

PROTECT
OUR FUTURE.

WORKING TOGETHER TO PROTECT OUR FUTURE FROM EXOTIC PESTS AND DISEASES.

Proposals to sign the Government Industry Agreement (GIA) for Biosecurity Readiness and Response

SUMMARY DOCUMENT





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**WORKING TOGETHER TO PROTECT OUR
FUTURE FROM EXOTIC PESTS AND DISEASES.**



**WITH YOUR
SUPPORT, WE
AIM TO MAKE
OUR INDIVIDUAL
APPLICATIONS TO
BECOME A GIA
SIGNATORY BY
THE END OF 2017.**

DairyNZ, Beef+Lamb New Zealand (B+LNZ), Deer Industry New Zealand (DINZ) and Federated Farmers are seeking your support for our separate proposals to join other primary sector groups in signing the Government Industry Agreement for Biosecurity Readiness and Response Deed (the GIA).

As a GIA Signatory representing you, each of us could take part in making decisions with the Government and other Signatories about biosecurity priorities, cost-shares and improving the way we prepare for and respond to biosecurity issues. On your behalf, we'd have more influence and more certainty so we can be more prepared to deal with incursions of exotic pests and diseases.

WHAT DO WE WANT YOU TO DO?

If we proceed with our respective GIA applications, we need to show the Minister for Primary Industries that we have strong farmer support. We encourage you to have your say and join us in working together to protect our future from exotic pests and diseases.

Please take a few minutes to:

1. Read this Summary Document, accompanying brochure(s) and e-documents from Federated Farmers setting out specific proposals for each of our organisations.
2. Tell us what you think by making a submission on our proposals. Our individual brochures and e-documents explain more about our respective positions and how to submit your answers to consultation questions for each of our sectors.

We encourage you to make your submission(s) using the online form option(s) as this will enable us to collate and analyse your submissions more easily. The websites where you can do this are:

- livestockgia.org.nz (for DairyNZ, B+LNZ and DINZ)
- fedfarm.org.nz (for Federated Farmers)



HAVE
YOUR
SAY...

KEY DATES

31 October – Consultation opens

6 December – Consultation closes

Submissions must be received by 12 noon.

20 December – Submissions analysed and submitters views considered

22 December – If there is clear support for our proposals, this is the date by which we will aim to submit our applications to be a GIA Signatory to the Minister for Primary Industries.

MORE INFORMATION

You can view and download a larger, more detailed discussion document at www.livestockgia.org.nz and www.fedfarm.org.nz. The discussion document also outlines DairyNZ, B+LNZ and DINZ intentions to become Parties to a Foot and Mouth Disease Operational Agreement (FMD-OA) under the GIA, minimum commitments under the FMD-OA, and how funding shares would be determined.

Federated Farmers is proposing to sign the GIA, but does not intend to become a Party to any Operational Agreements under the GIA.

To find out
more about
the GIA >

visit: <http://www.gia.org.nz>.

If you have any questions about the proposals in our individual brochures, or the feedback process for each of our organisations please contact the appropriate organisation:

DairyNZ

✉ info@dairynz.co.nz

☎ 0800 4 DAIRYNZ (0800 4 324 7969)

B+LNZ

✉ GIA@beeflambnz.com

☎ 0800 233 352 (0800 BEEFLAMB)

DINZ

✉ info@deernz.org

☎ 04 473 4500

Federated Farmers

✉ GIA@fedfarm.org.nz

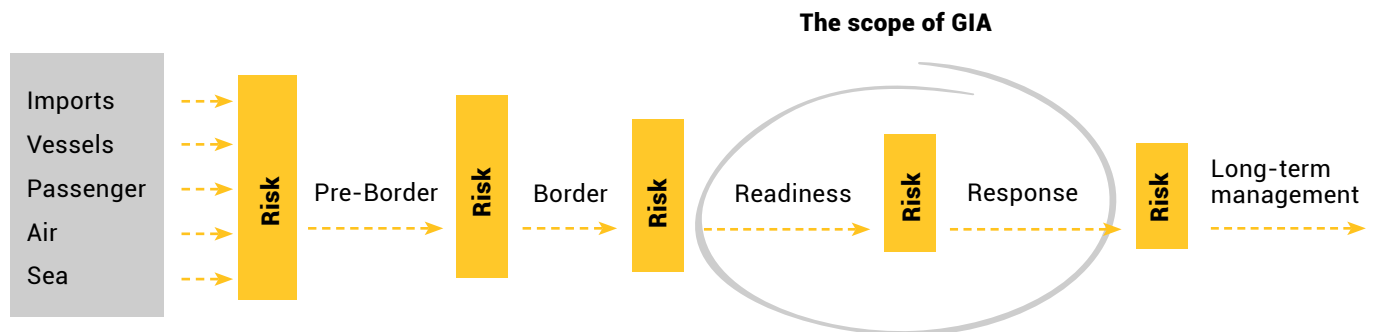
☎ 0800 327 646 (0800 FARMING)

BIOSECURITY AND THE GIA

New Zealand's biosecurity processes prevent and manage risks posed by unwanted pests and diseases to the economy, environment and human health. Disease outbreaks, pasture pests, weeds and animal pests can have serious long-term financial impacts on livestock, farms, and primary sector businesses, as well as health and safety impacts for people working with livestock and their products.

and the bars indicate the reducing level of risk due to the interventions. The ring around readiness and response interventions shows the scope of the GIA. If a response results in a successful eradication of the exotic pest or disease, there will be no need for long-term management.

