree to meet the obligations of a GoatMAP veterinarian.

GoatMAP is a voluntary scheme with the costs of participating being borne by herd owners.

GOATMAP OBJECTIVES

GoatMAP aims to:

- provide a source of low-risk replacement goats for herds wanting to avoid introducing infection
- facilitate the movement of low-risk goats between properties and regions
- allow herds to demonstrate disease status in a transparent way so that they can sell breeding or herd replacement goats with confidence
- reduce the risk of disease being spread at events such as shows and sales.

GOATMAP REQUIREMENTS

Each GoatMAP element requires you to implement systems, undertake activities and (where required) submit animals for disease testing. Herds seeking accreditation are required to engage an approved GoatMAP Veterinarian. GoatMAP places responsibilities on you and your approved GoatMAP Veterinarian to meet the requirement for accreditation. Your GoatMAP Veterinarian is responsible for assessing property and herd performance against biosecurity requirements and to undertake any disease-specific testing and accreditation requirements. This allows them to assign and manage your accreditation. These requirements are described in general terms below.

VETERINARY MANAGEMENT

The responsibilities of your approved GoatMAP Veterinarian for veterinary management of accreditation for specific GoatMAP modules are outlined in the checklists. In addition, the veterinarian should obtain a copy of the *Guidelines for GoatMAP Veterinarians* which provide further detail. The checklists and guidelines are available on the AHA website: https://animalhealthaustralia.com.au/goatmap/

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

When you decide to participate in GoatMAP and specific disease modules, you need to be prepared to comply with all the requirements. Herd biosecurity requires management relating to the introduction of animals, husbandry and record keeping. If you are a goat trader or goats from other

properties or herd regularly move into your herd, you may find it very difficult to meet the herd management requirements to participate in the program.

GoatMAP extends the basic requirements of the Livestock Production Assurance (LPA) Program. Depending on the diseases for which accreditation is sought, additional specific management and testing is required. If you meet the requirements of GOATBIO (i.e., the basic biosecurity component of GoatMAP) you will likely meet the biosecurity requirements for LPA. It is important to work with your veterinarian to ensure that any extra biosecurity obligations for any disease that you seek accreditation for are included.

REVIEWS AND AUDITING

To provide national and international market confidence in the program, all aspects of the program may be reviewed. This ensures that participating herds are recognised nationally and that the investment of time and money you are making is protected. You may be charged fees by the auditor if they are included in future.

REVIEW AND AUDIT REQUIREMENTS

GoatMAP is a quality assurance program. The integrity of the system relies on a review process. External audits are not currently part of the program, however, may be introduced later. Reviews and external audits are important because:

- they ensure that goat buyers can maintain confidence in the program
- they demonstrate that all participants are meeting their obligations
- they are a mechanism for evaluating GoatMAP and its components and for identifying elements that require improvement or modification.

As a herd manager you are expected to regularly review your systems and compliance with the procedures and participate in an Annual Veterinary Review (an internal audit by your veterinarian). One of the significant benefits of GoatMAP being a quality assurance program is that it has a focus on continuous improvement. The review and audit processes can help you identify not only areas where you need to take corrective action, but also ways that you can improve all your processes and activities.

Further details on the steps in the review process including examples of records and forms can be found in Element 8 of the module.

GOATBIO

The primary objective of GoatMAP is to provide an objective, herd-based assessment of low-risk for the presence of disease within the herd and for individual animals within the herd. A fundamental component for demonstrating low risk for a given disease in a herd or property is an effective property and herd biosecurity system. Accreditation within any disease module requires satisfactory demonstration of low risk for presence of disease within the herd, and that suitable biosecurity is in place to minimise risk of introducing disease into the herd and property.

GOATBIO describes the basic biosecurity requirements of entry into GOATMAP.

GOATBIO STRUCTURE

GOATBIO outlines the activities you must undertake, the herd and property management practices you must use and the records you are required to keep demonstrating effective biosecurity is in place and thus to participate in GoatMAP. GoatMAP accreditation demonstrates to the market that your herd has effective biosecurity systems in place. You must attain GOATBIO accreditation before applying for specific disease accreditation.

Each module in GoatMAP is structured the same way. Each contain seven Elements. Elements 1 to 7 are the activities and property management practices that are required for you to be in GoatMAP. Element 8 outlines the quality assurance system requirements of the module. The Elements within the disease-specific modules (JDMAP and CAEMAP) expand on the requirements of the GOATBIO Element (if required).

Each element begins with an overview and purpose of the element and provides links to relevant documents. Information on how to meet the requirements of the Element is provided.

FORMS

There are two types of forms:

- Most of the forms are a 'recommended record format'. You have a choice to use these formats or collect and store all the required information in another way.
- A small number of the forms are 'compulsory record format'. To comply with GoatMAP requirements you **must** use this precise format.

If you already use a recording system on the property which meets the GoatMAP requirements (for example a computer system or some other comprehensive system), you will probably prefer to integrate any new records with your current system.

All the forms are available as Word documents on the <u>AHA website</u>. If you are planning to substitute a form with your own format, it is advised that you:

- Check with your GoatMAP Veterinarian
- identify the form that you are replacing on your personalised document. That way a reviewer can be sure that you are continuing to meet the record keeping requirements of GoatMAP.

