



Ministry for Primary Industries New Zealand

Can I BBQ my goat?

Homekill rules and requirements in New Zealand

Growing and Protecting New Zealand



www.mpi.govt.nz

Outline

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Background

Historical context

- Farmers in New Zealand often lived in rural locations, far away from towns and shops
- It was hard for them to buy food from a butcher, market
- Therefore they would butcher their own animals, milk their own cows
- They would often trade meat or milk with their neighbours
- MPI recognised this in the Animal Products Act 1999, and included provisions for these activities to happen
- Homekill meat is also known as unregulated meat

Regulated vs unregulated meat

Regulated Meat

- Meat that has been slaughtered and processed at an abattoir under a MPI registered RMP
- Any further processing has occurred inside the Animal Products Act and /or Food Act regimes

Unregulated Meat

- Meat that has not been slaughtered and processed at an abattoir under an RMP (eg homekill, recreational catch)

Illegal Sales of Meat

- Unregulated meat that is offered for sale/sold/traded for human or animal consumption.

Unregulated meat (homekill)

- Homekill is the slaughter and butchering of animals for the owners own consumption or use.
- Homekill is not subject to the same rigorous regulatory controls (such as ante and post-mortem inspection) that apply to meat purchased from a supermarket or butcher – it is consumed at own risk.
- **It is illegal to trade or sell homekill meat.**

The Animal Products Act 1999

- Homekill can be undertaken by the animal's owner
- The owner may hire a listed Homekill or Recreational catch service provider
- Animals must be humanely killed on their own property or at the property of the service provider
- Animal owner responsible for meeting legal obligations for Animal Welfare regulations
- Entry in the NAIT database (if applicable)

The Animal Products Act 1999

- Illegal to ‘**Select and Slaughter**’
 - Selecting an animal from a farmer and then immediately have it slaughtered before taking the meat away
 - Illegal for the farmer to let you slaughter the animal at his or her property
 - Animal owner must have been actively involved in looking after the animal (or animals of same kind) for at least 28 days prior to slaughter if paying a service provider to slaughter and dress

Homekill Service Providers (HKSP)

- Must be registered with MPI
- Also includes Dual Operator Butchers, Game Estates
- May slaughter/dress/process Homekill for reward
- Must return **ALL EDIBLE** parts to the owner
- May sell inedible parts e.g., hides
- Must keep records (number of animals, weights)
- Must only provide service to the animals owner
- **CANNOT** sell any edible parts (including Petfood)

What's a dual operator butcher?

- A special type of retail butcher who can also process homekill meat at the butchery
- Must not slaughter animals at the butchery
- Must have systems to keep homekill and regulated meat separate
- Must return all edible parts to the owner
- Need to register an RMP with MPI
- Audited at least annually by MPI verifier

Fines for illegal trade in homekill

- Significant penalties on conviction for “select and slaughter” activities or trading in homekill meat
- The maximum fine for a person who kills an animal at any place other than his or her own property and for a farmer who provides the facilities for slaughter is \$75,000 for individuals and \$300,000 for corporations.
- These fines also apply to a person who trades in Homekill meat

Who can eat Homekill?

- Legislation (APA) says 'use or consumption of the owner....employee of the farmer...owners family, household...'
- 'Use' 'family' 'household' may cover a range of scenarios
- Your direct family (grandparents, parents, children) or household
- Farm workers
- Could include Marae, social occasions, community functions.... Key point is **NO TRADE**

What is trade? (under the APA)

- To sell for human or Animal Consumption or use:
 - Sale, resale
 - Offering/attempting to sell/receiving for sale
 - Barter
 - Part of a contract for goods or services
 - Prize/reward/advertisement/furtherance of a business
 - Every other method of disposition for valuable consideration

Examples of trade (illegal)

- For example Homekill meat **cannot** be:
 - Sold, bartered, raffled or donated for use as a prize at events such as those held at a school, church, club or fair
 - Used in institutions such as boarding schools, universities, hospitals and prisons
 - Served to paying customers (e.g., guests at farmstays, hunting lodges, paid house accommodation)

Homekill Fact Sheets

- Simple and concise guidance on Homekill for animal owners and service providers
- Easy-to-understand factsheets:
 - [Homekill for animal owners – the basics](#)
 - [Homekill for recreational catch service providers](#)
 - [Homekill](#)
 - [A guide to homekill and recreational catch](#)

- return all homekill product for human or animal consumption to the animal owner;
- dispose of products such as hides, skins and antlers, and waste material responsibly. This could include trading to a tannery or renderer;
- register with NAIT and record cattle and deer movements and deaths on the NAIT database, if they are taken off an owner's farm to your premises or place for slaughter.

