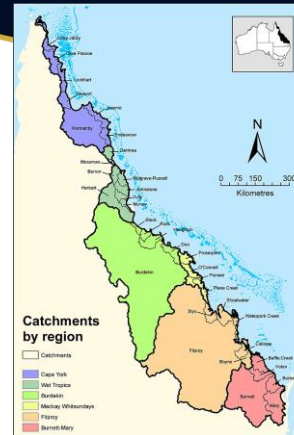


Qld Govt Reef Regulations

- AgForce does not support mandatory Reef regulations.
- Grazing minimum practice and record-keeping Standard.
- New or expanded cropping Standard.
- Relevant to commercial beef cattle grazing, cropping, fodder, pasture seed production.



1

Minimum practice standards for beef cattle graziers in Reef catchments

Commencing:

- 1 Dec 2020 – Burdekin graziers
- 1 Dec 2021 – Fitzroy graziers
- 1 Dec 2022 – Wet Tropics, Mackay-Whitsunday, Burnett Mary graziers.

Not applicable to eastern Cape York graziers.



2

Grazing Minimum Practice ERA Standard

- Each year on 30 Sept, assess ground cover.
- Use Long Paddock FORAGE report or similar.
- If greater than 50 per cent – **GOOD !** – just keep your ground cover record for 6 years.
- If less than 50 per cent- need to implement “measures” to halt or improve ground cover / land condition.
- Keep written record of measures – what, when, where. Keep record for 6 years.



3

Long Paddock FORAGE Ground Cover reports

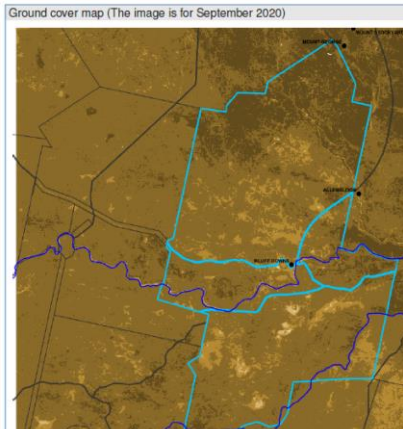
FORAGE ground cover report website:
<https://www.longpaddock.qld.gov.au/forage/>

The screenshot shows the 'Request Reports' section of the FORAGE website. Annotations with red arrows point to specific fields:

- Request 'Ground Cover' & 'Regional comparison ground cover' reports:** Points to the 'Select FORAGE report(s)' dropdown menu where 'Ground Cover' and 'Regional Comparison Ground Cover' are selected.
- Enter Year and month (Sept or Oct):** Points to the 'Year' (2020) and 'Month' (September) dropdown menus under 'Additional information required for individual reports'.
- Enter Lot/plan(s) or find location on map:** Points to the 'Find Lot Plan' input field and the map area below it.
- Enter your email and title for report, then 'Submit':** Points to the 'Email' and 'Label' input fields and the 'Submit' button at the bottom.

4

Your FORAGE ground cover report



Your FORAGE ground cover report will autogenerated and emailed to you.

Front page shows your Lot/Plan property boundary.

Lighter colours indicate areas of lower ground cover.

Check the ground cover map summary.

- How much of your property is above, or below the 50 per cent threshold?

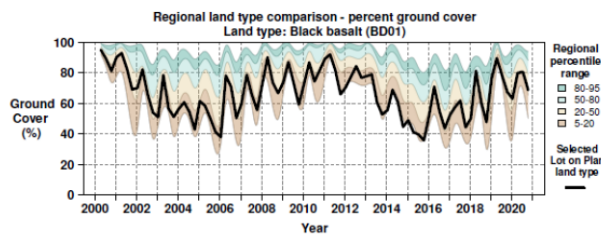
Ground cover map summary

The monthly ground cover map shows the level of ground cover for areas on the Lot on Plan with less than 60% tree cover. The image is for September 2020. The percentage of the total area of the Lot on Plan for 6 ranges of ground cover levels are summarised below:

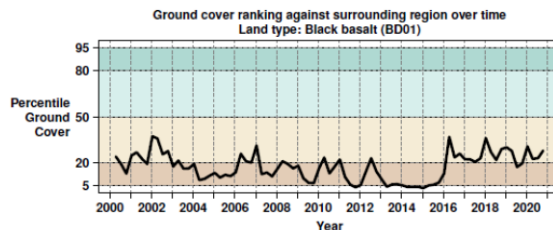
Cover levels	<15%	15 - 30%	30 - 50%	50 - 70%	70 - 90%	>90%
Percentage out of the total area	0.0	0.0	0.6	9.9	65.6	23.9

5

Long Paddock FORAGE Regional comparison ground cover report



Percentage ground cover for each grazing land type on your property.



