

Farm Data Code

Summary Audit Report for Environmental Accounting Platform

Provider: Agricultural Innovation Australia Limited

Assessed against Farm Data Code version: 2.0



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Compliance

- 6.1
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Summary of terms

What Farm Data, or other data about the farmer or farm business is being collected, created, aggregated, used, or shared?

To create an account in the AIA Environmental Accounting Platform a farmer needs to input the farm business information: name, address, email, phone number. To use the carbon calculators farm information is required: State or territory the farm is located in, the size of the property, crop/commodity information, annual yield, farm production inputs - e.g. fertiliser, pesticides, fuel, livestock/animal feed is required to be entered.

Why is this being done?

To enable the user to calculate the carbon footprint of the farm.

Who is the Provider sharing Farm Data with?

AIA is not sharing Farm Data with any third party marketing or advertising entities. The Farmer can opt-in to share their data with anyone they nominate, including as de-identified aggregated data for research purposes

Is Farm Data being de-identified?

Farm Data is de-identified if the user opts-in for research purposes.

How long is Farm Data stored for?

There is no guaranteed retention period after a user deletes their account.

AIA may retain de-identified and aggregated data potentially indefinitely for research purposes, where the user chose to opt-in to have their data shared for research purposes, and for insights.

How can farmers obtain a copy of their Farm Data?

Users can download their data (in CSV format) from their account in the platform.

How can farmers get Farm Data deleted?

Users can delete their submitted identifying data from within the platform (or request deletion of their account).

AIA may retain de-identified and aggregated data potentially indefinitely for research purposes, where the user chose to opt-in to have their data shared for research purposes, and for insights.

In which countries is Farm Data stored or made available?

Australia. Data can be accessed from anywhere via a VPN.

What's in it for the farmer, and for the Provider?

Access to calculators for whole-of-farm carbon emission reporting.

Are there any risks or detriments that may affect farmers?

Potentially sensitive farm data, if exploited, could positively or negatively affect property valuation and/or insurance premiums. AIA EAP deletes farm data after 18 months of inactivity (i.e. no account login) on a user account.

Detailed compliance report against Farm Data Code

Transparency

Transparent, clear and honest collection, use and sharing of Farm Data. Providers will:

Data Code Principles



1.1



1.2



1.3



1.4



1.5



1.6



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Detailed compliance report against Farm Data Code

Transparency

1.1

Provide Farmers with plain-English, easily found terms and associated policies for data collection, use, and sharing detailing:

- the identity of the contracting party/ies;
- what Farm Data and any other data about the Farmer or their farm/business, will be collected, created, aggregated, used, or shared;
- purpose/s for which Farm Data is being collected, used and shared;
- the value being created for the Farmer, and the Provider;
- how Farm Data will be managed and shared, in terms of security, access, and de-identification protocols;
- identity and/or nature of any other entities with whom it shares Farm Data;
- processes and conditions for data retention, data retrieval, and service termination; and,
- any risks or detriments that may adversely affect Farmers who share data with the Provider.

Meets the code?



Yes

Provider's comment

We comply with this principle.

Before farmers can access the AIA Environmental Accounting Platform (EAP), they must view and accept the terms and conditions during the sign-up process.

An electronic record that the user selected the terms and conditions confirmation field is created in the AIA EAP database against the user's profile.

The AIA EAP Terms and Conditions can also be viewed at www.aiaeap.com/t-cs

Detailed compliance report against Farm Data Code

Transparency

1.2

Obtain clear, fully informed, and express consent from the Farmer as to the terms for collection, use, and sharing of Farm Data.

Meets the code?  Yes

Provider's comment

Before farmers can access the AIA Environmental Accounting Platform (EAP), they must view and accept the terms and conditions during the sign-up process.

An electronic record that the user selected the terms and conditions confirmation field is created in the AIA EAP database against the user's profile.

Detailed compliance report against Farm Data Code

Transparency

1.3

Provide prompt notice about any material changes to the terms and associated policies for collection, use, and sharing of Farm Data.