There are significant penalties on conviction for breaching the rules: Individuals face fines of up to \$100,000 and two years imprisonment, and corporations face fines of up to \$500,000.



More information

A full explanation of the homekill activities that are allowed under the Animal Products Act can be found in *A Guide to Homekill and Recreational Catch*. This can be viewed on the MPI website or requested from brand@mpi.govt.nz

For animal codes of welfare, and advice on good hygienic practices and processing, visit the MPI website.

For more about NAIT obligations, visit www.nait.co.nz

To find a registered abattoir in your area, visit www.rmz.co.nz.

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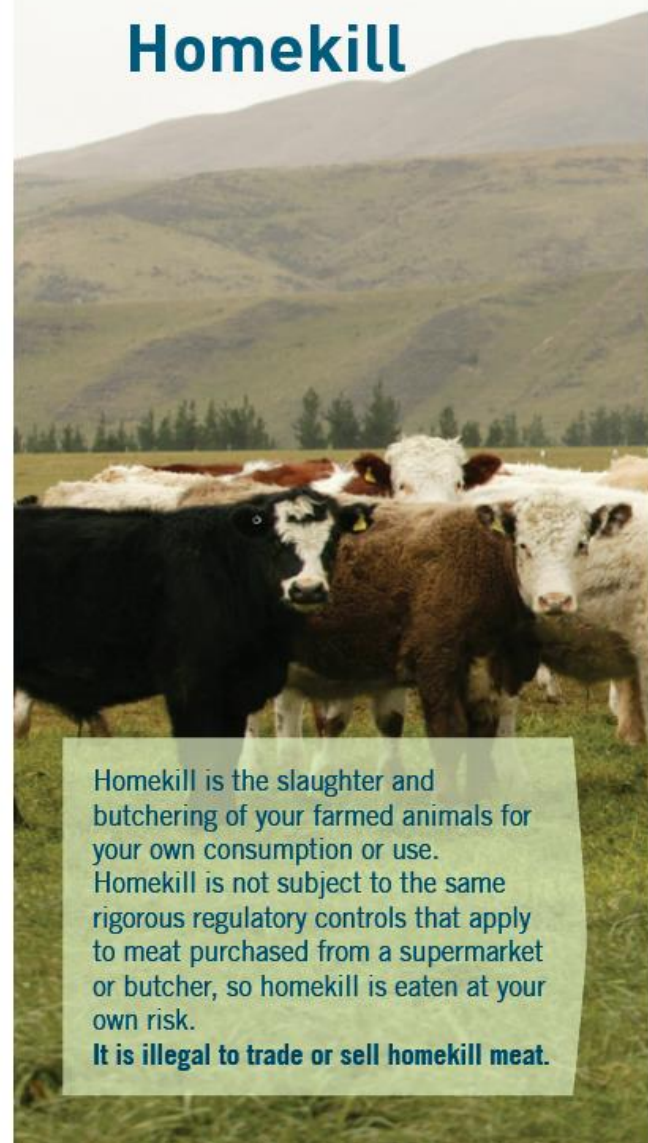
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New Zealand Government

Ministry for Primary Industries
Manatū Ahu Matua



Homekill



Homekill is the slaughter and butchering of your farmed animals for your own consumption or use. Homekill is not subject to the same rigorous regulatory controls that apply to meat purchased from a supermarket or butcher, so homekill is eaten at your own risk.
It is illegal to trade or sell homekill meat.

Homekill – the basics

Homekill is undertaken by the animal's owner only. You can:

- kill the animal yourself on your own property, including property you lease or have other legal right to occupy;
- hire a listed homekill or recreational catch service provider to slaughter and butcher the animal on your property or the provider's premises. To use a service provider, you must have been actively involved in looking after the animal (or animals of the same kind) for at least 28 days immediately prior to its slaughter.

You are responsible for meeting legal obligations for animal welfare in the Animal Welfare Act and Codes of Welfare, such as ensuring that the animals are cared for appropriately, transported humanely and killed in a way that does not inflict unreasonable or unnecessary pain or distress.

Service providers are required to be listed with the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI). The list can be found on the MPI website. You should carry out your own checks in your community regarding the quality of the services.