DEFINITIONS

ADULT ANIMAL

A goat 12 months of age and over.

ANNUAL VETERINARY REVIEW

A review undertaken every year by the veterinarian to ensure that the herd has met the management requirements of the program. It includes examination of records, individual identification of animals at testing and records of goat movements on and off the property.

APPROVED AUDITOR

A person with recognised skills /qualifications as a quality systems auditor, who has <u>completed a</u> <u>MAP orientation program</u> and been approved by AHA.

BARRIER

A physical separation which minimises the risk of environmental spread of infection. Suitable barriers include unstocked land, land grazed by non-susceptible species, tree lots, contour banks, solid walls or electric fence outriggers (capable of preventing nose-to-nose contact through the fence).

GOATMAP ADMINISTRATOR

A state department representative who is charged with administration of GoatMAP within the state according to the rules of the program and in line with animal health legislation in that state. A national representative can act where a state coordinator is not available.

GOATMAP VETERINARIAN

A veterinarian who has signed an agreement accepting the responsibilities of and to undertake duties as required and described in the GoatMAP module and of each relevant disease module. Only a contracted veterinarian can provide veterinary services required by GoatMAP. Alternatively, your herd veterinarian may agree to provide necessary services for GoatMAP. To do this they will need to familiarise themselves with the program and agree to provide all services required for conduct of GoatMAP and to the required standard — as stated in their contract.

CONTAMINATED LAND

Land that has been contaminated by infected animals or herds of unknown status and has not been satisfactorily decontaminated in accordance with a program that has been approved by the GoatMAP Administrator of the jurisdiction.

DISEASES OF CONCERN

A disease of concern is the list of all goat disease that have individual disease accreditation modules in GoatMAP. Currently this is Johne's disease and Caprine Arthritis Encephalitis. GOATBIO accredited

herds must not allow contact between their goats and goats from infected or suspect herds or Eligible Species with these diseases. Contact means a contact sufficient to infect another goat.

ELIGIBLE SPECIES

Eligible Species are those that can spread Johne's Disease or CAE to goats. They include sheep, cattle and deer, as well as all species and types of goats.

GOATBIO

FOREIGN ANIMALS

Foreign Animals are any Eligible Species (noting that this list is disease module specific) that may enter the property which originate from another herd or property of origin. These animals may be subject to restrictions, require quarantine and testing. Check the individual disease modules for specifics.

HERD

The group comprising all goats and/or other Eligible Species that have grazed the land during a 12month period and/or that have shared facilities, such as yards or a shearing shed. A herd may be run on separate blocks of land that are not adjoining, however the movement of eligible animals between these blocks must be undertaken to comply with GoatMAP requirements. Where a new herd is established, it may enter the GoatMAP when it satisfies the requirements outlined in Element 1.

HERD STATUS CERTIFICATE

A certificate issued to the herd owner by the GoatMAP Veterinarian. It describes the status of the herd following its most recent assessment by the veterinarian and is valid for 12 months or may be revoked at any time for non-compliance

LAND

The area of land including yards and other facilities on which the herd is run.

MATING AREA

An area of land or a building, separate to the quarantine area, described in the herd management plan that is used only for the purposes of supervised mating with visiting goats. This land will not otherwise be used by the herd.

MOB

A discrete group of goats, often of similar age or sex that are run together within a herd.

NEIGHBOURING PROPERTY

Any landholding which adjoins land on which an assessed herd is run.

QUARANTINE AREA

GOATBIO

An area of land or a building in which animals entering the herd can be held in isolation from the herd. This site is not accessed by the resident herd.

INTRODUCTION TO GENERAL BIOSECURITY (GOATBIO)

BEFORE YOU START (FOR NEW ENTRANTS)

This section is aimed at herd managers/owners who are considering participating in GoatMAP in one or more disease modules. It outlines some steps you need to take to be sure that your property, your herd, and your management systems are ready to participate in GoatMAP. Properties and herds that meet these requirements receive GOATBIO accreditation.

Because GOATBIO accreditation is the essential first step towards specific disease accreditation in GoatMAP, this is the place for new entrants to start. Begin by:

- Firstly, reading through each element of GOATBIO. The checklists for each element (available on the <u>AHA website</u>) provide a summary of what you'll need to do to be part of the program.
- Remember the icons will help you identify the important sections of the GOATBIO module.



This section is important for veterinarians

 \star

Handy tip



This section is important for herd managers

- Next, contact your veterinarian to see if they will conduct veterinary services according to the requirements of GoatMAP. Your GoatMAP Veterinarian must agree to meet the requirements of GOATBIO and the requirements of any specific disease module that you seek accreditation for (either now or in the future).
- Veterinarians can either complete online APAV training through AHA through State Coordinators to become accredited to supervise MAP programs, or they can familiarise themselves with the relevant GoatMAP modules and agree to provide all necessary services and to the required standard through a contract to become a herd's GoatMAP Veterinarian.
- You may ask your veterinarian to become your GoatMAP veterinarian. Part of being in GoatMAP is having a formal written agreement with a veterinarian (GoatMAP Veterinarian) who will work with you to monitor the disease status of your herd, for each disease within GoatMAP, for which you seek accreditation. Your GoatMAP Veterinarian assigns and manages your herd's accreditation status according to the rules of the program.
- Work with your GoatMAP Veterinarian to complete the risk assessments and testing that are the first stages of the program.
- Review your record keeping and management systems and consider any modifications needed to meet the requirements of GoatMAP. You may already be recording some or all the information needed. Once you are enrolled in GoatMAP there is no need to duplicate records. Ensure your records are easily accessible for reviewing purposes, as well as for your own property management.

