

Revisions to FAWL standards – April 2018 Revisions to the previous standards highlighted in **RED**

The revised standards become effective on 1st April 2018 and will be assessed against from 1st July 2018 other than the section on feed and pest/vermin control where revisions were previously notified to members in the Winter 2017 newsletter (see below).

Section	Standard	Reason for change
Sheep Tagging and Identification.	All lambs born on a holding must be identified in accordance with EU, UK and Welsh legislation. Lambs must be identified by tagging (or other approved means) before they move off the holding of birth or before they reach 6 months of age (if intensively managed) or 9 months (if extensively managed). Lambs identified must be electronically tagged either with a single electronic slaughter tag (if destined to be slaughtered in an UK abattoir within 12 months) or full EID (1 electronic tag and a matching non-electronic tag).	Amended to bring standards into line with regulations
Sheep Flock Record	An on farm flock register must be kept as required by current EU, UK and Welsh legislation. An inventory of sheep on holdings as at the 1st January must be made each year. All details of identifications, deaths and movements must be recorded: Identification – Within 36 hours of identification of the lamb (as in 1c above) Deaths – Within 36 hours of the discovery of the death. The record must include method of disposal of carcass and relevant identification details. Movements – Within 36 hours and a report to EID Cymru of the movement (if via a Central Point of Recording, 48 hours is permitted for the entry of tag details) details must include date, number and identity of sheep, source and destination.	Amended to bring standards into line with regulations
Sheep Movement Licences	Movement documents must be used to declare to EID Cymru all sheep movements onto and off the holding within three days of movement. These must include individual identity numbers where relevant.	Amended to bring standards into line with regulations
Bought in livestock	All livestock must spend a minimum period prior to slaughter on a farm that is registered under a recognised farm assurance scheme. That period may be shared between more than one assured farm. Checks must be made by the buyer to ensure that a previous owner was a member of an approved assurance scheme. The minimum periods are: Beef 90 days and Sheep 60 days.	Amended to maintain equivalence with Red Tractor standards for beef & lamb scheme
Assurance Status	If you intend to market your produce under the Red Tractor scheme, the following provisions apply: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If livestock are purchased from a market, the market must be assured • Hauliers and vehicles used to transport livestock must be assured, either under the FAWL scheme, the Red Tractor Livestock Transport scheme (or equivalent). 	For clarification & to maintain equivalence with Red Tractor standards for beef & lamb scheme
Inappropriate or illegal use of medicines	It is an offence to use or be in possession of unauthorised or controlled medicines unless legally prescribed by an authorised supplier. Controlled medicines must only be used on the livestock and for the condition or ailment for which they were prescribed.	To clarify that medicines have to be used for the purpose & stock intended
Competence of Stockmen	All farm personnel with responsibilities for livestock must be competent in all the tasks they are required and permitted to undertake, and must have all the relevant training and statutory qualifications. Refresher training must be implemented as required	To ensure that FAWL members maintain qualification standards when required to do so
Health & Welfare Plan including Biosecurity procedures	A comprehensive health & welfare plan must be drawn up for all cattle & sheep enterprises. The plan will need to include a note of routine procedures such as parasite control & vaccination policy; results of any relevant testing (e.g. post-mortem, livestock feed analysis, faecal egg count etc) a note of regularly occurring problems and targets for the following year. It will also need to detail the farm's biosecurity procedures (including quarantine controls) to manage biosecurity risks from incoming stock from whatever source	To clarify what is required from a health & welfare plan
Annual livestock health & welfare review	An annual livestock health & welfare review must be undertaken with the farm vet. The vet will be expected to review: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) regularly occurring problems and key issues, making recommendations to improve identified issues (2) medicine records and data, including anthelmintic use, flukicide use, total antibiotic prescribed & utilised making recommendations for responsible reduction of medicine used, where appropriate (3) the use of Highest Priority Critically Important Antibiotics (HP-CIAs) and make recommendations for responsible reduction (4) prophylactic treatment and make recommendations for alternative disease prevention strategies 	To maintain equivalence when Red Tractor standards and to meet public demand for reducing the use of antibiotics in particular and minimise resistance to those antibiotics
