



Ministry of  
Agriculture

## Livestock Health Management and Regulation

### FUR FARM LICENCE RENEWAL

APRIL 1, 2016 – MARCH 31, 2017

s.79

Licence Number: 31568

situated at: s.79

Tel: s.79

(Address of Fur Farm if different from home address)

#### Animal Inventory At Time of Licensing

SPECIES	# of Breeding Males	# of Breeding Females	Total #
MINK	10	3300	3300
CHINCHILLA			
FOX			
MARTEN			
FISHER			
NUTRIA			

LICENCE FEES: 1 to 25 animals \$12.00  
26 or more animals \$24.00

s.79

Enclosed is a cheque in the amount of \$ 24 made payable to THE MINISTER OF FINANCE

s.79

FEB 16 2016  
(Date of Application)

(Signature of Applicant)

Please make cheque or money order payable to the Minister of Finance and return this renewal notice to:

Ministry of Agriculture  
1767 Angus Campbell Road  
Abbotsford, B.C. V3G 2M3

Telephone: (604) 556-3093 Toll-Free: 1 (877) 877-2474

RECEIVED

LIVESTOCK HEALTH MANAGEMENT

APR 11 2016

ABBOTSFORD B.C.



Ministry of  
Agriculture

Livestock Health Management and Regulation

FUR FARM LICENCE RENEWAL

APRIL 1, 2015 - MARCH 31, 2016

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LIVESTOCK HEALTH MANAGEMENT

MAR 23 2015

ABBOTSFORD B.C.

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situated at: s.79

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Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

(Address of Fur Farm if different from home address)

Animal Inventory At Time of Licensing

SPECIES	# of Breeding Males	# of Breeding Females	Total #
MINK		2100	2100
CHINCHILLA			
FOX			
MARTEN			
FISHER			
NUTRIA			

LICENCE FEES: 1 to 25 animals \$12.00  
26 or more animals \$24.00

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s.79

Mar 23/15  
(Date of Application)

(Signature of Applicant)

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Ministry of Agriculture  
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Abbotsford, B.C. V3G 2M3

Telephone: (604) 556-3093 Toll-Free: 1 (877) 877-2474

Please complete sections  
+ fax back to 604 556-3015  
Shawn - Lynette



Ministry of  
Agriculture

February 1, 2015

s.79

COPY

RE: Licensing Requirements for 2016

Our records indicate your farms have fulfilled the 2016 licensing requirements as follows:

- Herd Health Plan approved by Dr. Jane Pritchard, Chief Veterinarian
- Farm Inspections

Enclosed please find the renewal forms for your 2016 Fur Farm Licenses.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely

Lynette Hare  
Operations Coordinator



June 23, 2015

s.79

COPY

Dear <sup>s.79</sup> :

Thank you for taking time out of your schedules to walk myself and Dr. Britton through your farms on Friday. We found both farms to meet or exceed the Ministry's expectations and both farms represent your industry well.

Dr. Pritchard has approved the Herd Health Management Plan you submitted and it will be kept on your file with a copy of the enclosed check list.

Thank you again, and all the best.

Sincerely,

Lynette Hare  
Operations Coordinator

Pc Dr. Ann Britton  
Dr. Jane Pritchard

Encl.

s.79



Ministry of  
Agriculture

## Mink Farm Inspection Check List

Site Location:

s.79

Date:

June 19, 2015 – Dr. Ann Britton, Lynette Hare

COPY

☒ Farm meets all applicable federal, provincial and municipal land use regulations

☒ Site has sufficient supply of good quality drinking water to meet the needs of the mink and the on-site needs for cleaning and other farm activities.

### Housing

☒ Sheds provide protection from extreme weather conditions.

☒ Sheds are designed to allow adequate space, light and access for stock people to observe and care for the animals.

### Pens Appendix E – Canadian Code of Practice

☒ All pens with multiple mink must be enriched with a hammock/shelf/platform (by June, 2014)  
*If a jump up/penthouse or drop in nest box is used, a shelf is not required as an enrichment.*

*\* WORKING ON IT*

*All pens must include a minimum of one manipulative enrichment (by December 31, 2013)*

### Nest Boxes

☒ Nest boxes are designed to hold adequate bedding and allow for good nesting behavior in a comfortable, safe and secluded place.