If you decide to continue, you need to sign the agreement with the veterinarian and arrange to complete the Property and Herd Risk Assessment outlined in Element 1 and conduct initial herd testing.

STARTING EFFICIENTLY

There is a good deal of work involved in getting started in GOATBIO. By being well prepared you will reduce the amount of time you and the veterinarian spend doing the important Initial Risk Assessments and testing.

GATHER INFORMATION BEFORE THE VET VISITS

Make sure you have all the following information together before the veterinarian conducts the initial risk assessment. Some vets will ask you to send them the information, others will prefer you to have it available on the day they visit. The information required includes:

- identifying details of the property (name, address, owner's name, your Property Identification Code, contact details including phone and email)
- property details
 - the specific areas to which the herd will be confined and the whole property on which it is located
 - o details of any separate blocks that are to be included in the land
 - a plan clearly showing the land, subdivision into paddocks, watering points, yards, buildings, effluent ponds, and boundaries (name the boundaries)
 - the type and construction of fences and an evaluation of their security (this will be reevaluated by your veterinarian)
 - \circ $\;$ details of neighbouring properties and animals that run on that land
 - \circ the extent of feral animal activity on the property and how you deal with it
 - o any sites where contaminated water or faeces may potentially enter the land.
 - Any other Eligible Species on the land or have been on the land in last 12 months.
- details of the herd
 - how long it has been established
 - o the number of animals held
 - o how they are divided into mobs
 - $\circ \quad$ the ages of goats particularly those over 12 months of age
 - o any testing history you may already have
- how you manage the herd
 - $\circ \quad$ how animals are identified, and animal records kept
 - management of kids born on the property
 - how introduced animals are managed, and copies of National Vendor Declarations (NVDs) and National Goat Health Declarations (NGHDs) for introduced goats.
 - how you manage selling, culling, and introducing new animals
 - whether you move mobs between different blocks of land and if you do, how you manage the movement.

ELEMENT 1: ENTRY REQUIREMENTS, HERD STATUS HM



The herd's eligibility to participate in and remain in GoatMAP must be established and reviewed regularly. This ensures that any relevant GoatMAP disease module status is maintained.

Procedures must be put in place to minimise the risk of introducing unwanted diseases and pests into a GoatMAP herd from introduced or neighbouring stock or contaminated material. These basic biosecurity requirements underpin GOATBIO and the procedures need to be reviewed regularly.

Your herd's accreditation depends on the effectiveness of your biosecurity. You need effective biosecurity to both attain and to retain GOATBIO accreditation. Individual disease modules have extra requirements for accreditation.

1. GETTING STARTED

To participate in the GoatMAP you must make a written agreement with a veterinarian. You must use the **Agreement between Herd Owner and Veterinarian** found on the <u>AHA website</u>, to record the agreement and both you and the veterinarian must keep a copy. It is the responsibility of the contracted veterinarian (GoatMAP Veterinarian for your herd) to familiarise themselves with GoatMAP and for every program module that they administer.

Note: only one GoatMAP Agreement is signed. If the producer/owner chooses to enter their herd in a new module, the veterinarian can deliver the required services under the existing Agreement. However, it is the veterinarian's responsibility to familiarise themselves with any additional requirements of the new module before providing service.

Once the agreement is signed, you and your veterinarian work together to ensure that the herd is eligible for inclusion in GoatMAP by meeting the GOATBIO biosecurity requirements. As part of your biosecurity plan you need to complete a property risk assessment, a herd risk assessment and develop a plan and procedures to minimise the risk of the introducing disease(s) into the herd. Whilst basic biosecurity requirements apply GOATBIO, specific disease modules may require extra biosecurity controls. These are described in detail within each disease module.

The *property* risk assessment reviews the land involved. The review assesses:

- boundary fences and barriers
- goat handling facilities
- the feral and other animal populations
- the animals and activities on neighbouring properties, including potential for physical contact
- sites where potentially contaminated water or faeces could enter
- previous grazing use of land.

The *herd* risk assessment reviews the history of the herd, the source of recently introduced goats and the suitability of your livestock identification system and records. This component assesses both the likelihood that disease is within and of entering a herd.

A Herd Management Plan is developed as an outcome of the risk assessment. The plan focuses on maintaining the low disease risk status of the herd and ensuring that prompt action is taken if required. This includes ensuring:

- that adequate stock identification, movement, management, and testing records are maintained
- the integrity of boundary fences and barriers to prevent contact with and incursion of neighbouring stock and/or contaminated water and faeces.
- Management of co-grazing species, waterways and or roads that egress your land

You and your GoatMAP Veterinarian need to sign the Herd Management Plan. The Herd Management Plan provides confidence that a given disease accreditation status is unlikely to change between any required herd testing requirements.

