



# Cattle & Sheep Standards 2022



These Standards are independently assessed on behalf of QMS by an accredited certification body (CB). For more information on the relevant CB, please see the document, 'The role of the Certification Body', at [www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards](http://www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards)  
Updated February 2022 (effective date 1/4/22)



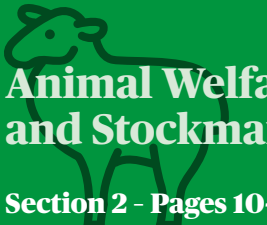
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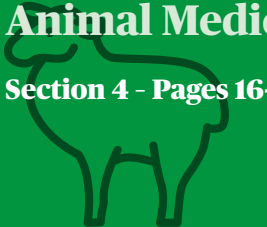
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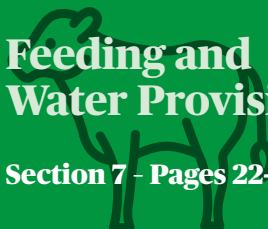
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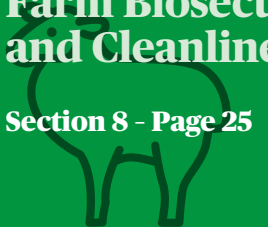
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These Standards do not seek to duplicate existing published documents on husbandry and welfare. Reference should be made to these documents as appropriate.

You can read the relevant rules and guidance on our website. Where possible, this guide also provides details of where you can find more information, guidance and the checklist:

#### ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST

When you see this sign, please refer to the Assessment Checklist on **page 6** to mark your progress.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Recommendations, suffixed with R alongside the relevant standard to which they relate, are advisory clauses only and do not require any corrective action.

#### MORE INFORMATION

More information is available to view.

#### PAPERWORK

This symbol indicates that a template or document is available for view.

#### KEY STANDARD

This symbol indicates a key standard within the table.





# At a glance

**THE Cattle & Sheep Assurance Scheme is an essential element in the Quality Meat Scotland (QMS) 'whole chain' consumer assurance programme. The longest established scheme of its kind in the world celebrated its 30th anniversary in 2020 and has more than 9,500 Scheme members.**

Since 1996 the Scotch Beef and Scotch Lamb brands have held the coveted European Protected Geographical Indication (PGI) status, which legally protects the brand names from imitation by meat from outwith Scotland or from products claiming 'Scotch' status.

To be eligible for the Scottish Red Meat Industry's premium brands and carry the Scotch Beef PGI and Scotch Lamb PGI logos, cattle and sheep must have been born, reared and slaughtered in Scotland and spent their entire life on QMS Scotch Assured holdings.

This whole of life brand eligibility is delivered by a suite of assurance schemes, which cover the full supply chain: Cattle & Sheep, Feeds, Haulage, Auction Market and Collection Centre, and Processor.

Whole chain assurance underpins the integrity of the Scotch PGI brands and provides reassurance to consumers of provenance, highest standards of production, animal welfare and wellbeing, to deliver a quality eating experience.

Manufactured feeds must be sourced from QMS-approved feeds suppliers, animals must be transported by QMS-approved livestock hauliers, sold through QMS-approved auction markets and collection centres and slaughtered by QMS-approved processors.

Whole chain assurance ensures animals have the best possible quality of life on farm and throughout the supply chain, resulting in the highest quality product reaching the consumer's plate.

In addition to the born, reared, slaughtered and Scotch assured from birth criteria, for meat from the animal to be eligible to carry the Scotch Beef PGI brand, the animal must be:

- Over 12 months of age
- Under 48 months if a steer or a heifer

- Under 16 months if a young, beef-bred suckler bull
- Under 16 months if a young dairy-bred bull (meat for mincing, reforming and dicing only). And for heifers must:
- Not have had a calf or be in calf (i.e. no cow beef permitted).

