

ARTICLE IVa

AG AGRICULTURAL OVERLAY DISTRICT

SECTION 4.01a INTENT AND PURPOSE

The Agricultural Overlay Zoning District includes areas of the township where agricultural uses exist and should be preserved or encouraged or are suitable for such operations. The intent and purpose of this Article is to regulate farms and farm operations as those terms are defined in the Michigan Right to Farm Act (Sections 286.471 – 286.474 of the Michigan Compiled Laws) (“Act”) which sets forth the powers and duties of the Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA) and the Michigan Commission of Agriculture (MCA), including their authority to adopt generally accepted agricultural and management practices (GAAMPs). The provisions of this Article are not intended to extend or revise the Act or the GAAMPs or conflict in any manner with the Act or the GAAMPs. The terms used in this Article shall have the same meaning as set forth in the Act.

SECTION 4.02a LIMITATIONS ON FARMING OPERATIONS

All agricultural operations carried on within the district must comply with the applicable GAAMPs.

SECTION 4.03a USES PERMITTED BY RIGHT

1. Permitted uses within this district are the same as those permitted in the underlying zoning district.
2. Agricultural uses including cervidae facilities.

SECTION 4.04a USES PERMITTED BY SPECIAL LAND USE

1. Uses permitted by special land use are the same as those permitted in the underlying zoning district.
2. Intensive Livestock Operations.

SECTION 4.05a SITE DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

1. For uses permitted in the underlying zoning district, and except as otherwise indicated, the site development standards shall be the same as those set forth in the underlying zoning district.
2. For agricultural uses and Intensive Livestock Operations, the minimum lot area shall be forty (40) acres, and all buildings used in connection with such operations shall be located not less than 200 feet from any lot line.