# Minimum Degree of Intensity Guidelines Chart

## Denton CAD Minimum Degree of Intensity Guidelines

### Minimum Homesite
- **Typically 1 Acre**
  - Small acreage with a home built upon the tract is primarily a residential use. Any Ag use is secondary in nature to the home. Per TX Tax Code 23.51(1) "Qualified Open-Space land" means land that is currently devoted principally to agricultural use to the degree of intensity generally accepted in the area."

### Minimum Acreage Standard
- **Bees**
  - 5 ac min 20 ac max
  - TX Tax Code 23.51(2)
- **Improved Pasture**
  - 3 - 5 Acres
  - Typically coastal bermuda grass often fertilized and weed controlled
- **Native Pasture**
  - 5 - 10 Acres
  - Native grasses allowed to self regenerate
- **Hay Production**
  - 5 Acres
  - Cut, baled, and used as personal feed or sold at market
- **Irrigated Crop**
  - N/A
  - We do not have any significant irrigated crop land in Denton County
- **Dry Crop**
  - 5 Acres
  - Must produce a salable commodity
- **Orchards**
  - 3 - 5 Acres
  - Must produce a salable commodity
- **Vineyards**
  - 3 Acres
  - Must produce a salable commodity
- **Wildlife Management**
  - 14.30 Acres / 11.1 Acres (Co-op Assoc.)
  - (WMPA/ES Mgmt. 11.1ac)

### Minimum Animal Units Standard
- **1 Animal Unit Minimum (AU) per 3-5 Acres dependent upon pasture type**
  - The minimum animal units is an integral part of the degree of intensity standard in that you must be using your land to produce an agricultural product and a prudent farmer will maximize the usage of their land to maximize their returns. DCAD requires a minimum of 1 animal unit to be run on pasture land for the majority (183 days) of the year. DCAD understands normal livestock rotation but second locations must be referenced on the application.

### Typical Stocking Rate
- **1 AU per 3 - 5 acres improved or 1 AU per 5 - 10 acres native pasture**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Animals per AU</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cow</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Raising beef, dairy, or breeding stock for sale to other producers or processors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cow/Calf</td>
<td>0.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calf</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bull</td>
<td>0.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horse</td>
<td>1.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Horse production is colts and fillies birthed, raised, and sold to public (horse breeding facilities) - Horses stabled, trained or used for recreational purposes DO NOT QUALIFY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mini horses/Donkeys</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goat/Sheep</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Goat production includes mohair, meat, dairy, or sale to other producers as breeding stock. Sheep production includes wool, meat, or sale to other producers as breeding stock.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exotics (By Weight)</td>
<td>1,000 LBS = 1AU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Non native animals produced for varying commercial uses.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bees</td>
<td>6 colonies with another colony for each 2.5 ac land to 12 colonies for 20 acres</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Minimum Production Standard**

- **Hay**: 5 AC and 15,000-25,000 LBS in a typical year
- Typically 1-3 cuts per year. Should be 2,000-3,000 lbs. per acre per cutting.
- **Crops**: Varies
- Crop yields per year based on typical production per year per acre in Denton County.
- **Orchard**: 3 - 5 AC 14-100 trees per acre (14 Pecan / 100 Peach)
- Must produce a salable commodity
- **Vineyards**: 3 AC min. 600-700 vines per acre
- Must produce a salable commodity