INITIAL RISK ASSESSMENT

This includes the following tasks:

- Identifying the land to which the GoatMAP herd will be confined (the land) and the whole property on which it is located.
- Checking whether the land comprises several separate blocks.
- Developing a property map or plan (or adapting an existing map or plan) to show the following details:
 - \circ the land
 - its subdivision into paddocks
 - o water flows
 - stock handling facilities
 - any parts of the property that will not be included in the land on which the herd is run
 - all neighbouring properties
 - o sites where potentially contaminated water or faeces could enter the land
 - previous grazing use of the land.

You are required to include this map or plan in your Herd Management Plan (see Element 5).

- Record the type of construction of boundary fences and barriers, evaluate their security, and identify any that need upgrading. Photos can be useful.
- Describe all species of animal on neighbouring properties. Are there goats or other 'Eligible Species' (depending on the disease(s) for accreditation).
- Assess barriers to the entry of potentially contaminated water or faeces.
- Describe the feral animals accessing the land, the risk they present (including risks to boundary fence integrity) and whether increased control or eradication may be needed.
- Ensure that yards, races, etc are adequate for sample collection and are not used by goats or other Eligible Species of lower status except in compliance with the individual modules of MAP that you seek accreditation for.

You must keep a record of the risk assessment. Examples of two forms you can use are:

- the Property/Herd Risk Assessment
- the Boundary Inspection Record.

These are available electronically on the <u>AHA website</u>.

You can use another format to keep the records if you wish, but remember:

- the records must be inspected by your GoatMAP Veterinarian
- the records must contain all the required information.

ONGOING RISK ASSESSMENT

Property and Herd Risk Assessment is not a 'one-off' event. You are responsible for carrying out all the management tasks detailed in the Herd Management Plan such as regular (quarterly) boundary inspections and repairs, monitoring for strays, and recording goat introductions, movements, and testing.

2. DETERMINING HERD STATUS

When your herd has met the biosecurity requirements necessary for GOATBIO, you can proceed to obtain accreditation for any of the individual diseases within GoatMAP by meeting any extra property and herd biosecurity requirements and fulfilling testing obligations of the relevant disease modules. You are referred to the relevant disease modules for this information. Your GoatMAP Veterinarian will determine if your herd meets the GOATBIO basic biosecurity disease requirements and will assign GOATBIO accreditation status to the herd if required performance standards have been met. Disease-specific details on allocating, advancing, retaining, or losing status are also presented within each disease module.

3. REMAINING IN GOATMAP

ANNUAL VETERINARY REVIEW

To remain in GoatMAP (and for each accredited disease) the herd must have an Annual Veterinary Review. This is carried out by your GoatMAP Veterinarian who will assess performance against the requirements of the basic biosecurity module, and against any specific disease module requirements as required. The review ensures that you have met the management requirements of the program. This usually includes a visual inspection of the herd and property so that the GoatMAP Veterinarian is satisfied that all required biosecurity aspects of GOATBIO (and for any relevant disease module) are being met. It will include examination of records, individual permanent identification of animals at testing and records of movement of animals onto and off the property.

You must keep records of the findings of the Annual Veterinary Review. Use the forms from the <u>AHA</u> <u>Website</u> or you can use another format if you prefer, ensuring all the necessary information is recorded.

ELEMENT 2: INTRODUCED LIVESTOCK (INCLUDING STRAYS)



You must follow the GOATBIO requirements when you introduce goats or Eligible Species into your herd. Introduced animals must be appropriately identified and recorded and the records kept enabling traceability.

1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Before you introduce goats into your GOATBIO-accredited herd you must:

- consult your GoatMAP Veterinarian to determine the risk of disease infection from the introductions
- find out and record the relevant disease status of the herd of origin.
- Determine which goats or other relevant species can be introduced (this is module specific)

You are referred to the individual disease modules for specific information on introducing animals for the program.

2. WHICH ANIMALS CAN BE INTRODUCED?

In addition to the base requirements for introduction, goats may be introduced to an assessed herd:

- with the same or higher National Goat Health Declaration Risk Rating
- as semen or washed embryos.

INTRODUCING BREEDING GOATS

You can introduce small numbers of bucks and does into any GoatMAP herd if they are from GoatMAP herds with the same or higher status for each accredited disease, or **up to 5% of the total herd number per annum** of one status lower than your herd. MN1 herds may introduce up to 5% of breeders from non-assessed herds with a National Goat Health Declaration risk rating of **6 or greater**, but each movement of goats should be risk assessed by your veterinarian.

However, there are conditions you must observe:

- You must have the prior approval of your GoatMAP Veterinarian.
- The animals must be permanently individually identified.
- Introduced goats and progeny born to female introductions retain the status of the herd of origin for subsequent sale or movement unless the herd of origin has reached the same status, or until 2 years after introduction.
- Animals may need to be individually tested before being introduced according to the disease module requirements
- The introduced animals must be retested within the required time according to the disease module requirements

SHORT TERM INTRODUCTION OF YOUNG GOATS

You can introduce any number of young goats, younger than 12 months of age for a limited period if you have the prior approval of your GoatMAP Veterinarian and the goats meet the entry, exit and housing/grazing requirements of the disease module.