Meets the code?  Yes

Provider's comment

Users will be notified via the email address provided on sign up of any changes to the AIA EAP Terms and Conditions within 7 days.

This will be supported by an additional notification when next logging in to the AIA EAP.

Any changes to the AIA EAP Terms and Conditions will also be published at www.aiaeap.com/t-cs

Detailed compliance report against Farm Data Code

Transparency

1.4

Where a material change to terms and associated policies is proposed, obtain clear, fully informed, and express consent for the Farmer to accept the change and; provide an avenue for the Farmer to terminate the agreement without incurring a financial penalty and with adequate time to port or delete their Identifying Farm Data.

Meets the code?  Yes

Provider's comment

Farmers will be prompted to accept any new version of the AIA EAP Terms and Conditions when they next login.

Farmers can delete identifying farm data and discontinue using the AIA EAP if they do not agree to the new terms. Farmers can also download their data before deleting it or requesting deletion of their account.

There is no financial penalty for deleting data or an account, as the AIA EAP is free to use.

Detailed compliance report against Farm Data Code

Transparency

1.5

Provide a mechanism for Farmers to enquire about the collection, use, storage, security and sharing of Farm Data.

Meets the code?  Yes

Provider's comment

Farmers can send enquiries to info@aiaplatform.com.au or complete the Contact Us form at www.aiaeap.com

Detailed compliance report against Farm Data Code

Transparency

1.6

Notify Farmers of the legal jurisdiction in which Farm Data is stored or made available.

Meets the code?  Yes

Provider's comment

As per the AIA EAP Terms and Conditions, submitted data will be stored by AIA in data centres physically located in Australia.

Detailed compliance report against Farm Data Code

Fairness

Fair and equitable use of Farm Data.
Providers will:

Data Code Principles



2.1



2.2



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Detailed compliance report against Farm Data Code

Fairness

2.1

Ensure that Farmers get value from the use of Farm Data – including products and insights derived from it.

Meets the code?  Yes

Provider's comment

The AIA EAP provides farmers with free access to a standardised, cross-sectoral carbon calculation platform, which is consistent with the University of Melbourne's Greenhouse Accounting Framework (GAF) Tools.

Detailed compliance report against Farm Data Code

Fairness

2.2

Ensure that Farm Data is not used to the detriment of Farmers without their clear, fully informed, and express consent.

Meets the code?  Yes

Provider's comment

Farm data is only used as outlined in the AIA EAP Terms and Conditions, which farmers must view and accept during the sign-up process.

The AIA EAP Terms and Conditions can also be viewed at www.aiaeap.com/t-cs

Detailed compliance report against Farm Data Code

Farmer Control

Ability to control and access Farm Data.
Providers will:

Data Code Principles



3.1



3.2



3.3



3.4



3.5



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Detailed compliance report against Farm Data Code

Farmer Control

3.1

Ensure the Farmer has control over who can access and use their Identifying Farm Data.

Meets the code?  Yes

Provider's comment

Data privacy is at the core of the design of the AIA EAP and farmers have control over who can access their data in the AIA EAP.

From within their AIA EAP account, farmers have the option to invite others to view, contribute or administer their account. Those who have been invited into a user's account will also need to sign up for an AIA EAP account. Farmers can revoke access previously granted at any time.

Farmers also have the option to, at any time, opt-in to share de-identified data for research purposes.

As part of AIA's role in the delivery and maintenance of the AIA EAP, a limited number of select people may have access to farm data. This access is constantly monitored and logged and includes AIA's Chief Technology Officer and the EAP developer.

Detailed compliance report against Farm Data Code

Farmer Control

3.2

Take all reasonable steps to ensure any other entities permitted access to Farm Data are bound by the terms agreed between the Provider and Farmer, and do not contravene the provisions of this Code. This does not include entities nominated by the Farmer for data sharing purposes. Inform the Farmer where terms have not been fully passed on, or Code isn't complied with.