Changes to the following standards on feed storage & cleanliness and disinfection were notified to members in the Winter 2017 Newsletter and are incorporated into the new standards. Members will be assessed against these revisions from 1st April 2018		
Feed Storage	All feed must be produced; stored, handled; transported and managed in a manner that keeps it clean, uncontaminated and in good physical condition. There must be a policy to ensure that any feed safety hazards/ potential hazards are prevented; eliminated or minimised during production; storage; handling & transport. It should specify requirements for maintaining the cleanliness of feed stores/ storage areas and equipment used for handling; transporting & feeding and must be documented and implemented appropriately.	To obtain earned recognition from the Food Standards Agency for FAWL members for the use and storage of feed
Cleanliness and disinfection	Livestock housing and management equipment must be maintained in a clean and hygienic condition	To obtain earned recognition from the Food Standards Agency for FAWL members for the use and storage of feed
	Feed stores; feeding areas & feeding equipment should be designed; located & constructed to minimise feed contamination. Feed stores & feeding areas should have adequate lighting for inspection; feeding equipment must be appropriate for use and serviced/ calibrated in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations as required.	
** Pest/Vermin Control Systems	Please note that the standards on pest & vermin control were amended on 1st January 2018 in order to obtain earned recognition for FAWL members from the Campaign for Responsible Rodenticide Use (CRRU); those revisions (notified to members in the Winter 2017 Newsletter) have been incorporated into the new standards. Members will be assessed against these standards from 1st April 2018	

Tethered Livestock	All year-round tethering is not permitted. Untethered exercise must be provided daily for routinely tethered cattle. Routinely tethered cattle are untethered prior to calving (note: cattle may be tethered during calving where intervention is necessary) Tethers must not cause pain and allow livestock to be given sufficient space to lie down, rise without difficulty, stand in a natural position, stretch and groom without hindrance. Halters/collars/head chains must not be allowed to tighten and must be made of nonabrasive materials	NEW: To respond to requests from members who asked for clarity on the use of tethering on members' farms
Contracted hauliers	Livestock hauliers contracted by the producer must be approved participants in the ABM Livestock Transport Scheme or an approved equivalent. Hauliers' membership numbers must be known	Amended to maintain equivalence with Red Tractor standards for beef & lamb scheme
Loading livestock	The loading of livestock must be done calmly, in a way that minimises stress and risk of injury to both animals and operators. The loading facility must be safe and appropriate. It must have adequate lighting, be structurally sound and equipment free from injury risk such as sharp edges. The use of tailgating to overcome site access issues and minimise journey lengths is only permitted if it occurs within the loading site's boundary with suitable facilities (as defined by legislation)	Amended to maintain equivalence with Red Tractor standards for beef & lamb scheme
Competence of personnel	All farm staff and contractors must be aware of the potential for pollution and have a good understanding of all the relevant management plans and all appropriate, current regulatory requirements.	To ensure that anyone who is involved in a farm's management is fully aware of environmental regulation
Soil Management Policy	FAWL members must demonstrate an awareness of the potential sources of soil loss caused by compaction, erosion or excessive livestock poaching and be able to explain a policy of how they would implement mitigation measures to minimise that risk.	To meet requests for greater focus on problems of soil erosion on members' farms
Farm Manure Management & Storage	FAWL members must minimise the risk of pollution from manure, slurry, other organic matter or pathogens. All farms must have and implement a Manure Management Plan. Manure/Slurry storage facilities must be adequate and fields and soil conditions must be suitable for any applications. A documented Farm Manure Management Plan (FMMP) will demonstrate a commitment to minimising the risk of pollution and complying with the Code of Good Agricultural Practice.	To meet requests for greater focus on problems of soil erosion on members' farms
