

**APPLICATION FOR FARM LAND DIFFERENTIAL RATING**

**PART 1 - INTRODUCTION**

This form must be completed in conjunction with Moorabool Shire Council’s Guidelines for the Classification of Rateable Property as Farm Land.

Any change in rate differential will be effective from the rating year in which the application is lodged.

All applications are required to provide evidence of compliance with Section 2(1) of the Valuation of Land Act as documented in the Guidelines for the Classification of Rateable Property as Farm Land and as requested throughout the application.

Information provided in this application will be treated as strictly confidential. Applications are referred to Council’s contract valuer for review in accordance with provision Section 2(1) of the Valuation of Land Act.

**PART 2 – OWNER AND APPLICANT DETAILS**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Registered Owner(s) |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Postal Address |  |
|  |  | P/Code |  |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Business Hours Phone Number |  | After Hours Phone Number |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Applicants Name(s) |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name(s) of Occupier(s) |  |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Occupancy Status | m | Owner Occupied | m | Leased |

**PART 3 – PROPERTY DETAILS**

1. Provide details of the farming enterprise property(ies):

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Property Number(s)\* | **1** |  | **2** |  | **3** |  |

**\* Further detail of each property to be provided on following pages**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Property Address(es) | **1** |  |
|  |  | P/Code |  |
| Land Parcel Description |  |
| Area of Property (hectares) |  |
| Are there any dwellings on the land? | m | Yes | m | No |
| If yes, how many dwellings? |  |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| If yes, is/are dwellings occupied? | m | Yes | m | No |
| What land area does the house and garden occupy?  |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Property Address(es) | **2** |  |
|  |  | P/Code |  |
| Land Parcel Description |  |
| Area of Property (hectares) |  |
| Are there any dwellings on the land? | m | Yes | m | No |
| If yes, how many dwellings? |  |
| If yes, is/are dwellings occupied? | m | Yes | m | No |
| What land area does the house and garden occupy?  |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Property Address(es) | **3** |  |
|  |  | P/Code |  |
| Land Parcel Description |  |
| Area of Property (hectares) |  |
| Are there any dwellings on the land? | m | Yes | m | No |
| If yes, how many dwellings? |  |
| If yes, is/are dwellings occupied? | m | Yes | m | No |
| What land area does the house and garden occupy?  |  |

If there are more than three properties which form part of your Farming Enterprise, please provide details on the back of this page.

2. Details of any other Farm Land used in common with the above property(ies) within other Municipalities:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Municipality |  | Location |  | Land Area |  |
| Municipality |  | Location |  | Land Area |  |
| Municipality |  | Location |  | Land Area |  |

3. In respect to the above land,

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Have the property(ies) been classified as Farm Land for the current year? | m | Yes | m | No |
| If no, have you made an application for the classification of Farm Land? | m | Yes | m | No |

**PART 4 – FARM STATUS**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Do you carry out any of the farming activities as stated in the farm guidelines as a business? (Refer to guidelines for definition of ‘business’) | m | Yes | m | No |

|  |
| --- |
| What type of business is operated from the described property(ies)? |
| m | Grazing | m | Dairying | m | Pig Farming |
| m | Fish-Farming | m | Poultry Farming | m | Bee-Keeping |
| m | Tree Farming, Viticulture & Fruit Growing |  |  |
| m | Horticulture or the Growing of Crops of any kind |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Do you keep business records for the activity? | m | Yes | m | No |
| Do you include the business activity in your income tax return? | m | Yes | m | No |
| Are you classified by the Australian Taxation Office as a Primary Producer? | m | Yes | m | No |

**(Evidence of ATO classification will be required)**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Is the farming enterprise registered for GST? | m | Yes | m | No |
| ABN Number |  |

**(Evidence of GST/ABN Registration will be required)**

|  |
| --- |
| Has the farming enterprise recorded a net profit in any of the past 5 years? |
| m | Yes | m | No | Year 1 |  | m | Yes | m | No | Year 2 |  | m | Yes | m | No | Year 3 |
| m | Yes | m | No | Year 4 |  | m | Yes | m | No | Year 5 |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**(Evidence in the form of Business Tax Return/Business records will be required)**