Meets the code?  Yes

Provider's comment

AIA does not share farm data with any third parties.

AIA does have people engaged or contracted by AIA to deliver and maintain the EAP. In those situations the third parties have contractual obligations in place that cover data access, security, privacy and confidentiality requirements.

Contractors are not permitted to make or keep copies of data outside of the production environment on Amazon Web Services (AWS).

There are no maintenance or development activities that require extraction/ manipulation/ duplication of production data outside of the AWS production environment.

Detailed compliance report against Farm Data Code

Farmer Control

3.3

Provide a mechanism for the Farmer to request corrections to Farm Data.

Meets the code?  Yes

Provider's comment

Farmers enter their own data and can edit, delete and recreate it themselves within their user account.

Farmers are entirely responsible for the accuracy of their data. They are able to make corrections to their data as and when it suits them.

AIA does not edit farm data.

Detailed compliance report against Farm Data Code

Farmer Control

3.4

Ensure Identifying Farm Data and any other data provided by the Farmer to the Provider, is not deleted without the Farmer's authorisation during any agreed or legally required data retention period.

Meets the code?  Yes

Provider's comment

Farm data is deleted if:

- a farmer chooses to delete it or requests deletion of their AIA EAP account
- the farmer has not logged into their AIA EAP account for 18 months ("inactivity").

Whilst there is no legally required data retention period, in the case of accounts that have been inactive for over 18 months, AIA will make best efforts to contact the farmer to seek permission to delete the account.

That AIA EAP deletes farm data after 18 months of inactivity on a user account, this is clearly specified in the terms and conditions that farmers agree to upon registration.

Detailed compliance report against Farm Data Code

Farmer Control

3.5

Take all precautions to avoid identification or re-identification of a farm or Farmer from de-identified data, without the Farmer's clear, fully informed, and express consent.

Meets the code?  Yes

Provider's comment

AIA will never re-identify data. The EAP does not currently support or allow for the re-identification of de-identified and aggregated data. The de-identification and aggregation process is currently an irreversible one-way process to minimise the possibility of intentional exploitation or unintentional re-identification of the data.

Where a farmer has chosen to opt-in to sharing de-identified and aggregated data for research purposes, no identifying data is included. This data is provided indirectly to researchers via a completely segregated research environment, with no direct access provided to the original farm data.

Detailed compliance report against Farm Data Code

Portability

Ability to obtain and delete Farm Data.
During any agreed and legally required data retention period. Providers will:

Data Code Principles



4.1



4.2



4.3



4.4



4.5



4.6



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Detailed compliance report against Farm Data Code

Portability

4.1

Provide Farmers and/or their nominees with the ability to obtain all Identifying Farm Data (both raw and/or processed) in a structured and frequently used machine – or human-readable format where technically feasible.

Meets the code?  Yes

Provider's comment

Data can be exported by the farmer from their account in a simple, comma-separated values (CSV) file that is easy to understand.

The outputs generated from the AIA EAP using the farm data submitted by the farmer can also be exported in portable document format (PDF).

Detailed compliance report against Farm Data Code

Portability

4.2

Provide documentation to make ported data usable, e.g. Application Programming Interface (API) documentation and data model diagrams.

Meets the code?  Yes

Provider's comment

Data can be exported by the farmer from their account in a simple, comma-separated values (CSV) file that is easy to understand.

The outputs generated from the AIA EAP using the farm data submitted by the farmer can also be exported in portable document format (PDF).

Detailed compliance report against Farm Data Code

Portability

4.3

At the request of the Farmer, delete or dispose of any Identifying Farm Data, unless prohibited by law or unable to do so.

Meets the code?  Yes

Provider's comment

Farmers have the ability to delete their farm data themselves within their AIA EAP account.

Farmers can also request bulk deletion of their data and/or deletion of their profile via email to info@aiaplatform.com.au

Whether deleted by the farmer or by AIA at the farmer's request, the data is permanently deleted and cannot be recovered.

