



# Winter Flood Bulletin

## First responses

- Ensure the safety of family and staff
- Move stock to safety, shelter and water and make sure they can't wander.
- Check power and phones. Report outages
- Check on neighbours—do they need help or can they help you?
- Check buildings at risk, feed stacks. Move equipment and feed to higher ground
- Move stock to a stand-off area so that they do not damage good pastures
- Feed stock
- Check roads and tracks, bridges, culverts
- Clean up houses
- Look after family, staff, neighbours. Accept help if you need it
- Assess damage to water supply and reticulation system. Which troughs are contaminated with silt and will need cleaning?
- Assess damage to access lanes, tracks, gateways, culverts and fences. What clearing away of flood debris is needed?
- Assess available non-flooded pastures and other undamaged feed reserves
- Contact local council, flood relief co-ordinator, Beef+Lamb New Zealand staff, DairyNZ staff, Federated Farmers, MPI, or other resource providers
- Talk to bank manager, insurance company
- Accept help when offered, and ask for it if you need it.

### After assessing damage

- List what you need to do in priority order
- Relocate stock to safe ground or other region if needed
- Decision tree for flood damaged farms (page 2)
- Feed budgeting (below)
- Keep informed from locals, neighbours and regional with updates and information.

### Feed budgeting

*A guide to feed planning for sheep farmers is available from B+LNZ by free phoning 0800 233 352.*

- Assess the current feed resources
- Assess winter crop paddocks and estimate yields
- Do a supplementary feed inventory
- Buy in feed if you need too
- Be realistic, how many stock units can you feed for the remainder of the winter?
- Manage grazing of wet soils (through decision plan) to minimise the risk of pasture and soil damage which will impact subsequent growth
- Consider other options
  - Graze stock elsewhere
  - Get rid of culls.

## Key contacts after a flood

### Support services

Beef + Lamb New Zealand	0800 233 352
Federated farmers	0800 327 646
Ministry of Primary Industries	0800 008 333
DairyNZ	0800 432 479
Fonterra	0800 656 568
RuralSupport	0800 787 254
Rural Woman NZ	0800 256 467
Horizons Pollution	0800 800 800

### Counseling

Depression information	www.depression.org.nz
Depression Helpline	0800 111 757
Like Minds Information Line	0800 102 107
Lifeline	0800 543 354
Healthline	0800 611 116
Alcohol and Drug Helpline	0800 787 797
Gambling Helpline	0800 654 655

### Banks

ASB	0800 272 007
BNZ	0800 275 269
National bank	0800 807 711
Rabobank	0800 722 622
Westpac	0800 177 155

### Insurance companies

FMG	0800 366 466
Tower	0800 379 372
Vero	0800 800 134
State	0800 802 424

### Nutrient management

Ballance	0800 222 090
Ravensdown	0800 100 123
Mainland Minerals	0800 222 203
Agrifert	0800 300 315
FertNZ	0800 337 869



