

# AGRICULTURAL POLICY REVIEW



## KEEPING OF FARM ANIMALS

### IN AGRICULTURAL & RURAL RESIDENTIAL ZONES

#### Current Regulations

Zoning Bylaws regulate the maximum number of farm animals kept on agricultural and rural residential properties outside of the ALR by calculating an amount of Animal Units (A.U.) permitted by the size of a property and assigning different animals an A.U. depending on their impact.

#### Example 1

If a property allows 2 animal units per hectare and yearling cattle is considered 0.67 of an animal unit then 6 yearling cattle would be permitted on a 2 hectare (5 acre) lot.

$$0.67 \text{ A.U. times } 2 \text{ hectares times } 2 \text{ A.U. per hectare} = 5.97 \text{ yearlings}$$

#### Example 2

If a property allows 0.5 Animal Units on lots less than 0.4 hectares and chickens are considered 0.015 A.U. then 33 chickens would be permitted in a 0.4 hectare (1 acre) lot.

$$0.5 \text{ A.U. divided by } 0.015 \text{ A.U. per chicken} = 33.33 \text{ chickens}$$

Mitigation of potential nuisances can be incorporated into the zoning regulations. For example: not allowing roosters on small lots, and minimum setbacks for manure piles, animal shelters and feeding troughs.

Zoning regulations differ by Electoral Area. To find how many farm animals can be kept on agricultural and rural residential properties (outside of the ALR) – the Keeping of Farm Animals Sections of different Zoning Bylaws are included on the next pages.

#### Considerations

RDCK's Agriculture Plan recommends that the RDCK review restrictions on livestock numbers in rural non-agricultural zones and increase them as reasonable for the area, and environmentally sustainable for the lot size.



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# KEEPING OF FARM ANIMALS ZONING REGULATIONS

## Electoral Areas A, B, C & G

### Keeping of Farm Animals

78. For the purposes of this Bylaw, Animal Units (A.U.) means equivalencies as indicated in the following table:

<u>Sheep</u>	<u>A.U.</u>	<u>Swine</u>	<u>A.U.</u>
<i>ewe</i>	.14	<i>sow</i>	.33
<i>yearling ewe</i>	.10	<i>boar-young (18-90 kg)</i>	.20
<i>lamb ewe</i>	.07	<i>boar-mature</i>	.33
<i>ram</i>	.14	<i>gilt</i>	.33
<i>yearling ram</i>	.10	<i>bred gilt</i>	.33
<i>lamb ram</i>	.07	<i>weaner (less than 18 kg)</i>	.10
<i>nursing lamb</i>	.05	<i>feeder (18-91 kg)</i>	.20
<i>feeder lamb</i>	.10	<i>suckling pig</i>	.01
<i>breeding lamb</i>	.10		
<u>Cattle</u>	<u>A.U.</u>	<u>Poultry</u>	<u>A.U.</u>
<i>cow &amp; calf</i>	1.00	<i>chickens</i>	.015
<i>2 yr. old</i>	1.00	<i>turkeys, raised</i>	.0125
<i>yearling</i>	.67	<i>turkeys, breeding stock</i>	.02
<i>calf</i>	.25	<i>geese</i>	.02
<i>bull</i>	1.00	<i>ducks</i>	.015
<u>Horses</u>	<u>A.U.</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>A.U.</u>
<i>horse</i>	1.00	<i>goats</i>	.14
<i>colts 1-2 years</i>	.50	<i>rabbit</i>	.025
<i>colts, under 1 yr.</i>	.25	<i>mink</i>	.025

Where the keeping of farm animals are permitted, the following provisions are required:

- a. On lots less than 0.4 hectares (1.0 acres), the total number of farm animals and poultry shall not exceed 0.5 animal units. No roosters will be permitted on lots less than 0.4 hectares (1.0 acres).
- b. On lots greater than 0.4 hectares (1.0 acre), the total number of farm animals and poultry shall not exceed two animal units per hectare. No building, structure or enclosure used for housing more than 0.5 animal units shall be located within 4.5 metres (15 feet) of a lot line.
- c. No drinking or feeding troughs or manure piles may be located within 4.5 metres (15 feet) of a lot line.
- d. Where the calculation of the number of animals results in a fraction, the result shall be rounded down.

# KEEPING OF FARM ANIMALS ZONING REGULATIONS

## Electoral Areas F, I, J & K

### Keeping of Farm Animals

613

- 1 Where the keeping of farm animals are permitted on lots outside the AG zones the following regulations shall be complied with:
  - i. two (2) livestock for every 0.4 hectare, with the minimum lot size of 0.4 hectares; OR
  - ii. six (6) sheep or goats for every 0.4 hectares, with the minimum lot size of 0.4 hectares; OR
  - iii. twelve (12) head of poultry or rabbits for every 0.4 hectares, with the minimum lot size of 0.2 hectares.
- a. No buildings, structures or enclosures used for housing farm animals; no drinking or feeding troughs; and no manure piles may be located within 15 metres of a lot line of any property zoned R1, R2, R3, R4, R5, R6, R7, MFR-F or HR-I.
- b. Section 613 (1)(a) does not apply to fences adjacent to lot lines that are used for enclosures for the grazing of animals.