Where carcasses have been classified in accordance with the EU Beef Carcase Classification Scheme, sides must have been classified 2, 3, 4L, 4H or 5L for fatness and E, U, R or O+ for conformation.

Where carcasses have been classified in accordance with the VIA Beef Carcase Classification Scheme, sides must have been classified 2-, 2+, 3-, 3+, 4-, 4+, 4=, 5- for fatness and E=, E-, E+, U=, U-, U+, R=, R-, R+, O=, O-, O+ for conformation.

For further information on Scotch PGI product specifications, please refer to the QMS Processor Standards, which are available to download or view on the QMS website at [www.qmscotland.co.uk/processor-standards](http://www.qmscotland.co.uk/processor-standards)

The Cattle & Sheep Assurance Scheme can also assure stock as eligible for other brands which require only assurance residency for the last 90 days of life for cattle and 60 days of life for sheep. These animals cannot be labelled as Scotch as they have not spent the entirety of their life on a Scotch Assured farm, e.g. they may have been born in England or born in Scotland but slaughtered in England.

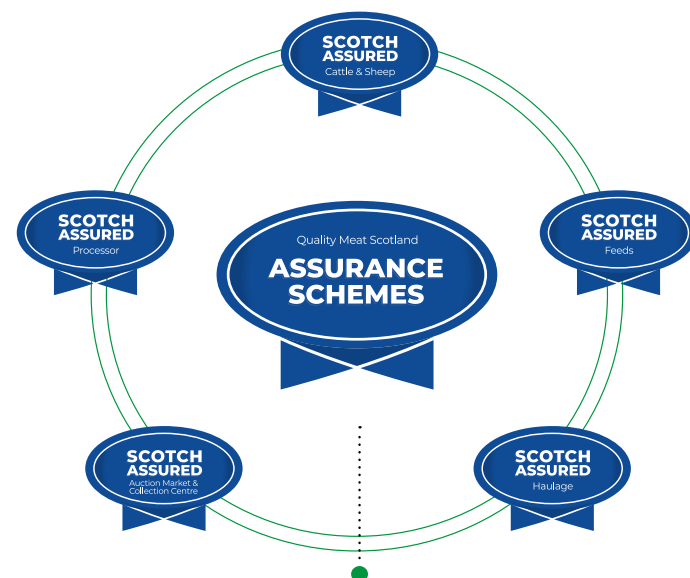
The overall strategy of QMS is to develop, support, promote, and protect a profitable and sustainable Scottish red meat industry.

A commitment to animal welfare and wellbeing is a key factor in this strategy and of paramount importance in ensuring the highest product quality.

The QMS Animal Welfare and Wellbeing Charter recognises the five freedoms of animal welfare and wellbeing:

- Freedom from hunger and malnutrition
- Freedom from discomfort
- Freedom from pain, injury or disease
- Freedom to express normal behaviour
- Freedom from fear and distress.

This is a guiding principle for all QMS Assurance Schemes, which are supported and approved by the Scottish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Scottish SPCA), which is Scotland's independent animal welfare charity. More information can be found at [www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards](http://www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards)



## Whole Chain Assurance From Quality Meat Scotland



The Scottish SPCA also carries out joint visits to QMS-approved livestock farms along with approved certification body farm assessors.

A high percentage of the livestock produced in Scotland originates from herds and flocks which are uniquely acclimatised to the farms of production. Young stock routinely suckle their mother for five or more months, forming a strong bond with each other. Calves and lambs often remain on the farm of birth until either they are themselves used for breeding or go to the abattoir to be processed for meat.

Grass and forage makes up the majority of the diet of cattle and sheep in Scotland. It can also be necessary to provide livestock with supplementary feed, to maintain their condition and welfare during the winter months.

The Scottish Red Meat Industry has very strong animal welfare and sustainability credentials to convey. It produces top quality beef and lamb from the grass and rough grazing which makes up more than 80% of Scotland's agricultural land, which is not suitable for growing cereals and vegetables.