☒ Nest boxes are appropriate size to accommodate all animals in the pen comfortably at the same time.

☒ If feeding on nest box lid, kits are able to easily access the feed.

## Bedding

☒ Bedding is clean and dry.

## Environment

☒ Mink are exposed to minimum number of continuous hours of daylight.

☒ Sheds and buildings are consistent and adequate to allow airflow.

## Feed

☒ Waste feed is removed before providing fresh feed.

☒ Feed carts used to deliver wet feed are cleaned and sanitized regularly.

☒ Feed preparation area is cleaned and sanitized daily.

## Record Keeping

☒ Herd Health Management Plan in place, including:

- Vet-Client-Patient relationship
- Mink Identification System
- Vaccination and treatment records
- Tracking mortalities

approved by  
Dr. Pritchard  
& on file

☒ Current license and inventory maintained for any provincial/federal/municipal requirements.



Ministry of  
Agriculture

## Mink Farm Inspection Check List

*Game*

**Site Location:** s.79

**License Number 3156**

**Date: August 15, 2014.**

- ☒ Farm meets all applicable federal, provincial and municipal land use regulations
- ☒ Site has sufficient supply of good quality drinking water to meet the needs of the mink and the on-site needs for cleaning and other farm activities.

### Housing

- ☒ Sheds provide protection from extreme weather conditions.
- ☒ Sheds are designed to allow adequate space, light and access for stock people to observe and care for the animals.

### Pens

- ☐ **NO** All pens with multiple mink must be enriched with a hammock/shelf/platform (**by June 2014**)  
*If a jump up/penthouse or drop in nest box is used, a shelf is not required as an enrichment.*

Note – cages are present that do not have a hammock/shelf or platform that contained multiple juvenile mink.

- ☐ **NO** All pens must include a minimum of one manipulative enrichment by December 31, 2013

Note – this is being addressed.

### Nest Boxes

- ☒ Nest boxes are designed to hold adequate bedding and allow for good nesting behavior in a comfortable, safe and secluded place.
- ☐ **NO** Nest boxes are appropriate size to accommodate all animals in the pen comfortably at the same time.

Note – Based on the Current Mink Code of Practice, there were multiple juvenile mink in cages with space suitable for only one juvenile mink (based on area) consistent with crowding.

☒ If feeding on nest box lid, kits are able to easily access the feed.

## **Bedding**

☒ Bedding is clean and dry.

## **Environment**

☒ Mink are exposed to minimum number of continuous hours of daylight.

☒ Sheds and buildings are consistent and adequate to allow airflow.

Note – Although adequate air flow is present, lack of drainage, low lying areas and manure build up was contributing to less than optimal conditions in the sheds for animals and humans.

Fur Farm Act –

### **Cleanliness of premises**

6 A licensee must

- (a) maintain in a sanitary condition the place where a fur bearing animal is kept, and
- (b) observe any regulation on cleanliness.

Fur Farm Regulation

### **Animal pens**

4.03 Every licensee shall provide ample and properly constructed pens for the accommodation of his animals, and he shall locate the pens in suitable surroundings that admit of proper drainage, and he shall protect them by a suitable guard fence where the fur bearing animals are kept and liable to escape.

## **Feed**

☒ Waste feed is removed before providing fresh feed.

☒ Feed carts used to deliver wet feed are cleaned and sanitized regularly.

☐ not inspected ☐ Feed preparation area is cleaned and sanitized daily.

## **Record Keeping**

☒ Herd Health Management Plan in place, including:

- Vet-Client-Patient relationship
- Mink Identification System
- Vaccination and treatment records
- Tracking mortalities



☒ Current license and inventory maintained for any provincial/federal/municipal requirements.

s.79

I understand that you have higher priorities to deal with at this time. Please note that I am available to support you through dealing with these higher priorities.

At some point, likely spring 2015, I will revisit your farm to follow up on the issues I have highlighted in this inspection check list.

Jane Pritchard

604-556-3013

[jane.pritchard@gov.bc.ca](mailto:jane.pritchard@gov.bc.ca)



File: Filed electronically  
under FPCT  
Complaint ID#4283

November 4, 2013

s.79

COPY

Dear s.79 :

Thank you for allowing myself and two other staff members to visit your farm for a second time, on the afternoon of September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2013 to discuss the concerns regarding a very high number of flies, from your neighbor, s.79. I would especially like to thank you for taking the time to discuss the details of your operation and answer questions from our new Waste Management Engineer, Michael Schwalb, and our Nutrient Management specialist, David Poon. Neither Michael nor David had ever been on a mink farm and they were both eager to learn more about the raising of mink and the mink industry.

