

Winter grazing checklist

Are you set for winter?

To meet this achievement, you will need to assess the winter grazing risk associated with your farm and demonstrate how this risk is managed before 1st May each year (prior to the winter months).

Wintering Checklist	Green - I'm all set to go	Orange - This could be improved	Red - Not planned, needs more preparation
Stock are excluded from waterways. There is a minimum buffer of 5m in place (10m is required for sloping ground).	✓		
Critical Source Areas (CSA's) are protected. Ideally keep stock off them for the whole winter period and leave a good buffer area at the lowest point to filter any sediment run-off.	✓		
Graze paddocks strategically. If adjacent to a waterway, graze towards the waterway. If on a slope, graze downwards in the direction of the water flow or using a plan suited to your location (such as an extra wide buffer).	✓		
Supplementary feed and portable water troughs (if used) are placed away from waterways, critical source areas and ponding areas.	✓		
Animal welfare requirements have been catered for. Consider shelter, ability to lie down on firm ground and access to water.	✓		
A feed budget has been completed to ensure adequate feed is available for the whole winter (including extra feed for poor weather).		✓	
Adverse weather has been planned for to ensure that animal welfare and environmental protection needs are met.	✓		
Make a plan to record evidence (photos, video, farm diary) showing how good management practices are being implemented and to learn from for next year's plan.		✓	

Resources to help your winter planning and preparation

[Dairy NZ's Winter pasture management resources.](#)

[Dairy NZ's advice on how to manage Pugging damage.](#)

[Dairy NZ's tips on Cow health during wintering.](#)

[Fonterra's winter grazing management factsheet.](#)