



# YAMHILL COUNTY ASSESSMENT & TAX

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Assessor and Tax Collector

## Quantity of Livestock for Farm Deferral

### How Many Animals Do You Need to Qualify for Farm Deferral?

There is no simple answer to this question. Whether you are trying to qualify for the farm deferral program or simply remain in compliance, there are many underlying factors.

Each property is unique in how many animals per acre it can support. The following *general guidelines* have been developed. This is a *suggested* number of animals, because it varies on weight, size, breed and sex of animal.

#### Factors Include:

- Soil Quality
- Use of Irrigation
- Time of Year
- Topography and Slope
- Type and Size of Livestock
- Wooded Vs. Open

### Approximate Requirements for Adult Animals on Dry Pasture:

*A rough estimate* of the minimum number of pounds of livestock per acre is 100-800 pounds on dry pasture and 500-1000 on irrigated pasture.

**Horses:** 1 head per 2 acres (excludes personal/pleasure)

**Cattle:** 1 to 2 head per 2 acres

**Llamas:** 1 to 2 head per acre

**Sheep:** 2 to 4 head per acre

**Goats:** 3 to 5 head per acre

**Range Chickens:** 100 to 300 per acre

The portion of the property in farm deferral must be used fully and exclusively for a compliant farming practice with the primary intent of making a profit. It must contain quality forage and be free of invasive weeds and brush. The forage must be grazed by a sufficient number of livestock to keep it eaten down during the growing season. If pasture has adequate livestock but is full of blackberry briars, noxious weeds like scotch broom and tansy ragwort, or is full of debris like scrap metal, it will NOT qualify for farm use.

Your property can be disqualified by the assessor's office upon discovery that the land is not being used for farming practices, the property is overgrown and has not been maintained, there is no intent to make a profit, or the land is lying idle.

### Additional Resources:

Oregon State University Extension Office  
 Address: 2050 NE Lafayette Ave.  
 McMinnville OR 97128  
 Phone: (503) 434-7517  
 Website: <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/yamhill>



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