The follow-up letter, enclosed, sent by email to s.79 on August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2013 outlined several items that may be of assistance to you to address the fly issues on your farm. The main action items that the investigation team comprising of myself, Tracy Hueppelsheuser, Entomologist, Brian Radke, Public Health Veterinarian, agreed upon, were to:

- (a) Clean up all refuse around the composting operation and ensure the composting operation is not causing a substrate for flies
- (b) Come into regulatory compliance with the composting operation,
- (c) Accelerate the manure cleanup underneath the mink pens,
- (d) Spray fly infested surfaces,
- (e) Address wet spots by fixing equipment and draining ditches,
- (f) Clean up unused barns and facilities.

Other actions were also suggested for future consideration, as per the letter of August 26<sup>th</sup>.

Upon my inspection on September 27<sup>th</sup>, the compost facility was indeed much better; all the bays were cleaned up and actively composting the mink manure and there was no longer leachate coming from the compost bays. There was no longer evidence of waste products coming from other farms to the compost facility. The compost facility as is currently being operated should not provide a habitat for flies to feed and propagate.

The compost material should not be used as fill in the area around the compost facility. There should be a good market for stable compost that has a carbon to nitrogen ratio of 30:1, as this material is valuable for farmers developing blueberry fields or refurbishing raspberry fields and for nursery operations, among others. As the email to Bryce indicated, there is additional information available for composting operations on our website.

The manure is removed from under the mink pens and as manure was no longer accumulating, the manure was clearly being removed on an ongoing basis.

There were more fly traps evident, and you explained that your recent visits to other facilities in Scandinavia had given you some good ideas for simple and effective fly control measures which you were planning on implementing next year.

The unused barns and facilities were cleaned up.

There may still have been an issue with wet spots and leaks from the watering system in places.

This letter will be added to your file. This complaint is now considered closed from our perspective, however the complainant can, at any time, request a hearing from the Farm Industry Review Board (FIRB) regarding their complaint. FIRB in turn, will only agree to a hearing if they deem the complaint serious.

For your information and not related to this complaint is to bring to your attention that funds are available for innovation in the agriculture sector through the Growing Forward 2 Federal Provincial Agreement. I am aware that you need to be highly innovative in this business and that there is not a lot of industry support we offer you. You may want to access these funds if there is some kind of new innovation you would like to develop for your business. The internet link is: <http://www.iafbc.ca/agri-innovation.htm>.

Thank you again for allowing us to visit you and for explaining some aspects of mink farming to myself and to the other staff members. Please feel free to call me if you have any questions or concerns.

Yours truly,

Kim Sutherland,  
Regional Agrologist,  
BC Ministry of Agriculture,  
Coast Region  
(604) 556-3073

## Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX

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**From:** Hueppelsheuser, Tracy AGRI:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 13, 2013 11:39 AM  
**To:** Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX  
**Subject:** minks

s.79

Hi Lynette,

The person who called me about the mink farm is s.22  
s.22

She said there is an 'epidemic of flies', and smell is bad. Can't sit outside, or open your doors. Approximate address is s.22, you can see the buildings from the road. She is reluctant to cause trouble among the neighbours, and her husband has talked to them. There does not appear to be neighbour animosity at this time, she just wonders if more can be done to decrease the flies. The name she gave me was not the one you expected, so I am not sure who the real culprit is.

It would be good if you could touch base with her, as I don't have the history and experience of the area or the previous interactions. I would be happy to go out with a team to investigate, if needed.

--Tracy

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**From:** Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, August 12, 2013 7:49 AM  
**To:** Hueppelsheuser, Tracy AGRI:EX  
**Subject:** RE: s.79 Mink yard

Okay, interesting – that is s.79, long long time farmers, never had a complaint before.