**BY FARMERS.  
FOR FARMERS**

0800 BEEFLAMB  
(0800 233 352)  
[www.beeflambnz.com](http://www.beeflambnz.com)

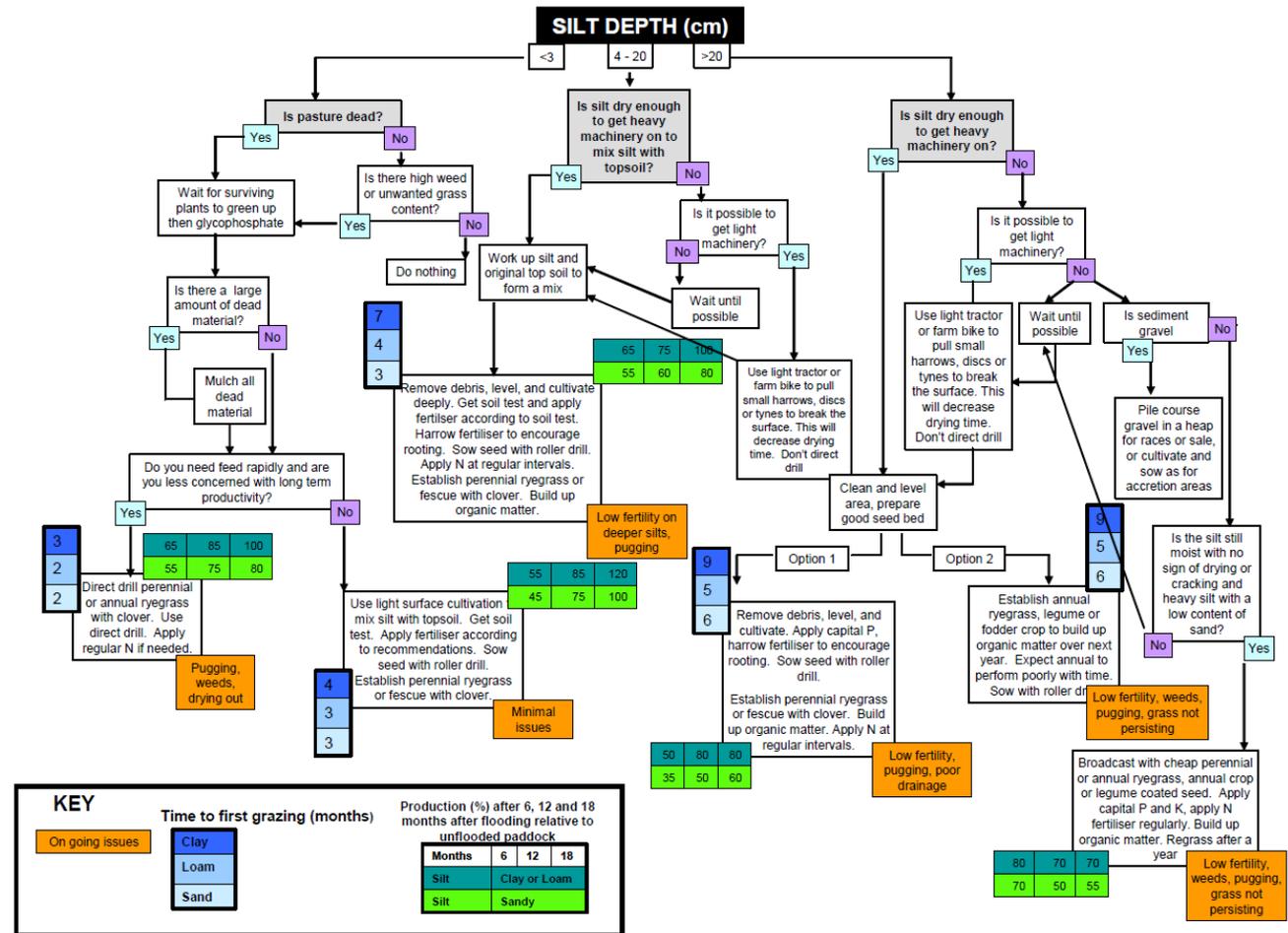
### What do my stock need?

\*Assuming lambing in mid-September, 65kg mating weight.

kgDM/hd/day	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
Ewes (single)*	1.3	1.5	1.9	2.2
Ewes (twin)*	1.4	1.7	2.4	3.0
Ewes (triplets)*	1.5	1.9	2.6	3.5
Hoggets (mated)	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.9
Hoggets (dry)	1.1	1.2	1.4	1.6
R1 Cattle	6	6	6	6
R2 Cattle (450 kg)	8	8	10	10
Beef cows (in calf) maintenance	6	8	10	10
Dairy Cows	12	12		
Hinds	2.4	2.4	2.6	2.6
Wnr deer	2	2.6	4	4
R2 year stags	3	4	4.5	4.5



## Decision tree to help with pasture programme



Use your feed plan to help determine the key elements of your pasture programme. While it is too late for major renovation now, it is important to determine how you will manage through spring with reduced pasture and/or fodder feed.

Some options used successfully by farmers in flood prone areas:

- **Talk to your fertiliser rep** to determine the best fertiliser options for your situation
- If the silt smells, and has a lot of thatch, mow it, cultivate the soil when dry enough and sow in either short term or long term pastures with clover.

Source—Lower North Island Combined Provincial Federated Farmers Storm group Sustainable Farming Fund: Project 05/060: Meat and Wool FITT project.