

Our Ref DOIA 24-290

Your Ref Overseas Investment in NZ Farmland Data set

17 May 2024

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
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Tēnā koe 

Response to your official information request

Thank you for your official information request received on 1 May 2024 for "data set for foreign investment into farmland in New Zealand from 2000 to today."


Appendix 1 shows the number of consents, with the corresponding land area, for acquisition of farmland granted under the Overseas Investment Act 2005 (**Act**). It covers the period from 25 Aug 2005 (when the Act came into effect) up to 31 Mar 2024.

We do not hold data about acquisition of farmland prior 25 Aug 2005. We believe that the requested information does not exist because the overseas investment rules before the Act do not have specific reference to farmland. We do not believe it is held by any other department. Thus, your request for information with respect to the period prior to 25 Aug 2005 is refused under sections 18(e) and 18(g) of the Official Information Act 1982.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note this response letter on your request, **with your personal details withheld**, and any attached documentation, will be published on the Toitū Te Whenua Land Information New Zealand website. This is likely to be published by the end of June 2024.

Nāku noa, nā


Anneke Turton
Leader Assessment

Appendix 1 – Overseas investment consents for acquisition of farm land granted between 25 Aug 2005 up to 31 Mar 2024

Year	Number of consents	Net total area (ha)
2005	17	434.39
2006	58	18,390.49
2007	33	7,431.30
2008	31	31,657.30
2009	58	18,410.92
2010	39	22,641.80
2011	64	43,258.98
2012	36	27,096.25
2013	52	58,518.43
2014	71	21,821.25
2015	53	24,978.20
2016	34	23,267.77
2017	36	26,216.08
2018	18	43,978.54
2019	35	16,566.52
2020	12	2,567.85
2021	20	4,536.21
2022	51	29,780.70
2023	24	12,565.77
2024	14	10,576.60
Grand Total	756	444,695.36

Please note the following for purposes of this table:

- a. 'farm land' refers to land [(other than *residential (but not otherwise sensitive) land*)] used exclusively or principally for agricultural, horticultural, or pastoral purposes, or for the keeping of bees, poultry, or livestock. It does not include land used for *forestry activities*.
- b. 'forestry activities' means any of the following activities in respect of any trees (whether exotic or native) that are to be harvested to provide wood:
 - i. maintaining a crop of trees:
 - ii. harvesting a crop of trees:
 - iii. maintaining the land during the period between harvesting a crop of trees and establishing a new crop of trees:
 - iv. establishing a crop of trees.
- c. 'net total area' means the total land area proposed to be transferred into foreign ownership under consents granted during the relevant period. You can find a more detailed explanation in the [glossary section](#) of our website.
- d. 'residential (but not otherwise sensitive) land' refers to land that
 - i. is or includes residential land; but
 - ii. is not otherwise sensitive under [Part 1](#) of Schedule 1 of the Overseas Investment Act 2005.