



INFORMATION UPDATE

Agricultural motorcycle (farm bike)

General information

Agricultural motorcycle (farm bike) registration provides primary producers with a greater choice of fit-for-purpose farm bikes to use on farming properties and on parts of the Victorian road network. Motorcycles that do not meet the Australian Design Rules (ADR) for general road use can be conditionally registered as farm bikes.



Farm bike registration provides an option for primary producers who wish to operate their motorcycles on Victorian roads (not declared as freeways) within a 25 kilometre radius of their farm property. Minimum construction standards apply to motorcycles eligible for farm bike registration.

Note: VicRoads vehicle register records the identification details of each vehicle and the name and address of the registered operator of the vehicle. The register is not a register of vehicle ownership (title).



Image courtesy of Yamaha Motorcycles

Conditions that apply to farm bikes

The following is a summary of conditions that apply for farm bike registration:

- Farm bikes are to be registered in the name of a primary producer and used solely for the purpose of primary production
- Farm bikes must only operate within a 25 kilometre radius of the nominated property
- Farm bikes may only operate on roads that are not declared as freeways and are outside built up areas (which are defined as zones where buildings or street lights are less than 100 metres apart)
- When operating on the Victorian road network:
 - the farm bike must not carry a person other than the rider
 - farm bikes can only carry a load if the manufacturer's specifications say it is safe to do so
 - the operator must wear a protective helmet of the type approved for normal road use
 - the operator of a farm bike must carry a copy of the certificate of approved operations (operating conditions) issued at the time of registration

Farm bike minimum construction standards

General construction

A farm bike must have two (2) wheels and its general construction must not compromise the safety of its operator or any other person.

Rear vision mirror

An effective rear vision mirror must be fitted to the right side of all farm bikes.

Brakes

A farm bike must have a braking system comprising brakes fitted to both wheels of the vehicle, capable of working independently should one of the brakes fail in its operation.

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Lighting

Farm bikes must have all of the following:

- one head lamp
- one rear red lamp
- one rear red brake lamp
- one rear white number plate lamp.

The power source for the lighting must not be a "total loss system" (eg. powered only by batteries). The power source must have its own charging system for the continued operation of the lights.

Exhaust/noise requirements

Internal combustion engines must be permanently fitted with a silencing device capable of restricting the engine noise level to 94 dBA or less (the noise level standard for an on-road motorcycle).

General safety requirements

The following safety items must also be fitted to all registered farm bikes:

- an appropriate horn or warning device
- a chain guard that adequately protects the rider from the front chain sprocket.

Road usage for farm bikes

Roads which MAY be used

- roads including major arterials that are not declared as freeways under the *Road Management Act 2004*
- roads located outside of built up areas.

Roads which MAY NOT be used

- freeways
- roads inside built up areas (defined by zones where buildings or street lights are less than 100 metres apart)

For more detailed conditions for Farm Bike registration and other information including LAMS, please visit vicroads.vic.gov.au or call 13 11 71

TTY (for hearing impaired): 1300 652 321

Information provided in this bulletin was correct at the time of printing and may be subject to change.

Persons eligible to operate a farm bike

A person operating a farm bike on the road must be at least 18 years of age and be the holder of an appropriate motorcycle learner permit or licence. Learner and probationary riders are only allowed to ride motorcycles approved for novice riders under the Learner Approved Motorcycle Scheme (LAMS).

Applications for farm bike registration for existing motorcycles must be made at a VicRoads Customer Service Centre. The application process will take around 30 minutes and includes an inspection of the motorcycle. Persons applying must produce a Statutory Declaration stating that they are a primary producer.

Applications for farm bike registration for new motorcycles can be made at dealerships at the time of purchase.

How much does it cost?

Fees for registering a farm bike include the standard registration charge for motorcycles, TAC charge for primary producers and the motor vehicle duty. Inspection fees also apply when registering an existing farmbike. Please refer to the latest fees table available on the VicRoads website.

Transferring a registered farm bike

Registration transfers for farm bikes are not allowed. If a farm bike is to be sold or transferred to another operator, it must be de-registered. New operators who wish to register the bikes as farm bikes will have to apply for a farm bike registration and the bike will have to be inspected by VicRoads.

