



Pocket Herbs & Produce Pty Ltd
67 Howards Road, Burringbar

(Lot 3 on DP1191595)

**OPERATIONAL
NOISE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

31 January 2017

Greenhouse Fans:

Aim:

To control noise from fan operation during the day/night period.

Performance Indicator:

Noise generated by fan operation complies with the requirements of the Noise Policy for Industry, produced by the NSW Environmental Protection Authority (Intrusive Criteria LAeq, 15 minute ≤ background level plus 5).

Noise impacts are to be assessed at the reasonably most-affected point on or within the residential property boundary or, if that is more than 30 meters from the residence, at the reasonably most affected point within 30 meters of the residence, but not closer than 3 meters to a reflective surface and at a height of between 1.2–1.5 meters above ground level.

Note: The background noise levels to be measured are those that are present at the time of the noise assessment and without the fans operating. If the measured background level is less than 30 dB(A), then the rating background level is considered to be 30 dB(A).

Purpose:

The purpose of these fans is to maintain minimum airflow and not control temperature or humidity, the VSD has been set and does not get modified due to temperature/humidity changes. The VSD (fan speed controller) cannot be changed externally.

Tasks / Actions:

The fans to be controlled as listed below:

Greenhouse 1 – HAF Fans and Fan Related Equipment

Fixed HAF Fans Greenhouse 1 - Main Area

Description - 15 HAF Fans Controlled by VSD Fan Controllers.
 Operation - 55% 7am to 5pm. 20% 5pm to 7am. 7 days a week.

Other Fans Greenhouse 1 - Main Area

Description - 4 Pedestal Fans for disease susceptible varieties.
 Operation - Low Speed from 7am to 5pm. Off 5pm to 7am. 7 days a week.

Description - 3 Pedestal Fans for Staff Comfort/Safety.
 Operation - Low/Medium Speed from 7.30am to 4pm. Off 4pm to 7.30am. 5 Days a week.

Fixed HAF Fans Greenhouse 1 - Hardening Off Area

Description - 2 HAF Fans Controlled by VSD Fan Controller.
 Operation - 55% 7am to 5pm. Off 5pm to 7am. 7 days a week.

Glossary of Acronyms

HAF = Horizontal Air Flow
 VSD = Variable Speed Drive

Contingency Management

In the event of a site power failure the generator will start automatically and the Autogrow System will operate as normal.

Main Water Tank Pumps: Water tank pump operation be limited to 7am to 10pm.

Aim:

To control noise from main pressure pump operation during the night period.

Performance Indicator:

Noise generated by pump operation is not audible at nearest noise sensitive premises boundaries outside the prescribed hours.

Purpose:

This pump is used to pressurize the farm water system and is only needed between the hours of 7am and 7pm.

Tasks / Actions:

The pumps be controlled via an automatic timer. The timer operational controls must be only accessible by Management of the facility.

Roof Opening Mechanism: Roof opening mechanism be maintained to ensure noise is not generated from faulty equipment.

Aim:

To minimise noise from roof opening operation.

Performance Indicator:

Atypical noise generated by roof opening operation is not caused.

Tasks / Actions:

Staff of the facility undertake regular inspections of roof opening mechanism.

If the mechanism changes in sound level or character, Staff immediately notify Management to investigate cause and remediation or repairs if required.

Emergency Electrical Generator: Emergency electrical generator be controlled such that usage is minimised.

Aim:

To minimise noise from emergency electrical generator operation.

Performance Indicator:

Emergency electrical generator operation occurs for the minimum amount of time required.

Tasks / Actions:

Staff of the facility undertake regular inspections of emergency electrical generator, and generator be kept in good working order.

The Emergency electrical generator be set to automatically activate in the event of a power outage, and automatically shut down once power is restored.

Regular emergency electrical generator operation to check mechanism be limited to the following hours:

- Maximum of once per month;
- Monday – Friday 10am – 4pm;
- No more than ½ hour of continuous use.

Management keep a permanent record of the nature of the emergency and hours of use of the equipment.

Powered High Pressure Water Cleaners

The Electrically Powered High Pressure Water Cleaners will be the primary equipment used on site for cleaning. In the event of a breakdown or for servicing needs of the electrically powered units, the Combustion powered unit will be limited to the following hours:

- Monday – Friday 10am – 4pm;
- No operation on Saturdays, Sundays or Public Holidays.
- Within the permitted hours Combustion High Pressure Water Cleaners may only be used for a maximum two (2) hour period on any one day. The maximum two (2) hour period is to be a continuous block of time and not intermittent time periods adding to 2 hours,.

Aim:

To manage noise associated with use of combustion high pressure water cleaners impacting noise sensitive receivers.

Performance Indicator:

Noise generated by combustion powered high pressure water cleaners is not audible at nearest noise sensitive premises boundaries outside the prescribed hours.

Purpose:

To clean trays, benches, floors and other equipment in order to maintain a clean, safe and healthy growing environment.

Tasks / Actions:

Management ensure that Staff only use combustion high pressure water cleaner equipment between the prescribed hours.

Staff using the combustion high pressure water cleaner equipment note start time and cease use within 2 hours of commencement of use.

Management keep a permanent record of the equipment usage time start and finish time.

Emergency Use:

If the electrical cleaner breaks down or a service is needed the combustion water cleaner will be required, all efforts will be made to repair the electrical pressure washer in a timely manner and neighbours will be informed of progress.

