



The
**Co-operative
Difference**



Dairy for life

The Co-operative Difference

Co-op and Prosperity Factsheet

This focus area is about making sure that the Co-operative remains strong well into the future; providing returns to our shareholders and contributing long-term value to our local communities and New Zealand as a whole. Producing high quality, safe food is central to us continuing to deliver on these commitments.

To meet the Co-op and Prosperity achievement, you need to complete and submit your 2024/2025 Food Safety Practices and Procedures online by 31 May 2025.

Why?

The Food Safety Practices and Procedures demonstrate that you have milk harvesting practices aligned to Fonterra, New Zealand, and market specific requirements. Digital submission of the Practices and Procedures gives confidence that farms are producing safe and high quality milk throughout the entire season. Completing the Food Safety Practices and Procedures online enables:

- Greater assurance and confidence to customers by using a modern and trusted quality management system.
- The Farm Dairy Assessor to review your farm's Food Safety Practices and Procedures before the assessment, improving the efficiency for both you and the Co-op.
- Future opportunities to simplify farmer's compliance obligations through the digital platform.





Verification

No on-farm verification is required to meet the Co-op and Prosperity achievement. Just complete and submit your 2024/2025 Food Safety Practices and Procedures online by the 31 May 2025.

We recommend that farms complete and submit their Food Safety Practices and Procedures online at the start of the season, as this will avoid any duplication through completion of the hard copy Dairy Diary.

Please note, the content and accuracy of the farm's Food Safety Practice and Procedures will continue to be assessed through your annual Farm Dairy Assessment.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. When can I submit my Food Safety Practices and Procedures online?

The 2024/2025 Food Safety Practices and Procedures will be made available in May 2024 and can be submitted at any time until 31 of May 2025 to be eligible for The Co-operative Difference.

Q. The Fonterra Farmers' Terms of Supply state that the Food Safety Practices and Procedures must be completed prior to milk supply for the season. Why isn't The Co-operative Difference achievement the same?

All farms must complete Food Safety Practices and Procedures prior to supply for the season either via the hard copy Dairy Diary or online. While two recording systems (digital & hard copy) are in place some farms may choose to utilise both systems. Allowing more time for digital submission provides an opportunity for farms to transfer across their hard copy information into the online format.

To minimise duplication and gain efficiencies at your annual Farm Dairy Assessment, we recommend that farms have them completed and submitted online before the start of supply.

Q. Who should be submitting the online Food Safety Practices and Procedures?

The Food Safety Practices and Procedures is a legal document, and it must be accurate. The farm dairy operator, who is accountable for the operation of the farm dairy and farm should be the person submitting. This is often the farm owner, share milker, contract milker or farm manager.

In some instances, the farm dairy operator may be supported by other members within the business when completing, reviewing, and submitting the Food Safety Practices and Procedures.

Q. How is the submission of the online Food Safety Practices and Procedures verified?

Verification of submission is completed electronically.

Once the 2024/2025 Food Safety Practices and Procedures have been submitted online, this will advise our system that the farm has achieved the Co-op and Prosperity achievement of The Co-operative Difference.

This will be displayed via the Farm Source website and The Co-operative Difference Report at your annual Farm Dairy Assessment.

The content and accuracy of the farm's Food Safety Practice and Procedures will continue to be assessed through your annual Farm Dairy Assessment.

Q. What happens if I submit the 2024/2025 Food Safety Practices and Procedures online after 31 May 2025?

You will not be eligible for The Co-operative Difference payment. The Food Safety Practices and Procedures must be submitted online no later than 31 May 2025.

Q. I have more than one farm, can I submit one online Food Safety Practices and Procedures to cover all farms?

No, each farm must have a stand-alone Food Safety Practices and Procedures as no one farm dairy or farm is the same.

Q. Why can't I just keep on using the Food Safety Practices and Procedures in the hard copy Dairy Diary?

Farms can complete their Food Safety Practices and Procedures in the hard copy Dairy Diary for the 2024/2025 season but will not be eligible for the achievement if these are not also submitted online.



Frequently Asked Questions (continued)

Q. Will QCONZ be verifying the content of the Food Safety Practices and Procedures?

For the Co-op and Prosperity achievement, farms need to simply complete, review and submit their 2024/2025 Food Safety Practices and Procedures online through the Farm Source website.

The content and accuracy of the Food Safety Practices and Procedures will be checked through the annual Farm Dairy Assessment process. If content needs improving, this will be outlined with any corrective actions in the Farm Dairy Assessment report.

Q. I have already filled out the hard copy Food Safety Practices and Procedures. Can I still meet the achievement?

If your farm's Food Safety Practices and Procedures are entered online no later than 31 May 2025 you are still eligible for the achievement.

Q. Does it matter if I need to edit my Food Safety Practices and Procedures after I have submitted them?

No, you can continue to make updates to your Food Safety Practices and Procedures online as required and this will not impact the farm meeting the achievement. After making any edits ensure that you then re-submit your Food Safety Practices and Procedures to enable this to flow through to your Farm Dairy Assessor for your annual Farm Dairy Assessment.

Q. Do I still need to submit my Farm Dairy Records?

Yes, the submission of the Farm Dairy Records is a condition of the Fonterra Farmers' Terms of Supply. Your Farm Dairy Records must be submitted by 31 July to avoid being disqualified from participating in The Co-operative Difference.

Support

To complete your Food Safety Practices and Procedures online, [click here](#).

For more information on how to submit your Food Safety Practices & Procedures [watch this video](#) or refer to the [support sheet](#).

If you have any questions about The Co-operative Difference, please call your Fonterra Area Manager or the Service Centre on: **0800 65 65 68**