Lynette Hare  
Operations Coordinator  
Livestock Health Management & Regulation  
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3

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**From:** Hueppelsheuser, Tracy AGRI:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, August 9, 2013 4:13 PM  
**To:** Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX  
**Subject:** RE: s.79 Mink yard

Hi Lynette, it might be a different farm, I am on the phone again asking if she knows the name of the farm....she didn't give it to me yesterday when we spoke.  
Name is something like s.79

s.79

--Tracy

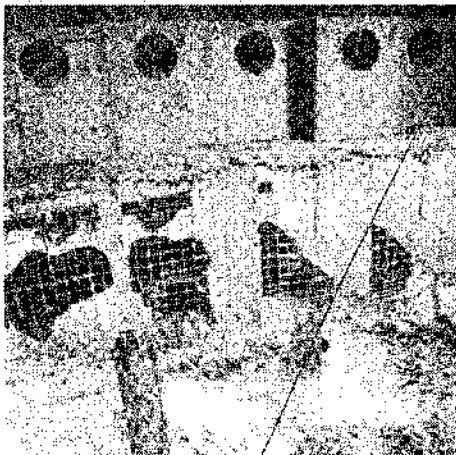
**From:** Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 8, 2013 3:53 PM  
**To:** Hueppelsheuser, Tracy AGRI:EX  
**Subject:** FW: s.79 Mink yard

Here are some pictures of his farm. We were hoping Stephanie would visit the farm, but I don't believe that happened – he may have just spoke to her on the phone.

**Lynette Hare**  
Operations Coordinator  
Livestock Health Management & Regulation  
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3

**From:** s.22  
**Sent:** Monday, November 5, 2012 4:16 PM  
**To:** Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX  
**Subject:** s.79 Mink yard

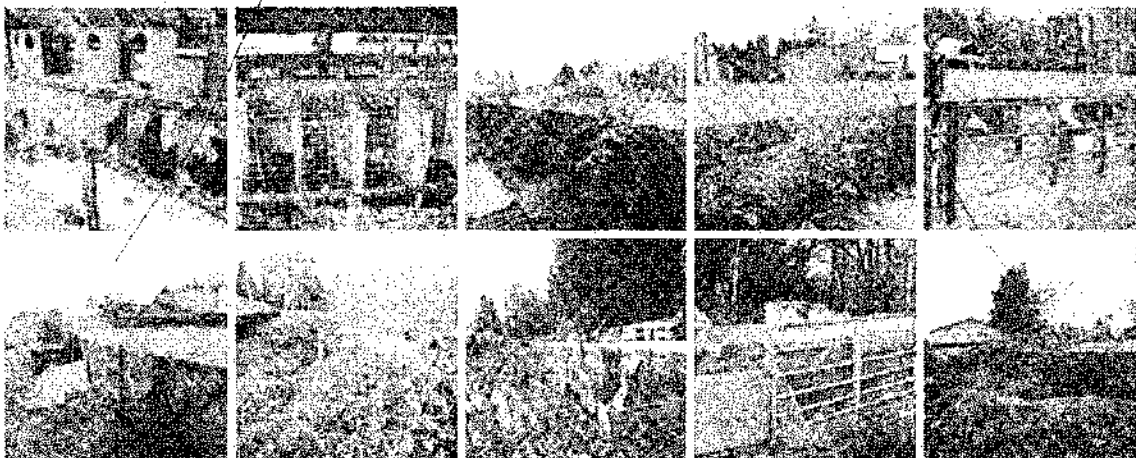


s.79

## Mink yard

[VIEW SLIDE SHOW](#) [DOWNLOAD ALL](#)

This album has 11 photos and will be available on SkyDrive until 2013-02-03.



Hello s.79

Thank you for touring Ministry of Agriculture staff through your facility on Friday afternoon, August 16, 2013 and explaining your interesting operation to us.

Staff in attendance were:

Kim Sutherland, Regional Agrologist  
Tracy Hueppelsheuser, Entomologist  
Brian Radke, Public Health Veterinarian

Farms are protected from nuisance complaints under the Farm Practices Protection Act (Right to Farm). However, for a farm to be protected under this Act they have to be following what is determined as "normal farm practices". The complainant can go to the Farm Industry Review Board (FIRB) and ask to have a hearing to determine if the farm of concern is following "normal farm practices." If the Board decides to investigate and subsequently determines a farm is not following normal farm practices, the farm would have to comply with what the Board determines are normal practices, or the farm could be subject to civil suit by the complainant.

Regional Agrologists and other Ministry staff do not determine what normal farm practices are, as that is for FIRB to decide, but we can give an indication for you of what measures you may need to take to likely be in compliance with normal farm practices.