SHORT-TERM INTRODUCTIONS FOR HAND-MATING

You may bring males or females from herds of equivalent or higher GoatMAP disease module status, and with no evidence of any Diseases of Concern onto the land for short periods for the purposes of supervised hand-mating. You cannot bring goats onto the land if there is evidence or suspicion of the presence of any Disease of Concern in the source animals or herd, irrespective of your herd's specific disease accreditations. You must comply with the following conditions:

- If the introduced goat is from a Non-Assessed herd for a GoatMAP disease that you are accredited for, you must obtain a record, such as a <u>National Goat Health Declaration</u> (NGHD) signed by the owner or their representative, that the specific disease is not known or suspected to have occurred in the herd of origin for your herd's GoatMAP disease accreditation status to remain.
- If the introduced goat is from a tested herd for a GoatMAP disease that you are accredited for, you must obtain a copy of their GoatMAP accreditation certificate.
- All mating must be managed in an area designated for supervised hand mating.
- The introduced goat will not mix with the herd during its stay except for hand-mating. It must be penned or housed away from the herd in a designated mating area.
- The mating area must be able to be cleaned and decontaminated to a standard equivalent to show venues. Guidelines for shows, sales and exhibitions seen on <u>AHA website</u>.

3. RECORD KEEPING FOR INTRODUCED GOATS/ELIGIBLE SPECIES

You must retain a record of the following details for all introduced/purchased goats or Eligible Species (some of this information should be recorded on the relevant National Vendor Declaration):

- Date of purchase/introduction
- Vendor's name and address or Property Identification Code
- Description of the goats including number, sex/age, brands, ear marks or tags
- Name of the selling agent and sale (if purchased at auction)
- The relevant GoatMAP disease module status of the herd from which the goats or other susceptible species originated; if available.

You must obtain and retain a **National Goat Health Declaration** for all purchases and appropriate **program disease status declarations for all introductions.** If you do not do this, the goats or other susceptible species will be considered to be of Non-Assessed, or possibly of lower status, thus jeopardising your herd status.

You should keep a record of the date on which any short-term introductions enter and leave the land.

You must maintain testing records for introduced goats tested on your land. An example seen on the <u>AHA website</u>. It is not compulsory to use this form. You may wish to maintain testing records in a different format.

4. STRAYING ANIMALS

If any foreign goats that are not part of the GOATBIO herd (or any susceptible species for the disease in question) enter the land (e.g., strays or neighbours' stock) you must take the following action:

- remove the animal(s) as soon as possible from the GOATBIO-accredited property
- record the date of the incursion, the duration on the property, the description of the animals involved including age, and any identifications and the identity of all your goats which were in the paddock which the foreign animal(s) entered. A record format you can use is included on the <u>AHA website</u>.
- notify your GoatMAP Veterinarian immediately and work with them to assess the impact of the incursion on the herd status and any actions required. This may involve testing of the straying animal(s), depending on the relevant disease module(s)
- identify breaks in boundary security and repair them immediately where possible
- carry out all actions you have agreed with your GoatMAP Veterinarian.

FERAL ANIMALS

Herds which have feral goats or feral Eligible Species (i.e. Foreign Animals) roaming onto the property may still achieve an assessed status, but this must be considered in the herd risk assessment and documented in the Herd Management Plan. The risk posed by the feral population can often be assessed indirectly by testing of the domestic herd and from the status of any neighbouring herds.

ELEMENT 3: MOVEMENT OF ASSESSED ANIMALS

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Management systems must minimise the risk of infection in goats from GOATBIO herds when they are moved to or from the property.

1. INTRODUCTION

For many diseases, goats can become infected by direct contact with infected goats or via indirect contact (e.g., water, unpasteurised milk and faeces). It is essential that your GOATBIO-accredited animals do not contact diseased goats or goats of unknown (or lower status) or any Eligible Species or eat or drink from potentially infected sources for Diseases of Concern. You must observe the following procedures when moving goats onto or off your land. The minimum time required for indirect contact (i.e., time between the presence of other animals and your GoatMAP module-accredited goats on the same land/premises/feed/water/equipment) is disease specific. Refer to the individual disease modules for details specific to that module.

2. WALKING

Any goats from a GOATBIO-accredited herd can be moved short distances across any land (e.g., across a road) if they are closely supervised to prevent grazing or drinking. If any goats are to be walked on land where there is potential for grazing or drinking, you must:

- get prior approval for this movement from your GoatMAP Veterinarian. You will only gain approval if the assessed risk of infection with a Disease of Concern is *low* or *minimal*
- ensure that goats and other Eligible Species (module-specific) from known Infected or Suspect herds with Diseases of Concern have not contaminated the land within the required period (see disease modules). You must obtain a written declaration to this effect from the person in charge of the land
- ensure that Foreign Animals from a herd of unknown status (or lower status) for specific disease modules have not been run on the land within the maximum period as described within each module specific for which the property is accredited.

3. TRANSPORTING

Goats from GOATBIO-accredited herds may be transported in a clean truck with Non-Assessed goats, but there must be a solid barrier, or empty pen between animals from GOATBIO accredited and non-GoatMAP herds or herds with a lower status for any Diseases of Concern.