When homekilling cattle or deer, the person in charge of the animal at the time of its slaughter (either you or the service provider) must record its death on the National Animal Identification and Tracing scheme (NAIT) database. The requirements that must be complied with can be found at www.nait.co.nz.

It is illegal to "select and slaughter", where you select an animal from a farmer and then immediately have it slaughtered before taking the meat away. It is also illegal for the farmer to let you slaughter the animal at his or her property.

The penalties on conviction for "select and slaughter" activities or trading in homekill meat are significant: The maximum fine for a person who kills an animal at any place other than his or her own property and for a farmer who provides the facilities for slaughter is \$75,000 for individuals and \$300,000 for corporations. These fines also apply to a person who trades in homekill.



If you can't meet the requirements for legally carrying out homekill, you can buy an animal and send it to a registered abattoir for killing and processing. This will exempt you from the requirement to own the animal for 28 days prior to slaughter and the meat will have been through the same rigorous inspection processes as meat you would buy from a supermarket or butcher.

Who can eat homekill?

Homekill can be eaten by you as the animal's owner and:

- your direct family (grandparents, parents, children) or household;
- farm workers you employ in a continual manner in farming operations, as well as their family or household.

Restrictions on homekill

Homekill cannot be:

- sold, bartered, raffled or donated for use as a prize at events such as those held at a school, church, club or fair;
- used by institutions such as boarding schools, universities, hospitals and prisons;
- served to paying customers. This includes guests at farmstays and hunting lodges, and guests who pay board, fees or other forms of payment as part of an accommodation package.

Homekill can be served on a marae for traditional activities within the iwi or hapu, but commercial operations on a marae must use commercially processed meat.

Homekill by-products (such as hides, skins, antlers and waste material such as fat and bone) can be sold or disposed of to a renderer or tannery.

Homekill or recreational catch service providers – the basics

All homekill or recreational catch service providers must be listed with MPI.

The penalties on conviction for operating such businesses without being listed are significant. The maximum fine for unlisted service providers who accept reward for homekill is \$75,000 for an individual and \$300,000 for a corporation.

To be listed as a service provider use the AP2 application form. You can obtain this form by:

- going to the MPI website and searching on "AP2";
- calling the consumer helpline on 0800 69 37 21;
- emailing info@mpi.govt.nz.

As a service provider you must:

- record that the owner has owned the animal (or animals of the same kind) for at least 28 days;
- carry out homekill either at your own premises or place, or on the animal owner's property;
- keep records of all animals killed or processed and who has received all the parts (including by-products) in accordance with the Homekill and Recreational Catch Service Provider and Other Information Notice. This Notice can be viewed on the MPI website;
- identify each animal owner's product and keep records of how you do this;



Issues Around Homekill Meat

- Illegal sales – facebook, community groups, the local pub....
- Compliance – MPI has powers under the APA to investigate and prosecute illegal traders
- You can report any suspicious activities to MPI

Example 1: marae/church/cultural centre

We have 6 farmers and they have cattle beasts in their farms.

- Could they have one of their animals killed by a qualified Home Kill Service Provider for us to use at a hui/church event/community meeting?
- It would be inspected by a retired meat inspector
- We would cover the cost of having the beast processed, but there would be no profit made
- illegal?

Example 1: marae/church/cultural centre

- Homekill is for the 'use or consumption of the owner....'
- Use in this case could possibly include a cultural/religious gathering, this is not necessarily illegal
- **However** would need to be assessed on a case by case basis – there can be no element of trade (eg koha, donation, exchange of services)
- If there is any doubt have the animal slaughtered at an RMP registered abattoir

Example 2: Homekill Meat for School Fundraiser

I am the Principal of a Primary School and I am running a fundraiser for the school.

- Someone wants to give away one of their lambs for the event.
- Lamb sausages will be barbecued and sold
- Chops will be raffled during the fundraiser.
- Legal?

Example 2: Homekill Meat for School Fundraiser

- Cannot use Homekill for any commercial purposes
- It is illegal to **trade** homekill meat.
- No Ante and Post Mortem inspection - High risk!
- Need to have the animal slaughtered and processed using a registered RMP abattoir

Example 3: Can I BBQ my Dog?

- The rules apply equally to all species of animal
- This includes large mammals like cattle, small mammals like rabbits, poultry, fish, even your dog....
- So long as the rules are followed and there is no trade

Ask us your questions

Thank you

Any questions, email us at:
animal.products@mpi.govt.nz