Detailed compliance report against Farm Data Code

Portability

4.4

Ensure that contingency plans exist to give Farmers the option to port and/or delete Identifying Farm Data in the event of insolvency.

Meets the code?  Yes

Provider's comment

Farmers have the ability to delete their farm data themselves within their AIA EAP account.

If AIA entered insolvency, the farmer would be notified via the email address provided on sign up and they would be able to:

- delete their own data
- request bulk deletion of their data and/or deletion of their profile
- export their data to port to another system or provider.

Detailed compliance report against Farm Data Code

Portability

4.5

Provide the Farmer fair warning in advance of changes to legal jurisdiction, change of control, or sale of the Provider entity, and adequate time for the Farmer to port and/or delete their Identifying Farm Data.

Meets the code?  Yes

Provider's comment

It is unlikely that the Australian jurisdiction would change.

If ownership of the AIA EAP changed, the farmer would be notified via the email address provided on sign up and they would be able to:

- delete their own data
- request bulk deletion of their data and/or deletion of their profile
- export their data to port to another system or provider.

Detailed compliance report against Farm Data Code

Portability

4.6

Ensure that Farmers can port and/or delete Identifying Farm Data in the event of service termination.

Meets the code?  Yes

Provider's comment

If the AIA EAP service was terminated, the farmer would be notified via the email address provided on sign up and they would be able to:

- delete their own data
- request bulk deletion of their data and/or deletion of their profile
- export their data to port to another system or provider.

Detailed compliance report against Farm Data Code

Security

Keeping Farm Data protected and secure.
Providers will:

Data Code Principles



5.1



5.2



5.3



5.4



5.5



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Detailed compliance report against Farm Data Code

Security

5.1

Take all reasonable and prudent steps, in line with industry best practice, to ensure Farm Data and any other data provided by the Farmer to the Provider, are protected at all times from unauthorised access, damage or destruction.

Meets the code?  Yes

Provider's comment

Data security is priority for the AIA EAP and we comply with this principle.

AIA follows strict guidelines and protocols to ensure the consistent, secure and effective management of data with the AIA EAP, as outlined in its policies and procedures.

These cover things such as compliance with data protection laws and regulations, storing and processing of data, and data breaches.

NOTE: Assessed based on this provider's answers to security questions based on the Australian Cyber Security Centre guidelines for small and medium businesses.

Detailed compliance report against Farm Data Code

Security

5.2

Put in specific data management protocols to protect sensitive data about the Farmer or farm, such as personal/financial information.

Meets the code?  Yes

Provider's comment

Farmers do not have to provide any personal or financial data to use the AIA EAP. The most sensitive data collected to perform the calculations is yield data.

AIA follows strict guidelines and protocols to ensure the consistent, secure and effective management of data with the AIA EAP, as outlined in its policies and procedures.

These cover such things as data storage, usage, access and security.

Detailed compliance report against Farm Data Code

Security

5.3

Promptly notify the Farmer of a data breach that has led to unauthorised access to, or damaged or destroyed Farm Data.

Meets the code?  Yes

Provider's comment

If it is determined that the data breach is an 'eligible data breach' in accordance with the Privacy Act, AIA will give notification to the OAIC and all affected individuals about the data breach as soon as practicable.

Farm data is considered personal identifiable information (eligible data) and would be reported to impacted users in the event of a data breach.

Detailed compliance report against Farm Data Code

Security

5.4

Implement a backup and recovery regime that is appropriate for the scale, sensitivity and timeliness of the Farm Data.

Meets the code?  Yes

Provider's comment

The AIA EAP utilises a daily, cloud-based backup system.

In the event of data needing to be restored, AIA would use the previous day's data, therefore the likely maximum loss would be 24 hours.

However, if a farmer deletes their own data, it is unlikely to be able to be recovered.

Detailed compliance report against Farm Data Code

Security

5.5

Ensure all staff and sub-contractors that work with Farm Data, and/or set terms, policies, and/or processes for Farm Data are trained to comply with the terms of this Code.