Scotland's production systems also differ to those

in other parts of the world and, as part of a natural cycle, Scotland's grassland absorbs carbon from the atmosphere and captures it in the soil, contributing to an important carbon sink.

By grazing animals and planting hedges and trees on farmland, natural habitats are provided for wildlife and the countryside landscape is maintained.

Traceability of product is key and checker systems are available to farmers, auction markets and abattoirs for determining the brand eligibility of Scotch Assured livestock.

The Scotch Potential Eligibility Cattle Checker (SPECC) allows users to check whether individual animals are potentially eligible for the Scotch Beef PGI brand.

The QMS website also provides a 'Status Checker' which allows users to check which holdings are currently approved assured members of the QMS Cattle & Sheep Assurance Scheme.

The Cattle & Sheep Assurance Scheme Standards must be reviewed annually to maintain ISO/IEC 17065 accreditation, the recognised international standard for product conformity certification.

This annual review takes into account changing circumstances in the industry and the wider operating environment. It is conducted by a committee drawn from a wide group of stakeholders representing the farming, processing, auction market and other stakeholder interests. This broad range of knowledge and expertise ensures that the views of all the affected stakeholders are taken into account.



## Assessment Checklist ⚠️

This checklist will help to prepare for the assessment visit. It is not an exclusive list and should be used in conjunction with the Standards.

Standard	Information	✓
1.1	The assurance status of all cattle must be known.	
1.3	All CPH numbers must be notified to the certification body (CB). All within business holding moves (for cattle) notified to ScotEID system.	
1.4	Herd and movement records up to date and passports available for inspection.	
1.5	Flock records up to date, including any replacement tags, and available for inspection.	
2.1	Scheme Standards and Codes of Practice available to stockpersons.	
2.3	Records kept of any stockperson training including refresher training and available for inspection.	
2.4	An identified nominated person responsible for animal health and welfare.	
2.8, 2.9	Anaesthetics/analgesia and pain relief used and noted in medicine records (if applicable).	
2.10	Record of dog worming (if applicable).	
2.11	Written contingency plan in place, known to all staff and available for inspection.	
3.1	Vet practice details available and last visit date recorded.	
3.2	Health and welfare records for all livestock.	
3.3	Up-to-date Animal Health and Welfare Plan (AHWP) (include biosecurity plan and BVD status if applicable), AHWP reviewed, signed and dated by vet and available for inspection.	
3.4	Annual Health and performance review must be undertaken by nominated vet or vet practice.	
4.1	Complete record of all medicines purchased.	
4.2	Up-to-date medicine administration and disposal records.	
4.3	Collation of antibiotics.	
4.8	Locked medicine store.	
4.9	Out-of-date, empty medicine bottles and sharps disposed of safely.	
Section 5	Check 'Rearing of Calves and Lambs' section (if applicable).	
6.1	Check livestock housing is well constructed and effectively ventilated.	
6.6	Check light bulbs and glass windows above feeding and lying areas.	
6.9	Sufficient suitable segregation/isolation facilities available.	
7.1	Feed plan up to date, accessible to all staff and available for inspection.	
7.4	Confirmation of feed and food business registration with Food Standards Scotland (FSS) available for inspection.	
7.6	Delivery notes for all purchased feedstuffs available for inspection.	
7.7	Warranty declaration for by-products used and available for inspection.	
7.8	Inter-farm trading – purchase records and farm assurance number.	
7.11	Feed stored, labelled and protected.	
8.2	Fallen stock disposal records available for inspection.	
8.3/8.4	Completed vermin control requirements and records available for inspection.	
8.5	Acceptable appearance of farmyard, buildings and livestock areas.	
9.1	Haulier invoice/receipt with QMS Haulage Scheme membership no. available for inspection.	
9.2/9.3/9.4	ATC, transporter authorisation, certificate of competence and Vehicle Approval Scheme certificate (if applicable).	
9.10	Livestock transporter clean and ready for inspection (where applicable).	
10.1	Supply and application records for approved organic derived fertilisers, CCS/BCS membership numbers for compost and digestate suppliers and SEPA (if applicable).	
10.4	Fixed fuel tanks bunded and spillages prevented from entering watercourses.	



