

Cropping Enterprises

Self-assessment checklist

Farm Business Resilience Program (FRBP)

Completing the checklist gives you an idea about where you and your business are at now. This is an important step in the planning process, followed by clearly identifying your 'where to and how' and getting it down on paper. Businesses with one or more business partners may choose to complete separate checklists.

How to use the checklist

Each section of the checklist is designed to prompt your thinking about your livestock business. Your job is to identify areas that are a priority for you by ticking the box for each question that best describes where you are at. There are no wrong or right answers, and your completed assessment form is not handed in.

Yes, we are on track	Okay, but we could do better	No, and we should do something about it	No, it is not relevant to us
✓	✓	✓	✓

In this self-assessment process, you are encouraged to include additional information that is relevant to your business.

Next step

When the self-assessment is completed, a next step is to use this information to develop a Farm Business Resilience Plan (the business plan) or similar document.

A business plan template is provided by the Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF) for this purpose. An existing business plan or template is acceptable provided it is consistent with the sections in DAF's business plan template.

The business plan summarises a process to identify business goals and risks and actions to build 'resilience' to risks including drought. It outlines an approach to implementation, ongoing monitoring, and review.

Your business plan should be evidence-based, incorporate learnings from relevant training, and be tailored to the purpose of your business operation.

Business risks and the way they are managed impacts upon the sustainability of your production, natural resources, and profitability. To respond to change and manage its impacts your business plan should be reviewed on a regular basis.

Keep in mind that the business plan can be used to support discussions with your banks, accountant, and agricultural advisors, as well as applying for drought assistance.

About us

	Yes, we are on track	Okay, but we could do better	No, and we should do something about it	No, it is not relevant to us
We enjoy what we are doing.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We know what we want our life to look like at least 5 years ahead.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We have identified our retirement needs and what it will take to get us there.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We are happy with the balance of time we spend on family, friends, work, and other interests.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We have regular medical checks, and our lifestyle habits are healthy.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We have personal insurances in place for contingencies such as sickness, total and permanent disability and death and these insurances are reviewed annually.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We take time to focus on our mental wellbeing.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We have a current Succession Plan that is documented, discussed with family members, and reviewed regularly.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We have an up-to-date will.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We have an up-to-date Enduring Power of Attorney.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



Our People

	Yes, we are on track	Okay, but we could do better	No, and we should do something about it	No, it is not relevant to us
Our team understands our operation and what is required of them.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We are compliant with our legal obligations when employing staff.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Every employee has an employment contract and job description.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We keep accurate records of the hours worked, wages paid, and leave taken, for each employee.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We have discussions at least twice a year with each of our staff members about their performance, training needs and career aspirations, and we act from these discussions.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Workplace Health and Safety (WHS) is a priority for our team.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We have completed a WHS risk assessment and implemented standard operating procedures for all staff.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We have a reporting procedure in place to notify management immediately there are WHS issues.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We are confident going away and leaving our staff to run our operation.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



Our Infrastructure

Yes, we are on track

Okay, but we could do better

No, and we should do something about it

No, it is not relevant to us

Our family home and staff accommodation are suitable.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Our sheds and other structures meet our requirements.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Our grain storage sheds and silos and have the capacity to meet our requirements.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Our farm machinery is in good condition and meets our requirements.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Our fencing effectively restrains livestock and protects our boundaries.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Our dams and associated earthworks are well maintained.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We have a management plan to desilt our dams at appropriate intervals.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Our livestock farm water supply can withstand dry periods and drought.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Our on-farm sources of irrigation water meet our requirements.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We have access to an adequate supply of water from an off-farm irrigation scheme.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Our business has an infrastructure improvement plan and a capital expenditure plan to meet existing and future requirements.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



Our Cropping Operation

	Yes, we are on track	Okay, but we could do better	No, and we should do something about it	No, it is not relevant to us
Our cropping business is managed to target markets best suited to the crops we produce.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We use water use efficient practices in our cropping program.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Our nutrient management includes fertilizer placement to maximise uptake, calibration of equipment, soil tests and legumes or leys.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Our pesticide management includes nozzle control, boom stability, calibration of application equipment, and application record keeping.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Our farming systems practices include opportunity cropping, avoiding fallowing on full soil moisture profile, a runoff and erosion management plan, and soil conservation practices.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We have key measures and targets for measuring the performance of our operation.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



Our Business

	Yes, we are on track	Okay, but we could do better	No, and we should do something about it	No, it is not relevant to us
We have a written business plan and a list of goals that we are working towards.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We have an annual budget.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We know our cash flow position and ability to pay bills and interest on a monthly or quarterly basis.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We use our budget to help make the best possible decisions.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We analyse the profitability of our enterprise and monitor changes in our net worth over time.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We use electronic record keeping systems.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We have a good relationship with our advisors and service providers.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We have a good relationship with our bank and provide them with clear plans and budgets when required.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We are compliant with quality assurance programs associated with our business.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Our business complies with Government regulations such as the <i>Chemical Usage (Agricultural and Veterinary) Control Regulation 2017</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We have a biosecurity plan in place and regularly review and update the plan.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



Caring for our land

Yes, we are on track

Okay, but we could do better

No, and we should do something about it

No, it is not relevant to us

We have a property management plan map that identifies cultivation, non-productive land areas and infrastructure.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Our crops are used to provide soil health benefits.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Strategic soil nutrition is used to maintain and improve natural soil fertility.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Our development decisions are made to take unproductive land out of production and bring productive land into production.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We use sustainable cropping practices such as minimum tillage, crop selection, controlled wheel traffic, and erosion control structures.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



Our Plants

Yes, we are on track

Okay, but we could do better

No, and we should do something about it

No, it is not relevant to us

Plant disease and invasive species risks are considered, and an appropriate management strategy implemented.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Management strategies for plant pests and diseases consider pesticide resistance risks.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



Our risks

	Yes, we are on track	Okay, but we could do better	No, and we should do something about it	No, it is not relevant to us
We have identified the risks associated with our operation and have systems in place to isolate or mitigate them.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Our operation is robust and can withstand various shocks such as drought, natural disasters, commodity price drops, interest rate hikes and staff vacancies.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We have a plan for managing the operation during extreme weather such as drought and natural disasters.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We have an appropriate business structure that meets our requirements.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We have effective insurance coverage such as legal liability, buildings and life insurance.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We have a good relationship with our bank and access to capital that allows us to invest in on-property infrastructure or off-property development opportunities as they arise.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We have a biosecurity plan in place for plant disease.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We effectively manage exotic weeds and feral animals on our property.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We use Farm Management Deposits to manage drought risks.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Congratulations, you have completed your self-assessment checklist.