4. SHOWS, STUD SALES AND EXHIBITIONS

If you are moving assessed goats from a GOATBIO-accredited herd to a show, stud sale or exhibition, it is important that they maintain their status if you want them to return to your herd or another GOATBIO assessed herd. As well as seeking advice from your GoatMAP Veterinarian about the risks involved, consider the following before goats from your GoatMAP herd attend a show, sale, or exhibition. You should:

- sight and where possible obtain a copy of the Certificate of Compliance with the Agricultural Shows Australia Venue Audit for the show, sale, or exhibition, found on the <u>AHA website</u>. Retain this certificate for audit purposes.
- where a venue has not been audited, evaluate the housing and hygiene standards at the venue and discuss with your veterinarian whether the standards are adequate to ensure that your herd's GOATBIO status and any disease module status can be maintained if your goats attend.

5. AGISTMENT AND HOLDING GOATS ON OTHER LAND

If moving goats to leased country, for agistment or to a group rearing scheme, your goats can still retain their GOATBIO disease status if:

- you and your GoatMAP Veterinarian (or an another GoatMAP Veterinarian for remote properties) have carried out a property risk assessment of the land you want to move goats to
- you obtain a written statement from the owner/manager of the land that it has not been stocked with Eligible Species of lower status within the prescribed period for Diseases of Concern and that the land is not contaminated land for Diseases of Concern
- you have amended your Herd Management Plan (see Element 5) to document the steps you will take to protect the herd status
- goats are constrained by natural barriers, fences, walls, or other reasonable means to ensure that they are confined
- you have a written declaration from the person in charge of the land that no other Eligible Species for Diseases of Concern will be run on the land with your goats. Eligible Species from other herds must not contact the land holding your goats unless they pass a risk assessment by your GoatMAP Veterinarian.

6. ANIMALS THAT STRAY

Goats that stray from your assessed GOATBIO herd should not be returned if they could be infected with a Disease of Concern and present a risk of introducing infection to your herd. If, in exceptional circumstances, strays must be returned, they must be isolated. Your GoatMAP Veterinarian must be consulted prior to returning the goats to the herd, and some testing may be recommended.

7. RECORD KEEPING

You must keep records for all goats dispatched from the herd for sale, slaughter or movement and subsequent return to the herd. The records must include:

- date of sale/transaction/movement
- the destination or purchaser's/selling agent's name
- description of goats (number, sex, age, breed, and management group)
- name of transport operator and vehicle registration number (if applicable)
- reason for movement (where goats are to be returned to the herd).

Keeping the LPA NVD waybill satisfies this requirement.

You can use another format to keep the records if you wish, but remember:

- the records for goats whose GoatMAP module status are to be maintained must be signed by your GoatMAP Veterinarian
- the records must contain all the required information.

GOATBIO

ELEMENT 4: LIVESTOCK IDENTIFICATION

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Livestock identification and recording systems must be implemented in GoatMAP herds. This ensures there are accurate records of stock movement and testing.

1. GETTING STARTED

To be sure you are complying with this Element of GOATBIO you must:

- establish a stock identification system that ensures permanent individual or mob identification of all goats in the herd. Check the specific disease modules to see if mob identification alone is acceptable. Some diseases require individual animals to be identified; these are diseases that require all goats to be tested and so each goat must be identified. Some disease modules that only require mob identification require regular testing of a sample of the herd. In this case, every tested animal needs to be individually identified at least until test results have been processed and acted upon.
- Where individual animal identification is required, you must identify each animal by brand, tattoo, ear mark, NLIS tag, other numbered ear tag or another method approved by the Chief Veterinary Officer in your jurisdiction.
- maintain records that identify all goats on the property.
- ensure that identification of kids born on the property takes place before weaning.
- ensure that all introduced goats are appropriately identified before arriving on your property.
- identify any goats that have been tested in any way (and for any module of GoatMAP)
- identify any goats (or Eligible Species) that are suspected of being infected for each disease module of relevance to your herd.
- attach details of your herd identification system to your Herd Management Plan (as detailed in Element 5).

2. RECORD KEEPING

You must keep records that identify all goats on the property. Two sample Livestock Identification Record Forms – one for goats born and reared on the property and one for introduced or purchased goats can be found electronically on the <u>AHA website</u>. It is not compulsory to use these forms. Remember, if you choose to use an alternative format, that all the required information must be recorded.

GOATBIO

ELEMENT 5: HERD MANAGEMENT PLAN

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A Herd Management Plan details how you will meet the requirements of GOATBIO. A Herd Management Plan is required to ensure that the status of the herd can be maintained.

A Herd Management Plan must be prepared for each herd enrolled in GOATBIO. The plan must take into account the outcomes from Elements 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7 of this module and any disease-specific requirements. Individual module requirements are covered within the specific disease module.

1. GETTING STARTED

You and your GoatMAP Veterinarian need to work together to develop a written Herd Management Plan. The plan should be prepared after the veterinarian has conducted the property and herd risk assessment. The plan will detail the procedures you are going to follow to minimise the risk of disease.

