

## **DataLinker: Permissioned exchange of livestock data**

Modern animal evaluation systems can make use of increasingly complex and nuanced data sets, and the availability of automated equipment and sensors can also result in large and rich data that is not suitable for manual manipulation. Farmers and breeders have less tolerance for manually collating and submitting data and expect to re-use the information collected for many purposes, including animal health, breeding decisions, and feed management. Farmers use technology from several vendors and interact with multiple organisations, so there is a need to develop data exchanges that are fit for purpose and comply with modern data protection and control guidelines.

The New Zealand Farm Data Initiatives have been addressing the controlled and principled sharing of data between organisations since 2013. The Farm Data Code of Practice was developed with involvement of 60 individuals and organisations to promote clear understanding and communication about rights and responsibilities in relation to data, and has been used as a model by countries and organisations internationally.

The DataLinker framework applies modern internet standards and protocols to the field of livestock (and other farm data) exchange. It supports dynamic data access agreements between organisations and provides farmers with the means to dynamically control access to data, without requiring a central database or hub.

*Keywords: animal data exchange, data protection*

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*Area: Data*

*Topic: Establishing animal data exchange protocols*