



Castle Estate is a family owned and operated small scale abattoir based in South West Victoria. Constructed in 2014, Koallah. Castle Estate slaughters and packs Beef, Lamb, Pork, Venison, Goat, Llama and Alpaca.

## WILD GAME PROCESSING

# Castle Estate is now seeking Field Harvested Venison

Castle Estate Abattoirs has recently achieved accreditation for the processing of field harvested Venison for human consumption. As a result, Castle Estate is now seeking hunters and farmers interested in supplying Venison.

### Victoria's first mobile field depot

Castle Estate has now registered Victoria's First mobile depot for the storage of field harvested game for human consumption. This allows the depot to be conveniently located for easy access when delivering harvested animals. The result is less time travelling and more time hunting.

### Harvester payments

Castle Estate will pay \$2.00 (ex GST) per kg for all Field Harvested Venison with head removed and delivered to Castle Estate's Field Depot. All animals delivered must comply with the field dressing and traceability regulations as outlined below. Harvester payments will be made 14 days from end of week of harvest.

**FIELD DRESSING** – Skin, lungs, liver, heart and kidneys to remain attached to the carcass. Heads to be removed prior to delivery to Castle Estate field depot.

**TRACEABILITY** – the carcass must be tagged with Property Identification Code (PIC), Field Harvester Approval Number, Harvest Date, and Carcass Body number. Castle Estate will provide tags to registered harvesters.

### CONSIGNMENT DECLARATION & DELIVERY

All consignments to the field depot, must be accompanied with a completed Game Meat Harvest Declaration. Animals harvested between sunrise and sunset, must be delivered to Castle Estate's depot within 2 hours of being harvested. Animals harvested between sunset and sunrise, must be delivered to depot within two hours of sunrise.

### Human consumption buyback and value added options

As a result of the fact that all field harvested animals processed at Castle Estate are fit for human consumption, any related product can be on sold for commercial purposes. Castle Estate offers Harvesters the option to buyback selected products which they may wish to market directly to consumers. This is a great way to increase the value of harvested animals. Speak to us about our buyback and value adding options to maximise the value of your hunt.

If you are a Registered Game Harvester, a farmer with a Venison control problem or you would like to find out more information about supplying Game to Castle Estate, please contact us on 03 5594 5222 or email us at [info@castleestate.com.au](mailto:info@castleestate.com.au).



Meat. Done Better.

Email [info@castleestate.com.au](mailto:info@castleestate.com.au)

Phone 03 5594 5222

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[CASTLEESTATE.COM.AU](http://CASTLEESTATE.COM.AU)

# The Supply Chain

Below is a breakdown of the supply chain of field harvested game meats for human consumption, together with a summary of the key roles and responsibilities



## WILD GAME 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)

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.

**Kangaroos harvested in Victoria cannot be carried on the same GMHV as wild shot venison designed for human consumption.**

## 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;

- 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 harvested in Victoria cannot be stored in the same GMFD as wild shot venison designed for human consumption.**