Meets the code?  Yes

Provider's comment

On an annual basis, AIA employees review and agree to comply with company policies and procedures. Training on policies is also undertaken during employee induction and repeated annually.

This includes the AIA EAP Data Management Policy and Procedures document, which requires them to sign a declaration that they have read and understood the National Farmers' Federation Farm Data Code.

In addition, all contractors, and third parties must also acknowledge their understanding of and agreement to comply with this document and confirm that they have read and understood the National Farmers' Federation Farm Data Code.

Detailed compliance report against Farm Data Code

Compliance

Compliance with privacy and disclosure obligations.
Where Providers are required by law to provide
information to a third party, they will:

Data Code Principles



6.1



6.2



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Detailed compliance report against Farm Data Code

Compliance

6.1

Avoid disclosing any Identifying Farm Data; or,

Meets the code?  Yes

Provider's comment

AIA does not disclose any identifying farm data.

Data privacy is at the core of the design of the AIA EAP and farmers have control over who can access their data in the AIA EAP.

Detailed compliance report against Farm Data Code

Compliance

6.2

If Identifying Farm Data must be disclosed, where legally permissible the Provider must promptly notify any Farmer whose information will be (or has been – if prior warning is not possible) disclosed.

Meets the code?  Yes

Provider's comment

In the unlikely scenario that AIA is required by law to disclose identifying farm data, the affected person(s) will be notified via the email address provided on sign up.

Disclaimer

The “Farm Data Code Provider Summary Audit Report” website (Website) is operated by the National Farmers’ Federation Limited (NFF). The Website provides a listing of data and technology products (Products), supplied by different providers (Providers), assessed by NFF for compliance with the NFF Farm Data Code (Code).

What is certification?

Providers who wish for their Products to be assessed and certified for compliance against the Code apply for assessment by NFF. NFF perform a desktop review of certain documents to assess a Product’s compliance before publishing the outcome of this assessment on the Website. Where a Product complies completely with the Code it will be certified.

NFF’s intention is that the Website provides a quick reference for how Products comply with the Code and provides a summary of how Farm Data is handled by Providers.

Certification and assessment is not advice on the quality of the services provided by a Provider or the Product and the review performed by NFF does not consider or reflect these aspects in any way.

By including the Summary Audit Report or certification of a Product on the Website, NFF is not providing an endorsement of the Product, Provider or any services.

How do members of the farming industry use the Website?

NFF operates the Website to allow members of the public to review Providers’ and Products’ performance against the Code, as assessed by NFF.

While NFF has taken all reasonable measures to confirm the accuracy of its assessment, it does not warrant that any information published on the Website is accurate, complete, reliable or up to date. We request that Providers ensure the information they provide is correct when they apply for assessment and certification, however rely on Providers to comply with this request.

NFF does not make any representations or give any warranties about the information available on the Website or contained in the Summary Audit Report, or the suitability of any Provider or Product for a particular purpose. To the extent permitted by law, NFF will not be liable for any expenses, losses, damages or costs which might be incurred as a result of the information contained on the Website or in a Summary Audit Report being inaccurate or incomplete in any way and for any reason.

What if the Provider’s product was not as expected?

NFF encourages farmers to report to NFF any conduct of a Provider or a Product that does not comply with the Code. However, NFF accepts no liability for any aspect of the interaction between a Provider and user of the Website, including but not limited to fees, payments and refunds, scope of services, performance or delivery of any services or contractual disputes. NFF is not a regulator of the relationship between a Provider and any recipient of the Provider’s services.

How is personal information used in a complaint?

If you make a complaint, your personal information will be used by NFF to contact you and obtain additional information from you about the alleged breach of the Code. Your personal information will never be published by NFF or provided to a Provider.

For further information on how NFF collects, uses, discloses and stores personal information, please see our Privacy Policy at <https://nff.org.au/programs/australian-farm-data-code/australian-farm-data-code-certification-privacy-policy/>

The Privacy Policy also provides for how complaints related to privacy may be raised with and managed by NFF.