2. PREPARING THE HERD MANAGEMENT PLAN

When you are preparing a Herd Management Plan, you need to gather and record the following information:

- The origin of the herd and how long it has been established
- Identification details of all animals not bred on the property including their district, property identification code and property of origin (this information will be on the National Vendor Declaration)
- Herd details listing each mob including number, sex, and age of goats in each mob
- Details of all other Eligible Species run on the land (these are disease-module specific).
- The management practices such as mating, rearing, weaning and weaner management, selling and culling.
- Recommendations from the initial property and herd risk assessment which your veterinarian conducted (as detailed in Element 1). This includes recommendations to upgrade or repair barriers, fencing, flood gates, effluent disposal.
- Plans for managing introductions of goats into the herd (as detailed in Element 2 and with specifics within each disease module) including identification, testing of planned introductions and a strategy for dealing with stray animals.
- The plan for management of movements of assessed animals (as detailed in Element 3 and meeting any specifics from each relevant disease module) including movements to shows or sales, movements between adjoining blocks and agistment, and the strategy for dealing with assessed animals that stray from the land
- The plan for management of feral goats and any other eligible feral species that may roam onto the property.
- Detail the livestock identification system you use in the herd (as detailed in Element 4).
- The disease module testing strategy you will implement in the herd including testing dates and mobs to be tested for each module of relevance (as detailed in Element 6 and with specifics within each disease module)

- Vaccination times and strategies (if appropriate; see the relevant disease module)
- The skills and responsibilities of employees. Noting that training may be required.

You and your GoatMAP Veterinarian must agree on your Herd Management Plan, and both of you must sign it and keep a copy.

An example of a Herd Management Plan format is available electronically on the <u>AHA website</u>, alternatively you can use another format for your plan if you wish, but remember:

- You and your GoatMAP Veterinarian must sign and keep copies of the Herd Management Plan
- the plan must contain all the required information.

3. WHAT ELSE MUST YOU DO?

OTHER ELIGIBLE SPECIES

Some Diseases of Concern can be carried by other species besides goats. Managing the exposure of your herd and land to other species may be an additional requirement of specific disease modules. Work with your GoatMAP Veterinarian to determine the risk from exposure of your herd or land to other species.

CONTACT YOUR NEIGHBOURS

You are encouraged to write to the owners of all neighbouring properties that carry Eligible Species for Diseases of Concern informing them that your herd is enrolled in GoatMAP (providing the disease modules that you are accredited for) and ask them to:

- contact you before returning any stray animals
- notify you of any change to **their** herd or herd's status for each relevant disease (see modules).

An example of a letter to neighbours is available electronically on the <u>AHA website</u>.

RECORD DETAILS OF NEIGHBOURS

You should keep a record of all neighbouring properties that run goats or other Eligible Species together with their individual disease infection status, if known (module specific). Record the date that you notified them of your herd's enrolment in GoatMAP and each disease module.

An example of a way to keep details of neighbouring properties is available electronically on the <u>AHA</u> <u>website</u>. You may use another format, so long as you include the required information.

CHANGED DISEASE RISK

In the event of a significant change to the herd's disease risk situation (such as being advised that a neighbouring herd is infected or suspect) you must notify your GoatMAP Veterinarian **immediately**. You and your GoatMAP Veterinarian must then review the Property and Herd Risk Assessment (as detailed in Element 1) and ensure that adequate steps are taken to minimise any risk.



TRACE FORWARD AND TRACE BACK

If you become aware that you have introduced goats from a herd that is later found to be infected with a Disease of Concern or especially with a disease that you have accreditation for (a 'trace-forward') or that goats in another herd which came from your GoatMAP herd have been found or are suspected to be infected with a disease that you are accredited for (a 'trace-back') you must advise your GoatMAP Veterinarian as soon as possible, who will then advise the GoatMAP Administrator. You should work with your GoatMAP Veterinarian to investigate this finding. It may involve a risk assessment and/or testing of animals in the herd (particularly of the same cohort) to determine what effect this may have on your herds status. The course of action and investigation required will be module specific.

You may continue to sell goats direct to slaughter or for restocking. If you do continue to sell goats for restocking, you must make a full disclosure to prospective re-stocker purchasers of the status of the animals.

ELEMENT 6: TESTING STRATEGIES

There are no testing requirements for GOATBIO. Specific disease modules describe the testing that is required for your herd to gain, retain or advance status.

See the individual disease modules for specifics on testing.

ELEMENT 7: APPROVED CONTROLS

There are no specific approved controls for GOATBIO. Some disease modules allow approved controls, such as vaccination, to be used and status to be maintained. See the individual module for specifics on approved controls within GoatMAP.

See the individual disease modules for specifics on approved controls.

ELEMENT 8: MAINTAINING YOUR GOATMAP SYSTEMS

Periodic internal reviews are required to verify ongoing compliance with GOATBIO.

Specific record keeping requirements are also described within disease modules. Records of internal reviews should be kept. Reviews may find corrective actions or preventative actions are required to correct or prevent future non-compliance.

Records must be kept providing documentary evidence of compliance with GOATBIO. Again, see individual modules for specific records required for each disease module. Records will be independently audited as part of the GoatMAP quality assurance system.

A list of all documents should be maintained, and procedures put in place to ensure out of date documents are replaced by new versions.

GOATBIO

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1. THE IMPORTANCE OF MAINTAINING THE SYSTEM

The status and reputation of GoatMAP as a quality assurance program and its effectiveness in contributing to the management of the disease in Australia depends to a very large extent on how well you and other herd managers undertake the responsibilities of participation in the program. The on-property biosecurity systems that you have in place must be demonstrated. It is important that you ensure the following are managed appropriately for your property and herd:

- record keeping
- document control
- the conduct of internal reviews and external audits.