Standard	Information	✓
10.5	Manure management plan in place and available for inspection.	
10.6	Waste transfer notes/receipts available for inspection.	
10.8	SEPA sheep dip disposal authorisation (if applicable).	
10.11	Relevant certificates for applications of PPPs and available for inspection.	
10.12	Spraying equipment tested in line with legislation.	
10.13	Up-to-date PPP application records available for inspection.	
10.14	All PPPs kept in a store that is fit for purpose.	
11.1	Complaints register maintained and available for inspection.	





GENERAL

**THE FOLLOWING Standards are effective from 1 April 2022.**

The Standards are split into two sections: Standard Detail and Requirement.

**Key standards are suffixed with a KEY icon next to the relevant Standard and are critical to achieving compliance to the QMS Cattle & Sheep Scheme. These are based on animal welfare, environmental impact and food safety, areas which are critical to QMS Brand Integrity. Additional Standards are there to meet current legislation and continually achieve good agricultural practice. Paragraphs in light blue text are for members' information only and do not form part of the assurance assessment. Recommendations, suffixed with R alongside the relevant Standard to which they relate, are advisory clauses only and do not require any corrective action.**

Scheme members must ensure compliance with all relevant legislation, operating to the highest standards of animal welfare, traceability and biosecurity, to uphold the reputation and integrity of the QMS Cattle and Sheep Assurance Scheme.

1. Assurance Status and Traceability

To qualify for Scotch Beef PGI and Scotch Lamb PGI status, an animal must have been born, reared and slaughtered in Scotland and spent the entirety of its life on QMS Scotch Assured holdings. See additional brand eligibility criteria on page 4. Livestock not meeting these requirements cannot be sold as Scotch Beef PGI and Scotch Lamb PGI. Scottish animals assured under the Red Tractor Assurance Dairy Farm Scheme are eligible to be sold as Scotch Beef PGI if they are sold onto a QMS assured farm at under 100 days of age.

STANDARD DETAIL		REQUIREMENT	
1.1	<b>ASSURANCE STATUS</b>  There must be a process in place to ensure that the assurance status of all cattle is known [Scotch Potential Eligible (SPE), Farm Assured (FA) or Not Scotch Eligible (NSE)].	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>They must be <b>batched and documented separately at point of sale.</b></li><li>There is no requirement to manage cattle separately on-farm.</li></ul>	
		<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>  1.1R. It is recommended that producers use the Scotch Potential Eligibility Cattle Checker (SPECC) to check the status of animals as soon as possible after buying and well before selling, to ensure documentation is accurate. It is recommended that prior to selling cattle producers use SPECC.	
1.2	There should be a process in place to ensure that the assurance status of all sheep is known [Scotch Assured (SA), Farm Assured (FA) and Non-Assured (NA)].	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>They should be <b>batched and documented separately at point of sale.</b></li><li>There is no requirement to manage sheep separately on-farm.</li></ul>	

**MORE INFORMATION**

- [www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards](http://www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards)

