

# GUIDE FOR FEEDLOT OWNERS & MANAGERS

## Trespass Advice Checklist

**HOW TO USE THIS RESOURCE:** Run through each best practice checklist below to prepare your facility and manage activist intrusions. The guidelines aim to ensure your facility is proactively prepared for an immediate response in the event of an activist incursion on your property and to provide for the safety of people and the well-being of livestock on site.

### PREPAREDNESS

- Restrict entry – mount entrance gates, keep closed where practical and locked (heavy duty chain and padlock)
- Engrave RMB number and property name on entrance gates (for emergency service recognition)
- Ensure (where practical) fences are secure (fences define the property boundaries and can restrict access)
- Erect clear signs at point(s) of entry:
  - ▶ “Warning – no entry without permission from the landowner” or
  - ▶ “By Appointment Only”
- Erect signage confirming that site is a “Quarantine Area” or “Livestock Biosecurity Area”
- Photograph and date-log signs in position (for future reference in investigations by police)
- Installation of CCTV video surveillance systems at designated points (identified)
- Be alert
- Report any unusual activity (persons in and around property, unfamiliar vehicles, drones) to owner/manager
- Report any related activity to local police
- Limit unannounced visitors to site
- Request and require that all visitors are screened prior to approval for entry to the feedlot
- Block vehicle access outside normal business hours
- Lock all offices (main/livestock/hospital) and vehicles
- Employ security guard for high risk time periods (this may be resourced in conjunction with multiple facilities)
- Consider purchasing a megaphone to communicate with trespassers

**REMEMBER: Engage with authorities early. Create awareness of the issue.**

### ACTIVIST INCURSION

- Stay calm and safe - communication must be consistent, clear and cordial
- Do not display any signs of confrontation – do not show verbal aggression or engage physically, ignore criticism
- Request identification
- Request the intruders leave the property. Use a megaphone for large groups – see *\*directive to trespassers*
- Communicate with staff – provide clear instruction – work program continuity, congregate for safety

- Request for police assistance – register a complaint
- Contact the police immediately – **call 000** (in the first instance for a faster response) then **Policelink 131444** and the local police branch - provide RMB/location, safety concerns, protestor numbers etc.
- Focus on collecting evidence
- Take date stamped footage of the incursion - e.g. using a GoPro or Mobile Phone Video
- Record detail of the trespassers – vehicle registration, faces of antagonists etc
- Record illegal drone activity – trespassing, flight path (over or above people and at what weight approximately), affecting safety (people and livestock)

**REMEMBER: Priority is to remain calm and professional. Record their actions (evidence). Keep people safe.**

### PRIORITY IS DE-ESCALATION

- Only owners/managers/supervisors to engage with trespassers – all other people should be requested not to engage in conversation
  - Communication must be consistent, clear and cordial
  - Ensure a minimum of two (2) employees always remain in attendance with the owners/managers/supervisors
  - Continually ask questions of intruders – Who is in charge?
  - Names? Why intruding? Who gave permission?
- Personalise the experience – you have no permission to be on property, ask to leave and move to public property, acknowledge they have a right to protest (but not on private property), explain property is a place of lawful business and a home, family/workers are upset/fearful due to presence, advise that they are compromising biosecurity, their own safety and potentially the well-being of livestock – see *\*directive to trespassers*
- Tell intruders that company policy requires that the police be informed of visitors
  - Do not threaten harm
  - Do not answer any questions – particularly personal
  - Do not argue about the protest/cause
  - Do not discuss livestock or business practices
  - Do not disclose where livestock or equipment is housed/stored

**REMEMBER: Work sensibly and professionally “around” the event. Be cautious.**

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## Trespass Advice Checklist cont.

### AFTER THE EVENT

- Feedlot response - contact ALFA regarding any media enquiries
- Industry response – ALFA will facilitate an industry response if needed
- Feedlot response - make a complaint/report offence to Police – this helps the police prosecution process
- Provide evidence to police - provision of timely and accurate information (including recorded actions of the intruders)
- Consider legal action – explore the ability to sue identified intruders - record staff/security resources used, time lost, transport delays, animal welfare, lost production, safety issues, damage (inc. Biosecurity and QA risks), footage and recordings, personnel notes on incident (best made immediately after incident)
- Police to identify an offence has been committed
  - identify offenders and witnesses, obtain relevant information, safeguard evidence
- Prosecution – if evidence sufficient and in the public interest
- Property owner/manager – written statement, attendance in court

### SOCIAL MEDIA CHECK-UP

- Instruct employees/contractors to refrain from all social media comment regarding the incursion
- Undertake Privacy Check (privacy settings) on all business social media accounts to restrict/protect content

**REMEMBER: Positive images in well-run feedlot facilities is a better outcome than inappropriate commentary**

### \* DIRECTIVE TO TRESPASSERS

TO BE READ TO ACTIVISTS DURING AN INCURSION BY THE PERSON IN CHARGE:

“I am (*name and position*) of (*name of Feedlot*), the person currently in charge of this facility and notify you all that you are unlawfully on this private property.

I revoke all lawful rights for you to be here, and I now require you to immediately move yourselves, and all your personal property off (*name of Feedlot*) and (*name of property*).”