

Weaner Compliance with PCAS Standards



Weaner Definition

A young calf that was weaned for the purpose of its first sale onto a Certified Pasturefed PIC or a property prior to Certification, is less than 10 months old and has been raised in a manner that is consistent with the Standards from birth to sale.

First Sale

The breeder of the weaners must be the vendor. This ensures that the one person has been responsible for the weaners management and this allows for the guarantee that the treatment has been consistent with the PCAS Standards.

Less than 10 Months Old

The weaners need to be less than 10 months when they are sold.

Raised in a Manner Consistent with the PCAS Standards

The following explain the applicability of the PCAS Standards to weaners:

Lifetime Traceable (LT) Status

- Weaners were born on the supplier's property and any PIC movement has been recorded.

Never been fed cereal grain or separated grain products or by-products

- Weaners have never been fed separate cereal grain or grain by-products.
 - A non-exclusive list of banned cereal grains: barley, corn, millet, oats, rice, rye, sorghum, triticale and wheat.
 - Cereal grain products or by-products are banned in any form such as whole, ground, cracked, flaked or toasted.
 - Harvested cereal grain crops were only grazed by weaners when over 75% of the paddocks average vegetative regrowth was higher than 21cm.
 - Cereal grain crops grazed by weaners occurred when the crop was in a pre-grain state, before the milky development stage, for the entire grazing period.
- All supplementary feed given to weaners must be consistent with the Eligible Diet or identified as an approved supplement.
 - The PCAS eligible diet must be derived solely from forage consisting of; grass (annual/ perennial), forbs, browse, cereal grain in pre-grain state, legumes (lucerne, clover, peas, leucaena), brassica, roughage sources.
 - Consumption of hay, haylage, baylage, silage, forage product, cereal crop residue without grain and roughage while on pasture is not restricted under PCAS.
 - PCAS Approved Supplements

- Roughage products: almond hulls, beet pulp, corn cobs, cottonseed hulls, peanut hulls, soybean hulls.
- Forage products: Lucerne cubs/pellets, forage cubes, grass cubes/pellets, hay from any forage, silage from any forage without grain.
- Supplements: canola seed/meal, coconut meal, copra meal, cotton seed meal/ whole, flax seed, linseed, malt sprouts, oat hulls, peanut meal, rice hulls, soybean meal, soybean extruded, sunflower seed meal.

Never been confined for the purposes of intensive feeding for production

- Weaners can be confined for husbandry and management activities, such as weighing, drafting, marking, weaning and treatment, but the time in confinement must not exceed 20 days per calendar year.
- Time spent in confinement for transportation purposes, including transport and consolidating for sale, must not exceed 7 days for each journey.
- Any feed supplement given during confinement must be consistent with the PCAS diet.

Have never been treated with HGPs

- The weaners have never been treated with HGPs.

Have never been directly treated with antibiotics

- The weaners have never been treated directly with antibiotics.
 - Feedstuffs containing antibiotics, such as monensin, are banned.
- The use of anthelmintics for the treatment of parasites is acceptable.