STANDARD DETAIL		REQUIREMENT	
1.3	Members must ensure that all CPH numbers on which cattle and sheep are likely to be located are timeously notified to the approved certification body (CB). For information on how to contact the CB, please visit <a href="http://www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards">www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards</a>	Since 4 October 2021, all cattle recording for cattle located in Scotland must be captured on or to ScotEID. The service provided by the British Cattle Movement Service (BCMS) is no longer available to Scottish keepers. The system supported by BCMS for cattle data capture, the Cattle Tracing System (CTS), will be used by others for a period of time. Members that have holdings more than 15 miles from main holding may require an additional membership. For more information, please refer to <a href="http://www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards">www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards</a> Members must ensure new production sites are suitable for use with consideration given to the following, where relevant: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Previous use of site</li><li>Recent application of chemicals and soil improvers (including sewage sludge and poultry manure)</li><li>Physical hazards and injurious weeds.</li></ul>	 
<b>KEY</b> 1.4	<b>IDENTIFICATION AND TRACEABILITY</b>  In accordance with current legislation, cattle must be identified and relevant records kept for traceability.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Cattle must be double tagged within 20 days of birth. For dairy calves the first tag must be applied within 36 hours of birth.</li><li>All births, deaths and movements on and off the holding must be reported to ScotEID/BCMS in the required timescales.</li><li>The herd and movement records must be maintained, up to date and available to review at the assessment.</li><li>Passports must be in place and available to review at the assessment.</li><li>Dewlap tags are not permitted.</li></ul>	 
<b>KEY</b> 1.5	In accordance with current legislation, all sheep born on or brought on to the holding must be identified and records kept to maintain traceability.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>All sheep must be tagged in accordance with current legislation.</li><li>An up-to-date flock register must be maintained and available to review at the assessment.</li><li>The flock record must include holding information, records of births, purchases, sales and deaths and include the annual inventory. Details of any replaced tags must also be recorded.</li></ul>	 
<b>KEY</b> 1.6	<b>FOOD CHAIN INFORMATION</b>  All livestock sold for slaughter must be accompanied by a Food Chain Information (FCI) declaration.	The FCI must include any additional information that may be required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>About animals showing signs of disease</li><li>Containing a broken needle</li><li>Confirmation of compliance with cleaning of vehicles (self-hauling)</li><li>Conditions that might affect the safety of meat derived from them.</li></ul>	
1.7	To ensure the buyer and/or processor are prior notified at point of sale, records must be kept of any cattle or sheep containing or suspected of containing a broken needle.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>FCI declaration must identify the animal, the date and location of the injection.</li><li>For cattle, the broken needle and location must be recorded as a note on the passport.</li><li>A broken needle policy must be in place as part of the Animal Health plan (Standard 3.3).</li></ul>	

Assessment Checklist   Recommendation   More information   Paperwork   Key Standard



## 2. Animal Welfare and Stockmanship

All livestock must be reared according to good husbandry, welfare and hygiene practices and management of their care must comply with all current relevant legislation and the Codes of Practice for the Welfare of Cattle and Sheep, published by the Scottish Government's Animal Health and Welfare Division. It is important to note that it is the members responsibility for the actions of farm personnel. A guide to sources of information on current relevant legislation is provided in Appendix 15.

STANDARD DETAIL		REQUIREMENT	
2.1	<b>STOCKMANSHIP AND TRAINING</b> All stockpersons must have access to the current version of the QMS Cattle & Sheep Assurance Scheme Standards and the codes of practice for the welfare of cattle and sheep.	A copy of the Standards, hard or electronic version, must be available. Assessors may complete an appraisal of stockperson competency at the time of the audit.	
KEY 2.2	Farm personnel with responsibilities for livestock and farming operations relating to livestock (including any contractors) must be demonstrably competent in all the tasks they are required and permitted to undertake.	<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>  2.2Ra. If members are using sheep shearing contractors, it is recommended that they read and understand the following guidance document: <a href="http://www.nationalsheep.org.uk/workspace/pdfs/industry-shearing-guidance-2019.pdf">www.nationalsheep.org.uk/workspace/pdfs/industry-shearing-guidance-2019.pdf</a>	
		2.2Rb. All farms with workers must have a written health and safety policy.	
2.3	A record must be kept of any training that is given, including refresher training.	The training record should include the following as a minimum: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Name</li><li>Start date (if applicable)</li><li>Training given/events attended/experience</li><li>Date of training</li><li>Who provided the training.</li></ul> Where staff are trained to undertake specific tasks, this is listed in the record, a template for which is available at <a href="http://www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards">www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards</a>	
		<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>  2.3R. It is recommended that at least one member of staff responsible for administering medicines has undertaken training in the administration and handling of medicines. Details on training courses can be found at <a href="http://www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards">www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards</a> and at <a href="http://www.noah.co.uk/farmer-training">www.noah.co.uk/farmer-training</a>	

