

# Odour Monitoring Procedures

## Livingstone Beef



January 2018



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## **Purpose**

This document lists procedures to be followed by Australian Agricultural Company Limited (AACo) staff undertaking odour monitoring activities to ensure odours are effectively detected and characterised for management action.

Offensive odour generation is an environmental nuisance/harm under NT environmental legislation and it is a requirement of EPL219 that no offensive odour is generated beyond the AACo site boundary.

## **Procedure**

### Prior to Monitoring

- Ensure the officer undertaking the monitoring is free from a cold or other sinus issues that may affect their ability to detect odours
- Ensure the officer undertaking the monitoring has obtained from any activity that may impair their ability to detect odours (such as smoking, flavoured drinks or exposure to scented objects) for at least 30 minutes prior to commencing monitoring activities
- Check prevailing wind conditions to inform likely odour generation locations
- Check equipment including site location map, mobile phone app and field data sheets.

### At a Monitoring Site

- Check wind direction using either observation of surroundings or wind direction app such as Windy
- Stand clear of vehicle and vehicle exhaust. If safe to do so, turn vehicle off.
- Stand facing direction of wind.
- Sampling for odour is undertaken using human nose. Smell the air with normal, slow and steady breaths in and out. Do not take overly deep breaths.
- Continue smell to detect odour for a period of at least 2 minutes
- Complete the Field Datasheet in Appendix A, or fill out the Odour Monitoring App if available including observations of:
  - Time, site location and wind direction
  - Odour description, intensity, source, sampling period and odour frequency
  - GPS coordinates (if using mobile app, sample point precision <10metres and enter coordinates)

### While Traveling the Monitoring Route

- The odour route is travelled in an AACo vehicle.
- Ensure the air vent is set to outside air (rather than recycle)
- Drive slowly with the windows down
- If an odour is detected while driving, pull over in a safe location and carry out an additional odour assessment according to the "At Monitoring Site" procedure. If any odour that is listed on the sample sheet is detected, even if the source is not of Livingstone Beef origin, please record occurrences.



### Recording Observation Data

- Observations are to be recorded using the Survey123 app with the Livingstone Odour data form loaded (see Appendix B). Observations recorded using this app should include a GPS coordinate with a precision less than 10 metres .
- Upon returning to the office, submit observations from the app to the online database.
- Download the Survey123 online data and copy into the Daily observations database.
- If the app is unavailable, use printed copies of the data recording sheet to record observations.
- If using printed copies of the field data recording sheet, scan a copy of the completed sheet and store with the Daily Observations database. Manually update the Daily Observations database with data from the field sheet.

### Safety Considerations

- Always drive safely and taking extra precautions while driving the monitoring route, being aware of other vehicles, animals and other risks.
- At each site, observe your surroundings carefully prior to exiting the vehicle. Ensure your surroundings are safe and you are not in any danger from dangerous dogs or under threat from local residents. If you observe a potential threat, do not exit the vehicle. Leave the site immediately and report the incident to management.
- Always stay close to the vehicle
- Always carry a mobile phone

### **Responsible Person**

Environmental Officer



**Appendix 1 – Odour Monitoring Field Datasheet**

General Information		Key:				
Observer Name:		Description		Source		Intensity
Date:		0 No Odour	5 Blood-like	0 No Odour	5 Paddocks	0 No Odour
Reason for Assessment:	<b>Complaint / Routine / Other</b>	1 Burnt/Smokey	6 Musty/Mouldy	1 Rendering - Raw	6 Irrigation	1 Not distinguishable
Is observer free from colds, sinus troubles etc?	<b>Yes/No</b>	2 Earthy	7 Putrid/Rancid/Decay	2 Rendering - Cooking	7 Wastewater	2 Distinguishable
Observer Abstinence (30 min) from smoking, flavoured drinks, scented objects?	<b>Yes/No</b>	3 Sulphuric	8 Manure	3 Rendering - Meal	8 Other on-site	3 Clearly distinguishable
		4 Fragrant	9 Other	4 Rendering - Meal	9 Other off-site	4 Strongly distinguishable
						5 Stomach churning

Field Information									
Time	Site/Location	Wind Dir	Previous odour of this type?	Odour Characterisation					
				Description	Source	Intensity	Period (mins)	Frequency	Env Nuisance?
<b>Signed:</b>									



Appendix 2 – Survey123 Livingstone Odour App

**General Information**

Assessment Date  
 Tuesday, 19 December 2017

Assessment Time  
 9:07 AM

Reason for Assessment  
 Complaint  
 Routine  
 Other

Observer Name  
 Yeresha Herath  
 Naomi Wilson  
 Tianee Richardson  
 Other

Is the Observer free from colds, sinus trouble etc?  
 Yes  
 No

Observer abstinence (30min) from smoking, flavoured drinks, scented objects?  
 Yes  
 No

**Field Information**

Wind Direction  
 North     nne     ne     ene  
 East     ese     se     sse  
 South     ssw     sw     wsw  
 West     wnw     nw     nnw

Any previous or continued experiences of this odour type?  
 Yes  
 No

Description \*  
 No Odour  
 Burnt/Smokey  
 Earthy  
 Sulhuric  
 Fragrant  
 Blood-like  
 Musty/Mouldy  
 Putrid/Rancid/Decay  
 Manure  
 Other

Source  
 No Odour  
 Rendering - Raw  
 Rendering - Cooking  
 Rendering - Meal  
 Paddocks  
 Irrigation  
 Wastewater  
 Bio-filter  
 Other

Sampling period (mins)

Intensity (average)  
 No Odour  
 Not distinguishable  
 Distinguishable  
 Clearly distinguishable  
 Strongly distinguishable  
 Stomach churning

Frequency (no. of events)

Environmental nuisance?  
 Yes  
 No

Comments

GPS \*  
 12°23'N 139°53'E ± 134 m  
