

Information and Frequently asked Questions

On March 1st 2018, the Meat Industry Regulations were amended to also prescribe wild deer as game in Victoria. As a result, Wild Shot Venison, can now be further processed at a registered Wild Game processing facility for Human consumption in Victoria.

The Supply Chain



WILD GAME FIELD HARVESTER (WGFH)

Wild Game Meat Field Harvester (WGFH)- Each harvester of wild deer to be processed through a Victorian facility for **human consumption or pet food** must first apply to PrimeSafe to be approved as a WGFH. An application for a WGFH license must include the following;

- Certificate of Attainment Wild Animal Field Harvesting or equivalent from an approved RTO
- Evidence of Shooting proficiency certification.
- DELWP Wildlife harvest permit or written proof of access to private land
- Current Shooters License

Field Dressing – Skin, lungs, liver, heart and kidneys to remain attached to the carcass.

Traceability – the carcass must be tagged with Property Identification Code (PIC), Field Harvester Approval Number, Harvest Date, and Carcass Body number.

GAME MEAT HARVEST VEHICLE (GMHV)

Game Meat Harvest Vehicle (GMHV) – A PrimeSafe licensed GMHV must be used for the harvesting of wild shot venison for human consumption. An application for a GMHV license must include the following;

- Certificate of Attainment Wild Animal Field Harvesting or equivalent from an approved RTO
- DELWP Wildlife harvest permit or written proof of access to private land
- List of approved PrimeSafe Wild Game harvesters utilising the GMHV
- A third party auditing contract covering the vehicle.

Hygiene Requirements – Hand wash and sanitiser facilities must be working and available during carcass dressing.

Chilling – all carcasses must be under refrigeration in a GMHV or Game Meat Field Depot (GMFD) within 2 hours of being harvested, except where a wild game is harvested between sunset and sunrise, it shall be placed under refrigeration within 2 hours of sunrise, and reduced to a core temperature of 7 degrees within 24 hours.

Carcass Delivery – all carcasses must be transferred to a licensed Game Meat Processing facility within 14 days of harvest in a PrimeSafe licensed vehicle and be accompanied with a completed **Game Meat Harvest Declaration**.

Record Keeping – A food safety plan must be kept with the GMHV. This include a Quality Policy Statement, Cleaning and Hygiene Schedule to be completed prior to each harvest and Monthly Maintenance schedule.

Kangaroos cannot be stored in the same GMFD as wild shot venison destined for human consumption.

GAME MEAT FIELD DEPOT (GMFD)

Game Meat Field Depot (GMFD) – A PrimeSafe licensed GMFD must be used for the storage of wild harvested game animal carcasses only and **must not be used** for the final processing, inspection, storage or transport of processed game meat. An application for a GMFD license must include the following;

- Certificate of Attainment Wild Animal Field Harvesting or equivalent from an approved RTO
- DELWP Wildlife harvest permit or written proof of access to private land
- List of approved PrimeSafe Wild Game harvesters utilising the GMFD
- A third party auditing contract covering the GMFD.

Chilling – all carcasses must be under refrigeration in a GMHV or Game Meat Field Depot (GMFD) within 2 hours of being harvested, except where a wild game is harvested between sunset and sunrise, it shall be placed under refrigeration within 2 hours of sunrise, and reduced to a core temperature of 7 degrees within 24 hours.

Carcass Delivery – all carcasses must be transferred to a licensed Game Meat Processing facility within 14 days of harvest in a PrimeSafe licensed vehicle and be accompanied with a completed **Game Meat Harvest Declaration**.

Record Keeping – A food safety plan must be kept with the GMFD. This includes a Quality Policy Statement, Cleaning and Hygiene Schedule to be completed prior to each harvest and Monthly Maintenance schedule.

Kangaroos cannot be stored in the same GMFD as wild shot venison destined for human consumption.

GAME MEAT PROCESSING FACILITY (GMPF)

All Wild Game to be processed for human consumption must be further processed at a PrimeSafe registered Game Meat Processing Facility (GMPF).

Upon receipt at the GMPF, each carcass will be inspected to ensure its suitability for further processing for human consumption. Particular attention shall be paid to:

- Signs consistent with natural death, death by trapping or of a moribund state at the time of death
- Indications of any decomposition process
- When transported from a field depot, temp in excess of 7 degrees
- indication of gross contamination
- indication of fly strike with maggots
- failure to retain the heart, liver, lungs and kidneys

Should post-mortem observations indicate any of the above, the entire carcass shall be condemned as unfit for human consumption at the discretion of the receiving meat inspector.

FEE SCHEDULE

The following application and annual fees are payable to PrimeSafe as part of the Game Meat Processing program;

Category	Application Fee	Annual Fee
Wild Game Field Harvester (WGFH)	\$113	\$226
Game Meat Harvest Vehicle (GMHV)	\$224	\$448
Field Depot (Up to 500 tonnes per annum)	\$341	\$682
Field Depot (501 to 2,500 tonnes per annum)	\$791	\$1582
Field Depot (Over 2,500 tonnes per annum)	\$1188	\$2376