2. RECORD KEEPING

Maintaining up-to-date, accurate and reliable records is a critical requirement for your participation in the GoatMAP.

WHAT RECORDS MUST I KEEP?

The records that you need to keep are covered in detail in the Elements. In summary, you need to keep records that:

- describe the GOATBIO and any GoatMAP disease module status of your herd (both currently and in the past)
- show how you are managing your herd and property to minimise the risk of disease introduction and infection
- provide evidence of the testing and Annual Veterinary Reviews that have been carried out on your herd and the results of the tests
- show you are complying with the review requirements of GOATBIO and of GoatMAP disease modules (for example, completed copies of corrective action reports showing how you have corrected non-compliances).

ARE THERE SPECIFIC FORMS I HAVE TO USE?

With a few exceptions, you can keep your records in the way that best suits you and your preferred record keeping system. Some records must be kept in a specific format:

- herd status certificate
- document register
- notification of GoatMAP module Herd/Herd Details & Status/Expiry (which will be supplied by your veterinarian)
- the agreement you make with your GoatMAP Veterinarian to participate in GoatMAP.

For all other aspects of GOATBIO and for GoatMAP disease modules, recommended record formats are available electronically on the <u>AHA website</u>. You can use them as they are, or adapt them, or use different format, provided you record and retain all required information.

WHO KEEPS THE RECORDS?

Both you and your GoatMAP Veterinarian must keep records. You must keep a copy of *all* documents that relate to GOATBIO and to each relevant GoatMAP module on your property for at least the minimum period indicated on the archive register.

Your GoatMAP Veterinarian must keep a copy of:

- the agreement between them as GoatMAP Veterinarian and you as herd owner/manager.
- the herd status certificate for GOATBIO and for each relevant GoatMAP disease
- notification of GoatMAP module, herd details and status/expiry date for each relevant module
- test results for each relevant GoatMAP module
- recommendations for any corrective actions required, including the timeframe for compliance.

HOW LONG MUST RECORDS BE KEPT FOR?

You and/or your GoatMAP Veterinarian must keep the records for at least the minimum period indicated on the archive register (generally five years). If you are keeping records electronically you will need to ensure that records can still be accessed in the event of computer upgrade. A back-up system is recommended in case of computer failure.

3. DOCUMENT CONTROL

GoatMAP module requirements change from time to time. These changes may require you to:

- undertake different activities
- keep different records
- record information in a different format.

An important aspect of compliance is document control. You should ensure that that your current herd management and administration follow current requirements of GoatMAP. You should:

- ensure that your GoatMAP module paperwork is up to date. When AHA notifies you of an amendment to the module make sure that you make the changes to your printed copy
- check the AHA website regularly for updates, amendments, and reports.
- regularly check that you are using the current version of any compulsory forms and that any forms you have modified from their recommended format still comply with GoatMAP requirements. Your GoatMAP Veterinarian will be able to help you with this.
- maintain a document register that lists all documents and indicates their status (current/superseded).

4. CONDUCTING OR PARTICIPATING IN REVIEWS AND AUDITS INTERNAL REVIEWS

The best way to ensure that you are continuing to comply with the requirements of GoatMAP is to regularly monitor your systems. This means that you make regular checks that you and your staff are using the correct procedures in all key activities described in GOATBIO and relevant GoatMAP disease module and maintaining up-to-date, accurate and reliable records containing all the required

information. Internal reviews on all records, activities and procedures need to be carried out at least every twelve months.

WHO DOES THE REVIEW?

You or a trained and skilled member of your staff. It is part of your preparation for the other internal review, the Annual Veterinary Review, and in future, an external audit.

HOW DO I GO ABOUT THE REVIEW?

A Review Checklist can be found electronically on the <u>AHA website</u>. Once the review is complete and any necessary corrective actions have been taken, the signed checklist and corrective action reports should be held on file.

TAKING CORRECTIVE ACTION

Despite your best efforts and intentions, problems may occur. For example, neighbours' animals may stray onto land on which the herd is run, or an animal may lose its identification.

These problems (non-compliance or a non-conformance) will be identified during routine onproperty activities by staff or by a reviewer.

Whenever these events occur, you should complete a Corrective Action Report and take and record preventive or corrective action, found on the <u>AHA website</u>. This is your record of the actions you have taken to fix problems.

Generally, five questions are asked to identify, control, and correct a non-conformance:

- 1. What is the problem?
- 2. What caused the problem?
- 3. What can be done to fix the problem?
- 4. Has the problem really been corrected and is the action effective?
- 5. Can anything be done to prevent the problem from happening again?

Answering these five questions should ensure that the problem is identified, and corrected and, if possible, action taken to prevent the problem from happening again. You need to record these actions in a Corrective Action Report form.

ANNUAL VETERINARY REVIEW

The Annual Veterinary Review is conducted by your GoatMAP Veterinarian, this review is critical to maintaining the accreditation status of your herd for each relevant module. It is also an opportunity for you and your GoatMAP Veterinarian to identify ways to improve your systems and procedures.