Therefore we would like to go through some of the parts of your operation and suggest some actions to assist you in dealing with this complaint so hopefully it won't go any further.

#### **1. The compost operation.**

Regulatory environment: Compost operations on their own are not a farm use in the ALR, but require a permit. If they are part of a farm operation, then the current regulations state that the material in the compost operation should be coming from your farm, or if some of the materials are coming from off your farm, then the finished compost should only be used on your farm. Your compost operation technically falls outside of these regulations and therefore you may want to explore if you should seek a permit for it. Please contact the Agriculture Land Commission to see how they adjudicate the composting of animal mortalities when the resulting compost is not used on the farm.

The link to our FACTSHEET on composting is:

<http://www.agf.gov.bc.ca/resmgmt/publist/300Series/382500-13.pdf>

And the link to our composting handbook is:

<http://www.agf.gov.bc.ca/resmgmt/publist/300Series/382500-0.pdf>

Accepting waste from other farms: This is an action that usually requires that your composting operation be permitted by the Ministry of Environment unless all of the finished compost is used on your farm. To the best of my knowledge, accepting waste from other farms adds a high level of difficulty to your composting operation. You need to have a substrate in which to bury

your animal waste and to properly compost your mink manure, so it makes sense from a composting quality point of view to bring on horse manure that is mainly shavings into the operation—even though strictly speaking, this may not fall under the Agriculture Waste Control Regulation. However to go further and be bringing on other sources of material that can add to a fly problem and attract vermin is very questionable. If doing this is allowed through terms of a permit for your composting operation, then FIRB would likely review the permit (and possibly seek to revise it) to ensure that things were done in a way where a fly problem is not exacerbated.

If bringing on other waste from other farms to enable the farm waste to compost correctly is ok from a regulatory point of view, you then have to consider what is “normal farm practice” and what FIRB might accept. In this case, with a complaint about flies, it would likely be unacceptable by FIRB if you were bringing compost materials onto the farm that were exacerbating a fly problem.

Facilities: The facilities are designed well but excess water was noted and it was also noted that materials that were providing a breeding ground for flies were left open and not mixed with the co-composting material – in other words, in the heat of summer the bays may be filling too slowly. It may be useful to subdivide the bays in the summer, even with temporary partitions, to ensure that added material is put more quickly into the composting process to ensure that a breeding ground for flies is not created.

I would suggest that you immediately clean up the composting operation and all the refuse that was dumped in the field. That will likely go a long ways towards fixing the fly problem.

## **2. The unused barn facilities:**

Unused barn facilities have been left with no proper decommissioning and clean-out, making an area that is attractive for flies and pests. This would likely fall outside of normal farm practice, and therefore it would be important to properly decommission unused barn facilities, and ensure that they are properly cleaned out and washed down so that they do not produced flies and vermin.

## **3. The barn facilities that are in use:**

The enclosed FACTSHEET may provide very useful information on what might be considered normal farm practice for a mink operation and self-regulating and monitoring procedures that such an operation should use.

[http://www.perennia.ca/Fact%20Sheets/IPM/Livestock/Fly%20Control%20Mink%20Fact%20Sheet%202013\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.perennia.ca/Fact%20Sheets/IPM/Livestock/Fly%20Control%20Mink%20Fact%20Sheet%202013_FINAL.pdf)

One of the main issues is that you were “behind” in terms of when you normally start manure clean-out, and this year has been two weeks ahead of normal due to warm temperatures in spring and summer, speeding up biological systems. This enabled fly growth to accelerate and your cleaning system couldn’t catch up.

Immediate response:

- Continue manure cleanout, accelerate if possible.
- Spray fly infested surfaces where possible (i.e. exterior barn walls or fences) with an insecticide like permethrin (quick knockdown, short residual). This will also kill larvae on surfaces.
- Continue to manage wet areas, and drain ditches and low spots if possible.

In future years, you may need to:

- a. Consider the use of beneficial organisms that will help control fly larvae throughout late winter and early spring and summer.
- b. Use the trapping methods described in the FACTSHEET to determine manure clean-out schedules rather than where you are in your mink cycle.

Keep in mind that practices such as manure clean-out would likely be adjudicated by FIRB as to when they are necessary to control nuisance rather than according to where you are in your mink cycle.

