



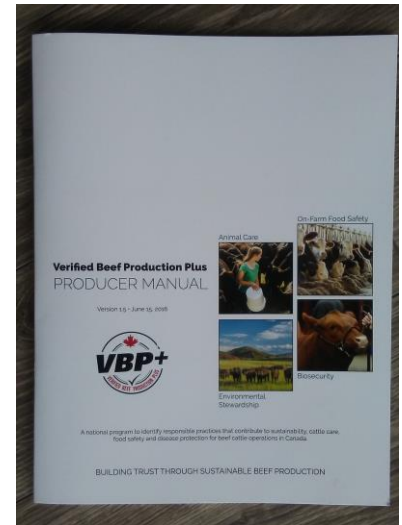
## Addendum - VBP Plus Producer Manual

page 22

[www.verifiedbeef.ca](http://www.verifiedbeef.ca)

as of August 31 2018

➔ If already have Producer Manual version 1.5/7.7 this is the update/no need to seek a new hardcopy



*This page provides additional information for page 22 – VBP On-Farm Food Safety section of the VBP+ Producer Manual.*

This serves as notice regarding a revision to the annual assessment cycle for **new** beef cattle operations seeking VBP+ certification.

This is intended for cattle operations **not** previously audited with VBP or VBP Plus. Those already VBP+ certified (audited) will remain in their existing annual assessment pattern until the 9<sup>th</sup> year. Then they will be moved at that time to the cycle outlined below.

### On-Farm Audits

The Canadian Roundtable for Sustainable Beef (CRSB) has approved VBP+ as a certification body for its Certified Sustainable Beef Production Standard. This means that any beef cattle operation in Canada already VBP+ Registered/certified and in active status are recognized as meeting the Sustainable Beef Production Standard.

While the pattern of annual audit/assessments remains the same for existing VBP+ operations until the 9<sup>th</sup> year, new entrants will be placed in a 5 year cycle. VBP+ was required to move **new** certified operations to a 5 year cycle, with a re-audit in the 6<sup>th</sup> year, to meet requirements as a certification body for the Sustainable Beef Production Standard.

The annual assessment cycle for **new** VBP+ entrants is:

- Year 1 – on-site audit
- Year 2 – records assessment
- Year 3 – self-declaration
- Year 4 – records assessment
- Year 5 – self-declaration ... then repeat /start again as per year 1

This is a shortening of the existing 8 year cycle, but if cattle operations meet requirements in an exemplary manner there is opportunity to expand the cycle by 1 year, resulting in a 6 year cycle. The decision to do so will be done after the initial 5 year cycle based on performance.

For further information on CRSB's Sustainable Beef Production Standard check out:

[www.crsbcertifiedsustainablebeef.ca](http://www.crsbcertifiedsustainablebeef.ca)