STANDARD DETAIL		REQUIREMENT	
KEY 2.4	<b>ANIMAL WELFARE AND MANAGEMENT</b>  High standards of health and welfare of all livestock must be met at all times to allow animals to thrive and achieve their full potential. There must be an identified, nominated person responsible for leading, planning and recording issues relating to animal health and welfare. Where livestock are managed on a B&B basis, there must be an awareness of the Standards.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>All livestock must be inspected at an appropriate interval depending on their stage of production.</li><li>Identified sick and injured animals must receive attention without undue delay to minimise suffering.</li><li>Veterinary advice must be sought if animals do not respond to treatment. If necessary, they must be moved at once to suitable accommodation with dry and comfortable bedding.</li></ul>	 
KEY 2.5	Cattle and sheep that do not respond to treatment, or require emergency euthanasia must be promptly, humanely and competently euthanised, to minimise pain and suffering. For more information, visit <a href="http://www.hsa.org.uk/emergency-slaughter-introduction/introduction-5">www.hsa.org.uk/emergency-slaughter-introduction/introduction-5</a>	<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>  2.5Ra. It is recommended that a euthanasia policy is included within your health and welfare plan detailing emergency and routine euthanasia.	
		2.5Rb. It is recommended that any personnel involved in euthanising livestock are trained in line with the humane animal slaughter society guidelines, see <a href="http://www.hsa.org.uk/publications/online-guides">www.hsa.org.uk/publications/online-guides</a>	
2.6	Livestock must be managed in appropriate groups at all times, to ensure their needs are met and that they do not become unnecessarily stressed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Where male livestock are kept entire, they must be suitably managed separately from females, to avoid unwanted mating and pregnancies.</li><li>Livestock with horns must either be managed separately or in peer groups if removal from the group causes undue stress. They should be removed from the group if there is evidence of injury or bullying.</li></ul>	
KEY 2.7	Livestock must be kept in a clean and hygienic condition that does not compromise animal welfare or food safety.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>At the point of sale and/or arrival at an approved slaughterhouse, livestock must be clean, healthy and free from excessive faecal contamination and other contaminants, e.g. soil, bedding.</li><li>For slaughter stock, particular attention must be paid to the hips, legs, belly and brisket. According to industry feedback, improvements are needed in the presentation of clean animals for slaughter.</li><li>For members' information, abattoirs receiving dirty livestock from a QMS Cattle &amp; Sheep Scheme member may refuse to accept the animals before they are unloaded and report this to Trading Standards or Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA).</li><li>Further information and guidance on clean cattle and sheep for slaughter can be found at <a href="http://www.foodstandards.gov.scot/downloads/cleanbeefsaf1007.pdf">www.foodstandards.gov.scot/downloads/cleanbeefsaf1007.pdf</a> and <a href="http://www.foodstandards.gov.scot/downloads/clean_sheep_for_slaughter_guide_for_producers.pdf">www.foodstandards.gov.scot/downloads/clean_sheep_for_slaughter_guide_for_producers.pdf</a></li></ul>	 





➔ 2. Animal Welfare and Stockmanship (cont.)

