



The Bio Dynamic Farming and
Gardening Assoc. in N.Z. Inc.

Founded on the work of Rudolf Steiner
PO Box 356
Martinborough 5741
Phone 0-6-306 8582
E-mail: office@biodynamic.org.nz
Net: www.biodynamic.org.nz

The Farm Profile Template

for

Demeter Certification

Version February 2015

New item in Soils section 2.3 – please write in results of soil residue tests and write notes on the sampling (When? What? How? Who?)

Purpose

- ◆ To provide background to your farm for the Demeter Assessment Group.
 - ◆ To make you aware (as you go through it) of things you may have overlooked about your farm system.
 - ◆ To complement the *Management Plan* which describes current situation and forward plans
 - ◆ To complement the *Annual Report* which records details from the last reporting period.
- Most of the information requested here is likely to change very little from year to year.

How to use this template

- ◆ Read through to the end, before starting – to avoid unnecessary duplication.
- ◆ Start with the numbered headings and bullet points as your headings in a blank word processing page. (It must be typed)
- ◆ You can copy the headings out of the pdf version of the form on the Association's website or we can email them to you to save you typing them.
- ◆ Make sure you report on every bullet point. I.e. Complete **everything**. If any part does not apply, just say so. Eg for 2.2 Soils "Provide copies of soil tests if you have them" you could write "No soil tests have been done"
- ◆ Make sure your plan will stand on its own. E.g. Don't write "1.2c. None" but "1.2c. Training in farming/organics/biodynamics. We have had no formal training in any aspect of agriculture"
- ◆ Use new, A4 (magazine size) paper. Other sizes are not acceptable.
- ◆ **Don't** use colour coding on maps – it can't be easily copied. Use shading, cross-hatching, etc. Maps no bigger than A3 (twice A4). No tracings or aerial photos.

When you have finished this questionnaire:

- ◆ **Keep a master copy, either on paper or electronically.** You will refer to it during the year and also when filing amendments. (If you don't keep a copy you may incur a lot of extra work!)
- ◆ Send a copy in with the other Demeter papers – *Management Plan, Annual Report*
- ◆ Send only a copy on paper – not electronic

In the future:

- ◆ You will need to notify amendments by sending in a complete revised Profile with changes tracked.

1 HISTORY AND PAST DEVELOPMENT

<p>1.1 Introduction and historical overview</p>	<p>Provide a brief overview of the business and its recent history. Include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possession date or the date you became manager. • Brief details of the history of the property over the past 5 years. • Past land uses • Past management systems • Development work undertaken (<i>e.g. established dairy unit in 1997, drainage programme completed 1996, ongoing establishment of shelter, etc.</i>) • Information on all sectors of the business and their relative significance/importance.
<p>1.2 Personal biographical information</p>	<p>Voluntary section, for information about yourself and co-workers You could include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Past experience of biodynamic farming/certification • Education • Training in farming/organics/biodynamics • Other information you consider may be relevant to biodynamic farming and growing. (<i>This information may help reduce any conditions imposed on a grant of certification.</i>)
<p>1.3 Past practices</p>	<p>Identify past practices that could affect your ability to produce biodynamic products within the Demeter Standards. Include :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Past heavy DDT, heavy metal or other agrichemical use • Any places where contamination may be greater such as old sheep dips, places where crop sprayers were washed or filled, etc. • Past permanent cropping programmes, grazing practices, off-site sources of contamination of your production areas, impure water sources, etc. • A copy of a soil multi residue test, including DDT, if you have one. • Details and dates of last prohibited, non Demeter practices, including known chemical and fertiliser use. • Name any consultants you have used, including unpaid ones.
<p>1.4 Programme of conversion</p>	<p>Give an overview of the programme of conversion. Include :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Date farm first started to convert to biodynamic or organic management • Details of changes in management to date, during the conversion period. • List of past quality assurance audits, inspections, outside reviews, and accreditations, including health authority certificates. • Date of first application of the biodynamic field spray preparations.

2 FARM PHYSICAL DETAIL

<p>2.1 Farm profile map</p>	<p>Supply a farm map or maps (no bigger than A3, black & white only). Include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location of fields, tracks, buildings, etc. – link to question 2.2 below • General aspect and topography – link to question 2.3 below, no. 1. • Prevailing winds – link to question 2.4 below • Location of crops and permanent plantings • Location and types of trees, shelter belts etc. • Soil type(s) – link to question 2.3 below • Water sources and irrigation bores and systems if applicable. • Location of effluent ponds and drainage systems. • Location of the neighbouring properties for question 2.7 below • Location of any areas not biodynamically farmed, and natural unfarmed areas. <p>Note: Coloured maps, large maps, tracings or aerial photos are not acceptable</p>
<p>2.2 Specialist buildings</p>	<p>Detail specialist buildings for packing, post-harvest management. Include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure type of building (<i>e.g. 20 position herringbone milking shed</i>) stated on map – question 2.1 above. • Supply information where necessary to show how used – where design is unusual or unique to your enterprise, and name is insufficient. • Plans where necessary to supplement information in point 2 above. • Chemical storage buildings – ensure they are on map of question 2.1 above • Biodynamic preparation storage facilities
<p>2.3 Soils</p>	<p>Identify and describe all soil types. Include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basement rocks occurring on the property. • Copies of any recent soil nutrient tests you may have. • Notes on <u>residue</u> tests & info on sampling procedure (Who, What, When, How). • Record the <u>results</u> of soil residue tests in the text of the farm profile document • Description of topography and aspect.
<p>2.4 Climate</p>	<p>Describe the climate. Include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mean annual rainfall and rainfall distribution through the year, • Temperatures – normal maximum and minimum, variation during the year (<i>e.g. days and levels; sunshine hours.</i>) • Frosts – what and when • Prevailing winds and wind run
<p>2.5 Water</p>	<p>Give details of all water sources used. Include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water used for: ♦ livestock ♦ biodynamic preparations ♦ shed cleaning ♦ produce processing ♦ irrigation ♦ liquid manures ♦ other purposes. • Details of all water catchment areas, including rain water collected. • Details of contamination risks and resulting water quality. • Any water tests results you hold (bacteriological and chemical residue), with information on how samples were taken.
<p>2.6 Cultural values</p>	<p>Identify any features that might be of cultural, environmental or recreational value to you or any other persons. Include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How you protect and enhance these values, for areas such as pa sites, wet lands, native bush, coastal, hunting or food gathering areas.
<p>2.7 Neighbouring activities</p>	<p>Describe all neighbouring activities. Include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contamination risks from water, fertiliser, spray and livestock, fire; including buffer zones. Show threats on map (q. 2.1 above) where relevant. • Mention high voltage power lines, gas pipelines, major roads, etc.