Percentile ground cover. How your property rates amongst same grazing land type within a 25km radius.



6

Regulated record-keeping for fertiliser and agchem use on agric land

- All commercial Reef beef cattle graziers and cane farmers.
- Across all Reef catchments, excluding eastern Cape York.
- **Records required since 1 Dec 2019.**
- Keep usage records and product receipt invoices for six (6) years.
- Any fertiliser, mill mud, mill ash used ON land.
- Soil test records.
- Any agchemical used ON agric land, not livestock.



7

What is required within general records?

- Farm identification numbers
- List of cadastral lots within ag enterprise.
- For fertiliser and agchem use (record within three days of use):-
 - Location description.
 - Date of record, and date applied.
 - Product used. Application rate.
% nitrogen & phosphorus.
 - Method of application.
 - Map of soil test, application area of product.



8

Graziers in 3 catchments using tebuthiuron

- Tebuthiuron (e.g. Graslan, Scrubmaster, GP Regain) for woody weed and regrowth control is a prescribed ERA product in Reef reg's from 2009.
- **Only applicable to 3 catchments – Burdekin, Wet Tropics and Mackay Whitsunday.**
- Require 3 national competencies in agchem use, transport & storage, control weeds,
- Or similar qualifications such as Commercial Operators Licence only requiring two competencies.
- General records + record weather conditions.



9

New or expanded cropping after 1 June 2021. ERA13A Reef Standard

- Commenced 1 June 2021.
- All six Reef catchments.
- Cropping & horticulture without cropping history (3 out of last 10 years).
- "Commercial cropping" = cultivate, grow, harvest crop and sell off-farm for fee or reward.
- Environmental authority (permit) required for new cultivation greater than 5ha.
- Producer name & Lot/Plan on public register for environmental authorities.



10

Exemptions to ERA13A Standard

- An environmental authority (permit) **does not** apply to:-
 - Forage crops, crops, grazed in situ or used for own livestock. New cropping cultivation where the intention is to graze or use for own livestock.
 - Forestry.
 - Ripping for pasture improvement.
 - High Value Ag or Irrigated HVA approvals before June 2020.
 - Preparation work commenced between 1 June 2018 and 1 June 2021, with intent to crop 3 out of next 10 years.



11

What is in the ERA13A Standard?

- No cropping activity within 5m of waterway defining bank.
- Design & implement measures to minimise release of nutrient, sediment & loss of irrigation water into receiving waters.
- Record a property plan & update annually by 1st November.
- On request, provide map to compliance officer.



12

New or expanded cropping property map

Map to include:-

- Location. **ERA 13A Reef Reg Standard commenced 1 June 2021**
- Activity area. **ERA 13A Reef Reg Standard commenced 1 June 2021**
- Irrigation features.
- Waterways.
- Receiving waters.
- Measures to minimise sediment & nutrient loss

Update 1 November annually.



13

Application process for a permit to crop new areas

New cropping area	Permit application fee	Assessment timeframe
5 to 100ha	\$670	20 business days
> 100ha	\$870	40 business days

NOTE: Site-specific application for >100ha requires soil and land attribute survey, detailed farm design and impact assessment on environmental values.

<https://www.qld.gov.au/environment/agriculture/sustainable-farming/reef/reef-regulations/producers/cropping>



14

Reef regulation information

- Qld Govt: Dept of Environment and Science – Office of the Great Barrier Reef.
- Enter “*Strengthening Reef Regulations*” into your computer search engine.
<https://www.qld.gov.au/environment/agriculture/sustainable-farming/reef/reef-regulations/producers>
- Email officeofthegbr@des.qld.gov.au or call 13 QGOV (13 74 68)
- AgForce ‘Reef regulation’ website
<https://www.agforceqld.org.au/knowledgebase/article/AGF-01076/> or
- For members, contact AgForce – 07 3236 3100.