The diagram below shows the biosecurity continuum and where the GIA fits. The yellow arrows from left to right show the progression of biosecurity interventions

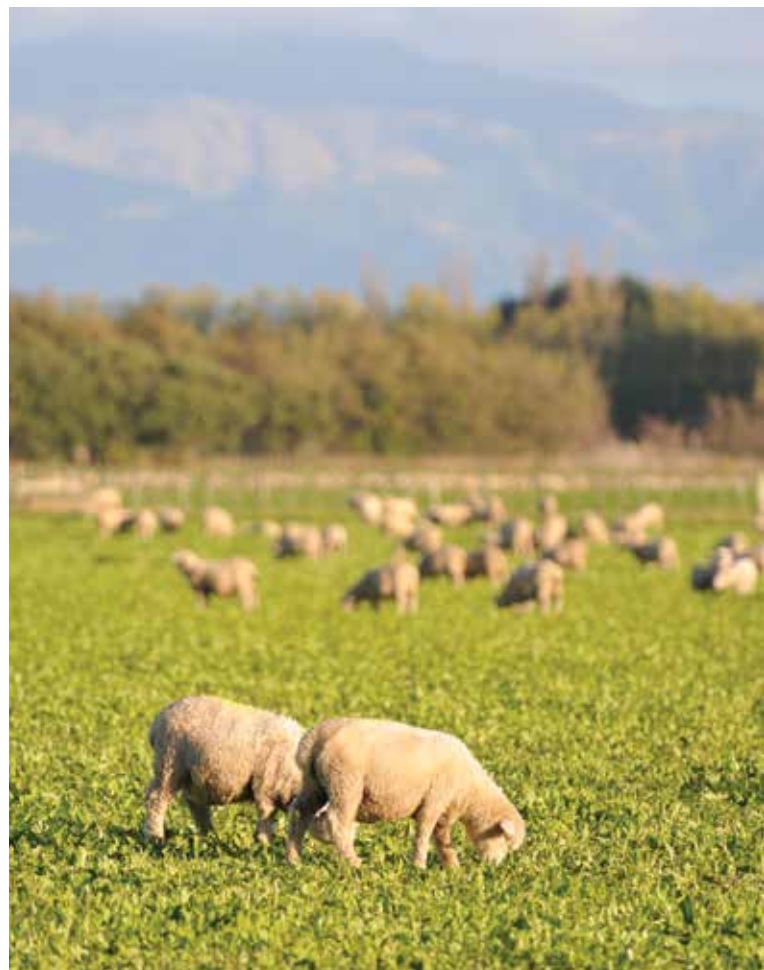


THE GIA AT A GLANCE

The GIA is provided for in the Biosecurity Act 1993. Government and industry agreed the wording of the GIA Deed, setting out arrangements applicable to all GIA Signatories.

The GIA is a partnership between primary industries and the Government. Although the decision to exercise Biosecurity Act powers is ultimately a Government responsibility, the GIA is a way for Signatories to share decision-making responsibilities and the costs of preparing for, and responding to, exotic pest and disease incursions.

Signing the GIA will immediately create legal obligations called 'minimum commitments' for each of us, which we must fully fund ourselves. DairyNZ, B+LNZ and DINZ would also be expected to agree to undertaking specific readiness and response activities in a GIA Operational Agreement, for which we will also need to fund our share.



WHY SHOULD WE SIGN THE GIA?

Signing the GIA would strengthen our effectiveness in representing our sector in national biosecurity decision-making. This will result in better biosecurity outcomes for our sector.

In the accompanying brochure(s), we each provide information about our respective biosecurity interests, and our eligibility to join the GIA proposals for farmer representation in GIA decision-making, GIA funding proposals and the implications of GIA commitments.

We're not the first industries to sign the GIA. So far, there are 17 primary industry Signatories, including the Dairy Companies Association of New Zealand (DCANZ) and Meat Industry Association (MIA). It's important that we, as representatives of the producers of their products and the deer processing sector, join them as GIA Signatories. This helps ensure we all have a similar level of influence in biosecurity readiness and response activities.

More influence

Signing the GIA means we can participate in, and better

influence, joint decision-making with the Government and other GIA Signatories about:

- prioritisation of biosecurity risks
- how to improve preparedness to reduce the impacts and costs of responses
- strategic approaches to responses
- fair and consistent cost sharing across all sectors and with Government.