Management keep a permanent record of the nature of the emergency and hours of use of the equipment. The emergency situation be reviewed by Management to investigate opportunities to avoid a similar event occurring.

A email notification be sent to occupants of the following properties (if the occupants are willing to supply an email address) advising that an emergency situation has arisen, and use of plant and equipment will be used outside the prescribed hours of use:

- 74 Howards Road, Burringbar (Lot 4 on DP865491);
- 74A Howards Road, Burringbar (Lot 3 on DP865491);
- 76 Howards Road, Burringbar (Lot 2 on DP859749);
- 75 Howards Road, Burringbar (Lot 2 on DP848007);
- 47 Howards Road, Burringbar (Lot 4 on DP1191598);

Review:

If equipment is altered (e.g. a low noise unit is sourced), operational usage may be altered accordingly, with this plan altered to suit.

Combustion Powered Mister or Fogger: Use of combustion powered misters be limited to the following hours:

- Monday, Wednesday, Friday 8am – 12pm (midday).
- Saturday 8.30am – 12pm.
- Within the permitted hours the combustion Powered Mister or Fogger may only be used for a maximum two & half (2.5) hour period on any one day. The maximum two & half (2.5) hour period is to be a continuous block of time and not intermittent time periods adding to 2.5 hour,
- No operation on Sundays or Public Holidays.

Aim:

To manage noise associated with use of misters impacting noise sensitive receivers.

Performance Indicator:

Noise generated by misters is not audible at nearest noise sensitive premises boundaries outside the prescribed hours.

Purpose:

To apply foliar feeding and disease prevention/treatment to plants. Needs to be early as possible when hot and may be later in cooler months.

Tasks / Actions:

Management ensure that Staff only use mister equipment between the prescribed hours.

Management keep a permanent record of the equipment usage time start and finish time.

Staff using the mister equipment note start time and cease use within 2 hours of commencement of use.

Emergency Use:

If a mister is required in an emergency situation outside the prescribed hours of use, a record of the nature of the emergency, equipment used and hours of use of the equipment be kept.

The emergency situation be reviewed by Management to investigate opportunities to avoid a similar event occurring.

A email notification be sent to occupants of the following properties (if the occupants are willing to supply an email address) advising that an emergency situation has arisen, and use of plant and equipment will be used outside the prescribed hours of use:

- 74 Howards Road, Burringbar (Lot 4 on DP865491);
- 74A Howards Road, Burringbar (Lot 3 on DP865491);
- 76 Howards Road, Burringbar (Lot 2 on DP859749);
- 75 Howards Road, Burringbar (Lot 2 on DP848007);
- 47 Howards Road, Burringbar (Lot 4 on DP1191598);

Review:

If equipment is altered (e.g. a low noise unit is sourced), operational usage may be altered accordingly, with this plan altered to suit.

Communication with Surrounding Properties

Aim:

To maintain open communication with surrounding property owners and to inform them of any significant changes to operational timetabling, or atypical activity.

Tasks / Actions:

Prior to significant changes to operational timetabling, or planned atypical activity being undertaken, the surrounding noise sensitive receivers should be contacted and informed of the anticipated duration of works.

A text notification be sent to occupants of the following properties (if the occupants are willing to supply a mobile telephone number) advising that an emergency situation has arisen, and use of plant and equipment will be used outside the prescribed hours of use:

- 74 Howards Road, Burringbar (Lot 4 on DP865491);
- 74A Howards Road, Burringbar (Lot 3 on DP865491);
- 76 Howards Road, Burringbar (Lot 2 on DP859749);
- 75 Howards Road, Burringbar (Lot 2 on DP848007);
- 47 Howards Road, Burringbar (Lot 4 on DP1191598);



Complaint management

In the event of a complaint, the complainant be directed to Management for consultation.

A record be kept of the complaint, and an investigation be undertaken to identify the event, and to introduce any remediation necessary. Refer to the attached Noise Complaint Register to assist in managing and investigating a complaint.

Responsible Person:

Site Manager is responsible for ensuring notifications are conducted at the appropriate time, and noise complaints are addressed appropriately.

Reporting:

All forms of communications to surrounding residences should be documented as well as any feedback received. Feedback should be reviewed and responded to accordingly.

Review:

Reviewed prior to operational changes, or upon receipt of bona fide complaint or upon request by Tweed Shire Council.

NOISE COMPLAINT REGISTER

Initial Complaint Recording

Date & Time of record: _____

Name of Complainant (if given): _____

Complainant Telephone Number: _____

Address of complainant (if given): _____

Identification and description of noise source (e.g. noisy equipment): _____

Time of day noise is occurring: _____

Number of days the noise has occurred: _____

Complaint Investigation & Remediation

Recommended control (e.g. fit new muffler): _____

Verification that noise controls have been implemented: _____

Follow-up Complainant

Contact date: _____

Complainant comment (e.g. is noise still annoying ? – if yes, refer to Note below): _____

NOTE

If complainant is still affected after all reasonable steps have been taken to ameliorate the noise, specialist advice should be sought from a qualified acoustical consultant.

Contacts

PHP: farm@pocketherbs.com.au

Minto:

Pasz: lennoxplaster@gmail.com

Gumbrel: plumbing@live.com.au

Hills: marnionline@gmail.com.au

Boys: freds199@outlook.com