There were a few wet spots where there were leaks in the watering system. It is important that these leaks be fixed and that this become a higher priority in keeping the operation clean as wet areas provide an opportunity for flies to thrive, and also are hot spots for creating odour.

You were adding waste feed to the manure pile. This was creating an even richer environment for flies to propagate, increasing odour, etc. It may be advantageous to think about how to improve the disposal of waste feed so that it does not form a substrate for fly development.

#### **4. The perimeters of the property:**

There may be some low maintenance things you can do to utilize the natural environment to help control fly populations. These may include measures such as fencing the perimeters of your property and allowing the sheep to graze the entire property as long grass can provide wet areas that are prime habitat for flies. Attracting frogs, garter snakes and swallows to your property perimeters can all help in natural control of fly populations. Attracting raptors can help control vermin and starlings. Generally this means you need to provide nesting sites (for swallows and raptors) and habitat for snakes (rock piles in dry areas). These would not be required as part of normal farm practice, but may be a very low maintenance way to assist you in control of unwanted pests.

#### **5. Specific comments on flies, fly species and fly control from our entomologist, Tracy Hueppelsheuser:**

Observations of fly species present on the farm: adult flies were abundant on manure and feed piles under cages, primarily, and more abundant in areas with standing water (where the media was wetter): species in the Calliphoridae family ('blow flies', green bottle and blue bottle flies), are scavengers of carrion, excrement, etc., where they feed and reproduce. Larvae seen in compost area bins.

Adult flies seen on thin tapes in barns: house flies and lesser house flies (filth flies), *Musca domestica*, and *Fannia* species. Suspect breeding and feeding under the cages as well, but the



abundance of green/blue bottle flies made it difficult to see and of the dark grey *Musca* or *Fannia* flies on the ground.

Small scavenger flies seen around stagnant puddles. These can become abundant and cause nuisance issues too if the moisture is left unchecked.

Observed flies resting and flying around farm perimeters, on fences, sides of buildings, around the blackberry hedges.

We do not know which species of flies the complainant is seeing. However, based on the abundance of different species of flies we observed on the farm, I suspect she might be seeing the Calliphoridae.

All these flies are avid flyers and can go 1-2 miles quite quickly. August is the peak fly nuisance month due to hot weather and fly population build up on various habitat sources, which tend to be abundant in late summer too.

On biocontrol in the manure piles: do not use biocontrol as a clean up or a knockdown tool. It will not work. It is best to use biocontrol agents in an inoculative manner, by releasing/introducing appropriate numbers weekly during early spring on an ongoing basis, with the goal of keeping the fly populations from exploding before early summer clean out of barns. It is not a stand alone tool, and will not eliminate the issue. But, it may help decrease the number of surface sprays, and support your other fly management methods. I do not have information on how effective and if there are bios available for BC flies and climate, but is something I can work on in the fall and provide more information at that time.

## **6. Environmental Farm Program.**

Be aware of the Environmental Farm Plan Program as it could assist you. The Environmental Farm Plan program gives very clear guidance on regulations, including composting regulations and when you fall in or out of regulations. This is a voluntary and confidential program and when you engage in it, you are able to find out actions you need to take to ensure that you are in compliance with environmental regulations. It is done by an advisor who comes out to your farm and helps you go through your farming operation. You can find out more about it through the British Columbia Agriculture Council ARDCORP.

<http://www.agf.gov.bc.ca/resmgmt/EnviroFarmPlanning/>

I think this program would be of real benefit to your operation. As I said it is voluntary and confidential, but it would be so useful for you to know exactly where you in terms of environmental requirements

## **Summary of requested actions and recommendations:**

### Recommended Immediate action:

- Clean up all refuse around composting operation and ensure that the composting operation is working in a way that does not cause a substrate for flies, ie. composting is happening very quickly, no waste left lying there for any length of time, no leachate pools, etc.

- Contact the Agriculture Land Commission to discuss the composting operation and come into regulatory compliance.
- Accelerate the manure cleanup underneath the mink pens.
- Spray fly infested surfaces.
- Address wet spots by fixing equipment and draining ditches.
- Thoroughly clean up unused barns and facilities.