**PART 5 – FARMING SPECIFICS**

**STOCK DETAILS**

1. Number of stock on the property as at the date of application

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Sheep |  | Cattle |  | Chickens |
|  | Pigs |  | Horses |  | Goats |
|  | Other |  |

2. The number of each type of stock on the property as at 1 July for the last three years:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Year** | **Type of Stock** | **Number of Stock** |
| 2025/2026 |  |  |
| 2024/2025 |  |  |
| 2023/2024 |  |  |

3. The number of each type of stock agisted on the property as at 1 July for the last three years:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Year** | **Type of Stock** | **Number of Stock** |
| 2025/2026 |  |  |
| 2024/2025 |  |  |
| 2023/2024 |  |  |

**CROPPING DETAILS**

1. Describe crop details at time of application (include horticulture, viticulture and fruit growing\*):

\*If fruit trees, provide type and number of trees

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Type of Crop** | **Land Area (hectares)** |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

2. Details of crops during the last three financial years

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Year** | **Type of Crop** | **Land Area (hectares** |
| 2025/2026 |  |  |
| 2024/2025 |  |  |
| 2023/2024 |  |  |

**PRODUCTION STATISTICS**

1. The number of stock, kilos honey, commercial eggs, fertile eggs, litres milk, kilos butterfat, tonnes or cases of fruit/vegetables sold during the last three years:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Year** | **Type Sale** | **Quantity Sold** |
| 2025/2026 |  |  |
| 2024/2025 |  |  |
| 2023/2024 |  |  |

**PART 6 – CONFIRMATION OF INFORMATION PROVIDED**

Council may request further evidence from time to time to determine eligibility and continuing eligibility.

Your completed application form will be forwarded to Council’s Contract Valuer for review and assessment in accordance with Council’s Guidelines and the criteria as set within the Valuation of Land Act 1960.

The information requested within this application form will only be used by Council and their Contract Valuer for the purpose of reviewing your eligibility of the Farm Differential Rate. The application needs to provide sufficient evidence to confirm the existence of a “business” and will therefore require proof of:

* Evidence of systematic keeping of books and records;
* Elements of continuity, repetition, and independent viability;
* The activities are for the purpose of financial gain and not merely as hobby or recreation.

Council’s Contract Valuer may require the opportunity to inspect the subject property(ies) prior to making its recommendation to Council.

If the Council fails or refuses, as the case may be, to grant such application, applicants may lodge an appeal to the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal, pursuant to Section 183 of the Local Government Act 1989.

Should the application be reviewed and the farm differential rate applied to the relevant property(ies), an amended notice will be issued from Council which will be back dated to the start of the financial year in which the application was made.

I/We declare that:

* The farm rate guidelines have been read and understood;
* The land described in this application is being used for farming purposes as described;
* The farm enterprise is substantially commercial in purpose or character;
* The farm seeks to be by its activities on the land continuously profitable;
* The farm has made recent profit or has a reasonable prospect of doing so in the near future from its activities on the land; and
* The Farm rate differential rate is sought for the purposes of Rating.

**STATUTORY DECLARATION**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| I, |  |

(full name)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| of |  |

(address)

I acknowledge that this declaration is true and correct, and I make it with the understanding and belief that a person who makes a false declaration is liable to the penalties of perjury.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of Applicant |  |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Signature of Applicant |  | Date |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Declared at |  | ) |
| In the State of Victoria, this |  | ) |
| Day of |  | 20 | ) |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of Authorised Witness\* |  |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Signature of Authorised Witness |  | Date |  |

Intentionally making a false statement as a statutory declaration is a crime equivalent to perjury, and punishable by fines and/or a prison sentence of up to four years.

\* The authorised witness must print or stamp his or her name, address and title under section 107A of the *Evidence(Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1958* (as of 1 January 2010), (previously *Evidence Act 1958*), (eg. Justice of the Peace, Pharmacist, Police Officer, Court Registrar, Bank Manager, Medical Practitioner, Dentist)

**PART 7 – DOCUMENT ATTACHMENT CHECKLIST**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| m | Australian Taxation Office Classification – Primary Producer |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| m | GST/ABN Registration |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| m | Business Tax Returns and/or Records  |