SCORE CARD

VISUAL INDICATORS TO ASSESS SOIL QUALITY UNDER PASTORAL GRAZING ON FLAT TO ROLLING COUNTRY

SOIL INDICATORS

Land owner: Land use:

Site location: GPS ref:

Sample depth: Topsoil depth:

Soil type: Soil classification:

Drainage class (p. 19): Date:

Textural group: (upper 1m) ☐ Sandy ☐ Coarse loamy ☐ Fine loamy ☐ Coarse silty ☐ Fine silty ☐ Clayey ☐ Peaty

Moisture condition: ☐ Dry ☐ Slightly moist ☐ Moist ☐ Very moist ☐ Wet

Seasonal weather conditions: ☐ Dry ☐ Wet ☐ Cold ☐ Warm ☐ Average

Visual Indicators of Soil Quality	Visual Score (VS) 0 = Poor condition 1 = Moderate condition 2 = Good condition	Weighting	VS Ranking
Soil texture (p. 16)		× 3	
Soil structure (p. 17)		× 3	
Soil porosity (p. 18)		× 3	
Number and colour of soil mottles (p. 19)		× 2	
Soil colour (p. 20)		× 2	
Earthworms (Number =) (p.22) (Average size =)		× 3	
Soil smell (p.24)		× 2	
Potential rooting depth (mm) (p. 26)		× 3	
Surface ponding (p. 28)		× 3	
Surface relief (p. 30)		× 1	
SOIL QUALITY INDEX (Sum of VS rankings)			

Soil Quality Assessment	**Soil Quality index**
Poor	< 20
Moderate	20–35
Good	> 35

If your soil quality assessment is moderate or poor, guidelines for sustainable management are given in Volume 2, Part One

SCORE CARD

VISUAL INDICATORS TO ASSESS PLANT PERFORMANCE UNDER PASTORAL GRAZING ON FLAT TO ROLLING COUNTRY

PLANT INDICATORS

Visual Indicators of Plant Performance	Visual Score (VS) 0 = Poor condition 1 = Moderate condition 2 = Good condition	Weighting	VS Ranking
Pasture quality (Brix =) (p. 34)		× 3	
Clover nodules (p. 38)		× 3	
Weeds (p. 40)		× 2	
Pasture growth (p. 42)		× 3	
Pasture colour and growth relative to urine patches (p. 43)		× 3	
Pasture utilisation (p. 45)		× 3	
Root length and root density (p. 46)		× 3	
Area of bare ground (p. 47)		× 2	
Drought stress (p. 48)		× 2	
Production costs to maintain stock-carrying capacity (p. 49)		× 1	
PLANT PERFORMANCE INDEX (Sum of VS Rankings)			

Plant Performance Assessment	**Plant Performance Index**
Poor	< 20
Moderate	20 – 35
Good	> 35

SUMMARY

Comparison of soil and plant scores		Do the soil and plant scores differ? If so, why?
SOIL INDICATORS	Plant indicators	

NOTES:

Total available water holding capacity: