FARM TRESPASS – ANIMAL ACTIVISTS

Livestock businesses and processing facilities may be targeted by animal activist groups. Unauthorised entry to your property can create a risk of personal injury, property damage, harm to livestock, loss of production or biosecurity breaches.

How to protect your property

- Restrict access points - fit gates and keep them secure.
- Lock all buildings and vehicles.
- Install a CCTV surveillance system.
- Display clear signage identifying no unauthorised access, any workplace safety requirements or biosecurity issues.
- Photograph and date-log all advisory signage to assist any police investigations.
- Display your RMB number and business name clearly for emergency services.
- Report to police any suspicious activity, unfamiliar vehicles, persons or drones being flown.

If a trespass occurs

Livestock businesses are often family operated and animal activist trespassing can make you feel vulnerable, fearful and angry. This can lead to confrontations between parties. If you find yourself in this situation, it is important to act rationally, and focus on remaining calm and keeping yourself and your employees safe. Your priority is to avoid confrontation, be sensible, and manage the situation safely.

How to manage the situation

Only owners/managers/supervisors should engage with trespassers. All other staff should be requested not to engage with them.

- Use consistent, clear and calm communication.
- Explain they are compromising biosecurity, their own safety and the well-being of livestock.
- Tell them they are trespassing and ask them to leave.
- Tell them that the police have been contacted.
- Do not threaten harm.

If you do not feel confident telling them they are trespassing and requesting they leave, refer this to the police.


Emergency police assistance: Call Triple Zero (000)
Non-urgent police assistance: Call 131 444
Please advise police to record your report as suspected animal activism.