Recommended Future consideration:

- Consider doing an Environmental Farm Plan—this is not a requirement, I am just raising awareness that this program could be of assistance for you.
- Use beneficial organisms in addition to other measures to help control fly issues.
- Monitor biological cycles through a trapping program – keep records and put a fly management program in place that operates independently of the timing of management of your mink.
- Review the enclosed FACTSHEET on mink farm management and apply the measures that may be of assistance, including fly trapping.
- Consider separating the management of waste feed from manure with a higher degree of management for waste feed. IE. consider dumping waste feed into a separate receptacle and freezing it for compost.
- Manage entire property to eliminate long grass and wet areas as much as possible.
- Attract beneficial wildlife to your property to help control pests.

I would like to re-visit the farm in three weeks, in order to give the complainant a time frame in which the major issues are addressed and to ensure that the measures we have suggested are effective. Doing this may ensure that the complaint goes smoothly from your point of view and that a formal (FIRB) process can be avoided.

This complaint has been tracked through our complaint tracking system.

This letter has been added to your permit file.

Yours truly,

**Kim Sutherland, MSc., P. Ag.**  
 Regional Agrologist  
 BC Ministry of Agriculture and Lands  
 1767 Angus Campbell Road

Abbotsford, BC  
(604) 556-3073

s.79

## Health Management Plan

### Veterinary Advisor

Dr David Paton

604-856-3351

25930 40<sup>th</sup> Ave. Aldergrove BC V4W 2A5

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Dr. David Paton", located in the bottom right corner of the page.

## Identification and Tracking

Mink will be identified by cards hung over each individual cage, and marked with its pen number. If a mink is moved, the card will move with the mink to its new location.

Mortalities will be tallied at the end of each day and marked in a calendar specific for this purpose.

## Vaccination and Treatment Protocols

All mink to be kept as breeding stock shall be vaccinated for the following; Botulism, Distemper, Enteritis, and Pseudomonas. Records will be kept for all mink vaccinated in a record book.

If an animal is clearly paralyzed and is assessed that it will not recover, it shall be euthanized by CO gas immediately.

If an animal has a sore or open wound, it shall be moved to a designated "care area" and be administered a penicillin based antibiotic to fight infection, and administered Meloxicam for pain management.

If an animal has diarrhea or discolored stools, it shall be given mixed feed or liver with gallimycin.

*All dosages to be determined by animal weight and strength of antibiotic.*

Mink showing signs of illness shall be moved into cages at the front of their current shed; an area left empty with the specific purpose of housing mink that need to be treated. Mink will be marked with a tag with the description of its current illness. The tag shall also be marked every time the mink is treated.

Any mink showing signs of foot rot, ear rot, or eye deterioration shall be administered the appropriate dose of penicillin or Baytril for three to four days. If showing no signs of improvement after a full treatment; the mink shall be euthanized. Dosages are advised by Veterinarian depending on strength of suspension of antibiotic.

Any mink showing signs of Acidosis shall have its feed reduced appropriately and be administered a full antibiotic treatment as per previous paragraph.

Nursing Anemia – Female will be; off feed, thin, drowsy/ dozy. Treatment is to administer 8-10ml of Electrolytes per day, if kits are doing well, until female is looking better. If kits are not doing well after one day of treatment, they shall be fostered to another female.

Mastitis – Shows up when kits are 3-4 weeks old. Female will be off feed, kits will look thin, small, showing ribs. Female will have swollen mammary glands. Farm kits out, administer antibiotic protocols to female, mark female as “pelt” if and when she recovers.

## New Stock Protocols

If and when new stock is required on the farm; the new mink shall be housed in a separate quarantine area, where they will be monitored closely for a minimum of two weeks before being introduced into permanent housing.

## Parasite Control

To prevent fleas, cages will be disinfected yearly.

## Euthanasia Protocols

At harvesting – Carbon monoxide tank shall be turned on for 3 seconds to fill the box, 30 mink will be placed in the box, the tank will be turned on again for 3 seconds, 30 more mink will be placed in the box, the tank will be turned on a final time for 5 seconds. The mink will be left in the box for 8 minutes to ensure death before being removed and inspected for no signs of life before pelting.

Single mink euthanasia – The mink to be euthanized shall be placed in the “single kill” tube, the lid will be closed, the carbon monoxide tank will be turned on for 2 seconds, the mink will be left in the tube for 8 minutes to ensure death. Mink will be removed from tube and inspected for no signs of life.

## **Animal Health Care Procedures**

### **General Practices:**

Mink will be handled in a gentle, calm, and quiet manner to help eliminate stress and agitation.