Nutrient management policy	FAWL members must demonstrate an awareness of the conditions and limitations for the application of all nutrient sources and lime. All fertiliser and manure applications to land should be made in accordance with a policy that aims to minimise the over-use and loss of nutrients applied to land as fertiliser. The development and use of a Nutrient Management Plan can demonstrate a commitment to making the most efficient use of materials as fertilisers and minimise the risk of pollution from the inappropriate application of nutrients.	To specify that farms should be aware of the conditions and limitations for the application of all nutrients, the need to minimise risk and inappropriate application
Slurry, dirty water, silage effluent	All liquid organic farm materials (including liquid from solid manure heaps) must be contained in purpose built impermeable stores of required legal capacity and durability to minimise any threat to the environment and enable compliance with the farm manure management plan and nutrient management policy. Such stores must be sited at least 10 metres from any ditch, land drain or watercourse unless Natural Resources Wales or predecessor bodies have agreed otherwise, in writing.	To ensure that potential pollutants are well contained to minimise the threat of pollution
Solid manures	Permanent manure stores must have an impermeable base and a means to collect or contain run off. Temporary field stores must be re-sited every year. All stores must be sited at least 10 metres from any ditch, land drain or stream.	To provide more clarity
Fuel oil	Oil storage tanks, with capacity exceeding 200 litres, or the area surrounding them must have a leak proof bund capable of containing 10% more than the combined tank storage capacity and all hoses must be kept locked within the banded area when not in use. Emergency facilities must be available to deal with accidental spillages such as a bucket of sand or absorbent granules or ideally an adequate bund. Oil to include waste oil, or oil stored in mobile bowzers. Oil within the fuel tanks of roadworthy vehicles is exempt.	Amended to bring standards into line with regulations
Farm wastes	Farm waste must be stored in an appropriate manner that contains it securely until it can be disposed of appropriately.	To ensure that farm waste is contained securely
Slurry, dirty water, silage effluent	These must be applied to land in accordance with COGAP (in NVZs additional spreading restrictions apply) that minimises the risk of water pollution, unacceptable odours, soil compaction or other environmental damage. Application must not be made within 10 metres of a water course or ditch and 50 metres of a borehole or well unless precision equipment such as slurry injection, dribble bar, or trialing shoe is used as they permit application between 10m and 6m of a watercourse.	Amended to bring standards into line with regulations and note further restrictions in NVZ's
Solid manures	Solid organic manures must be applied to land in accordance with COGAP (in NVZ there are other legal requirements) that minimises the risk of water pollution, unacceptable odours or compaction to soil. Application must not be made within 10 metres of a water course or ditch and 50 metres of a borehole or well.	
Organic materials	The application of organic materials such as digestate or sewage sludge may be applied to land for agricultural benefit if the appropriate legislation is complied with.	To provide for the application of digestate
Plant Protection Products (PPP)	All PPP must be applied in a manner that minimises the risk of contamination or pollution. Areas of high pollution risk need to be identified on a farm map and PPP is not applied to these areas	To maintain equivalence with Red Tractor standards for beef & lamb scheme
Hazardous waste	All hazardous waste must be disposed of under The Hazardous Waste Regulations 2009 and the Duty of Care guidelines including using a Consignment Note notified to NRW. Sites producing or storing over 500kg of hazardous waste/annum must be registered with NRW every year.	Amended to bring standards into line with regulations
Plastic waste	Plastic wastes eg silage wrap may only be disposed of via a waste operator who holds the relevant Environment Permitting Regulations permit	Amended for clarity; that operators must hold relevant permit
Dipping bath	The bath must be sited at least 10 metres from a ditch or watercourse, not have a drain hole and the facility have a means to collect sheep drain-off. The bath must be covered when not in use. Dipping site must comply with guidance in Groundwater Protection Code for sheep dip	Amended to bring standards into line with regulations