More certainty

We will have more up-front certainty about actions to be taken, responsibilities, costs and cost-shares. Our involvement as a GIA Signatory will also:

- contribute to ensuring the long-term viability of livestock farming in New Zealand
- build our credibility and reputation as a responsible industry around biosecurity
- help us to improve the return on our existing biosecurity investments
- help us to identify and address our sector's actual biosecurity risks and liabilities in a fair and consistent way.

More prepared

Although focused on readiness and response for an actual exotic pest or disease incursion, the GIA will support engagement across the broader biosecurity system, by giving GIA Signatories increasing visibility of emerging risks and the effectiveness of the whole biosecurity system.

Readiness and response plans for specific sector risk organisms will be agreed in advance – giving increased confidence that when a response occurs, what actions will be taken, when, for how long, and by whom.

Being part of the GIA will help us deploy our resources in an agreed and cost-effective way to help minimise the risks posed by the unwanted pests and diseases that are likely to have a significant impact on our industries.

GIA minimum commitments align closely with our existing, business as usual approach. For example, the

administration, technical and communications resources we already use to engage in biosecurity forums, manage risks and support response activities will continue to be deployed under GIA.

There should be no surprises. As GIA Signatories, DairyNZ, B+LNZ and DINZ could contract with the Government and other relevant sectors on readiness and response activities through agreements called Operational Agreements. These Agreements can be about specific pests and diseases, groups of organisms, specific pest entry pathways surveillance, or activities to improve biosecurity readiness or response. For example, we are in the process of negotiating an Operational Agreement for the risks associated with a Foot and Mouth Disease outbreak. We can also set a limit on our costs under Operational Agreements. This limit is called a fiscal cap.



WHAT HAPPENS IF WE DON'T SIGN?

If we don't sign the GIA, our ability to influence biosecurity decision-making would be affected. Non-Signatory organisations will have no decision rights in responses and MPI would use relatively new powers under the Biosecurity Act to cost recover our sector's share of the bill, if it believes we benefitted from MPI's and/or other sectors readiness and response activities.



If we are not a GIA Signatory the risks are:

- Government and existing GIA Signatories determine priority risks to our sector, with our input being limited to current stakeholder consultation channels.
- Government (and any GIA Signatories who are also beneficiaries) will decide:
 - when a response should occur
 - how to respond, and
 - if and when a response should move to long-term pest management arrangements.
- Costs of response will be recovered from industry participants who are deemed to be beneficiaries by the Parties to an Operational Agreement and we won't be able to specify a limit. Our share of costs in an Operational Agreement will be calculated by MPI and other Signatory beneficiaries.
- Industry specific readiness activities will not have access to matching or greater Government funding.
- Sector specific efforts will duplicate or conflict with other approaches, undermining the value of biosecurity investments.
- The Government is less able to utilise our expertise and knowledge in a response and we are not able to exert as much influence around the decision table.

HOW THE LIVESTOCK SECTOR'S GIA ARRANGEMENTS WOULD WORK

The Livestock Sector Council (LSC) has been established as the primary forum for discussion and information sharing by the livestock sector on biosecurity issues and activities of common concern. LSC Members will be livestock sector GIA Signatories, MPI and any other entity that accepts an invitation from the LSC to join.

The LSC will provide strategic leadership, including around the management and prioritisation of biosecurity risks to the livestock sector. The LSC will coordinate and oversee the delivery of activities agreed in Operational Agreements by all Parties and other, wider biosecurity system activities affecting the livestock sector.

What activities are done, who is responsible for undertaking them and how the costs will be shared will be specific to each Operational Agreement, although the livestock sector has agreed some cost-sharing principles that will be applicable. Signatories will also have influence over the standard and efficiency of readiness and response work.

The diagram below explains the relationships between different parts of the GIA structure directly relevant to the livestock sector.



REPRESENTATION IN GIA DECISION-MAKING

DairyNZ, B+L NZ, DINZ and Federated Farmers will each make separate arrangements for ensuring that their constituents' views are represented during joint decision-making activities under the GIA. Please refer to our separate proposals for further details.



FUNDING PROPOSALS AND IMPLICATIONS OF GIA COMMITMENTS

The GIA involves the primary sector taking responsibility for costs previously borne by the public. Our separate brochure(s) provide details of how DairyNZ, B+LNZ, DINZ and Federated Farmers will each fund its share. We all agree that our farmers and members benefit from readiness and response activities which impact upon livestock production and/or the quality of livestock products.

Under the GIA, the Government has committed to an industry contribution limit set at a maximum of 50% of the total agreed readiness or response activities for

GIA partners. Pest and disease-specific fiscal caps (i.e. funding limits) may also be set for each Signatory, which are the maximum amounts each Signatory is prepared to pay under a specific Operational Agreement.

If a response continues once a fiscal cap is reached by a sector, that sector has the option to reassess whether it wishes to continue to participate and increase its fiscal cap, or to exit the response and cease to participate in decision making for that response.



VISIT
www.gia.org.nz
for more information