Employees must always be conscious of the mink when they are working in and around sheds and cages, even if they are not directly handling or working with the mink.

Employees will act immediately when they notice an animal is in distress, either by directly intervening or immediately reporting to a supervisor.

### **Signs of distress:**

- Abnormal amounts of uneaten feed
- Sores or open wounds
- Lethargic or unusual fatigue
- Diarrhea or unusual colored stool
- Paralyzed or lack of movement

### **Treatment:**

If an animal is clearly paralyzed and is assessed that it will not recover, it shall be euthanized by CO gas immediately.

If an animal has a sore or open wound, it shall be moved to a designated "care area" and be administered a penicillin based antibiotic to fight infection, and administered Meloxicam for pain management.

If an animal has diarrhea or discolored stools, it shall be given mixed feed or liver with gallimycin.



All dosages to be determined by animal weight and strength of antibiotic.

Penicillin shall be administered; two doses on the first day of treatment, then one dose each day for three days after. Total of four (4) days of treatment. If the animal is showing no signs of improvement after four days of treatment, the animal will be euthanized by CO gas.

As an employee of <sup>s.79</sup> , I understand these procedures and will do everything I can to maintain the integrity of these standards. I will report any abuse or mistreatment of the animals to a supervisor.

**Employee**

**Signed**

## **Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX**

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**From:** Hare, Lynette E AGRI:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 10, 2015 10:43 AM  
**To:** s.22  
**Subject:** Health Management Plan

Hi s.79

Dr. Pritchard has reviewed the HMP you submitted and would like to see the following added to the document and re-faxed (604) 556-3015

1. What pain medications are being used.
2. Treatment protocol for chews, or any physical injury, including paralysis.
3. Protocol for new stock introduction (if required), ie isolation.
4. A parasite control program.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call.

**Lynette Hare**  
**Operations Coordinator**

Livestock Health Management & Regulation  
Tel: (604) 556-3093 | Fax: (604) 556-3015 | Toll: 1-877-877-2474

Ministry of Agriculture | 1767 Angus Campbell Road | Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3

2014 **10** Best  
Places  
to Work

s.79

# fax

TO:	Animal Health Centre	FROM:	s.79
FAX:	604-556-3015	PAGES:	4 (including cover)
PHONE:		DATE:	June 2, 2015
RE:	s.7 Health Management Plan.	CC:	

☐ Urgent    ☐ For Review    ☐ Please Comment ☐ Please Reply    ☐ Please Recycle

ATTN: Lynette

s.79

## Health Management Plan

### Veterinary Advisor

Dr David Paton

604-856-3351

25930 40<sup>th</sup> Ave. Aldergrove BC V4W 2A5

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## Identification and Tracking

Mink will be identified by cards hung over each individual cage, and marked with its pen number. If a mink is moved, the card will move with the mink to its new location.

Mortalities will be tallied at the end of each day and marked in a calendar specific for this purpose.

## Vaccination and Treatment Protocols

All mink to be kept as breeding stock shall be vaccinated for the following; Botulism, Distemper, Enteritis, and Pseudomonas. Records will be kept for all mink vaccinated in a record book.

Mink showing signs of illness shall be moved into cages at the front of their current shed; an area left empty with the specific purpose of housing mink that need to be treated. Mink will be marked with a tag with the description of its current illness. The tag shall also be marked every time the mink is treated.

Any mink showing signs of foot rot, ear rot, or eye deterioration shall be administered the appropriate dose of penicillin or Baytril for three to four days. If showing no signs of improvement after a full treatment; the mink shall be euthanized. Dosages are advised by Veterinarian depending on strength of suspension of antibiotic.

Any mink showing signs of Acidosis shall have its feed reduced appropriately and be administered a full antibiotic treatment as per previous paragraph.

Nursing Anemia – Female will be: off feed, thin, drowsy/dozy. Treatment is to administer 8-10ml of Electrolytes per day, if kits are doing well, until female is looking better. If kits are not doing well after one day of treatment, they shall be fostered to another female.

Mastitis – Shows up when kits are 3-4 weeks old. Female will be off feed, kits will look thin, small, showing ribs. Female will have swollen mammary glands. Farm kits out, administer antibiotic protocols to female, mark female as "pelt" if and when she recovers.

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