STANDARD DETAIL		REQUIREMENT	
KEY 2.8	<b>STOCK TASKS</b>  When considered necessary, disbudding or dehorning of cattle and sheep must be carried out in a manner that minimises stress to the animal.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Disbudding and dehorning of cattle and sheep is carried out in accordance with Appendix 3, which details the requirements for the use of anaesthetic, pain relief (analgesia) and age restrictions for carrying out the task.</li></ul>	⚠
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The use of anaesthetic and pain relief (analgesia) must be recorded in the medicine administration records.</li><li>Care must be taken to avoid any animal's horn growing into sensitive tissue, with trimming.</li></ul>	📌
KEY 2.9	When considered necessary, castration and tail docking must be carried out in a way that minimises stress for the animal.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Castration and tail docking is carried out in accordance with Appendix 3, which details the requirements for the use of anaesthetic, pain relief (analgesia) and age restrictions for carrying out the task.</li></ul>	⚠
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The use of anaesthetic and pain relief (analgesia) must be recorded in the medicine administration records.</li></ul>	📌
2.10	<b>DOGS</b>  Working dogs and domestic pets must be wormed regularly, and the treatment recorded. The dog worming must be included in the AHWP. Working dog accommodation must be appropriate to keep dogs in a fit and healthy condition. Further information can be found at <a href="http://www.nationalsheep.org.uk/dog-owners/worm-control">www.nationalsheep.org.uk/dog-owners/worm-control</a>		⚠
			ℹ
2.11	<b>CONTINGENCY PLANNING</b>  A written contingency plan must be in place and known to all staff.	<p>The plan must include the following as a minimum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Action to be taken in the event of extreme weather, equipment or power failure, water supply interruption, flood and fire, etc.</li><li>Emergency contacts must be known to all staff and available to a third party in the event of an emergency, to ensure that animal health and welfare problems can be dealt with promptly and without compromising animal wellbeing. Templates are provided in Appendix 4.</li></ul>	⚠

ℹ MORE INFORMATION

- [www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards](http://www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards)
- [www.qmscotland.co.uk/whole-chain-assurance](http://www.qmscotland.co.uk/whole-chain-assurance)
- [www.hsa.org.uk/emergency-slaughter-introduction/introduction-5](http://www.hsa.org.uk/emergency-slaughter-introduction/introduction-5)
- [www.hsa.org.uk/publications/online-guides](http://www.hsa.org.uk/publications/online-guides)
- [www.foodstandards.gov.scot/downloads/cleanbeefsaf1007.pdf](http://www.foodstandards.gov.scot/downloads/cleanbeefsaf1007.pdf)
- [www.foodstandards.gov.scot/downloads/clean\\_sheep\\_for\\_slaughter\\_guide\\_for\\_producers.pdf](http://www.foodstandards.gov.scot/downloads/clean_sheep_for_slaughter_guide_for_producers.pdf)
- [www.nationalsheep.org.uk/dog-owners/worm-control](http://www.nationalsheep.org.uk/dog-owners/worm-control)

📄 PAPERWORK

- [www.nationalsheep.org.uk/workspace/pdfs/industry-shearing-guidance-2019.pdf](http://www.nationalsheep.org.uk/workspace/pdfs/industry-shearing-guidance-2019.pdf)
- [www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards](http://www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards)

3. Health Planning

Health planning and record keeping are an important part of improving the health, welfare and productivity of livestock, performance and sustainability of the farm business and are essential for antimicrobial stewardship.

STANDARD DETAIL		REQUIREMENT	
3.1	All farms must have an identified veterinary practice available for both regular and emergency treatment purposes and to support livestock health management and planning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Farms must receive at least one annual veterinary visit.</li><li>The emergency contacts list must include contact details of the practice.</li></ul>	⚠
3.2	Records for livestock health and welfare must be reviewed regularly.	Records must be maintained for all livestock and must include as a minimum: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Numbers born, numbers culled, numbers dying and suspected reasons for deaths</li><li>Medicine use and reasons for treatment (see Standard 4.2).</li></ul> Reviewing this data allows an evidence-based approach to health planning, focused on continual improvement. Records exist in many forms e.g. herd/flock records, medicine books/ records. See also Appendix 5.	⚠
		<div>👁 RECOMMENDATION</div> <p>3.2R It is recommended that records are also kept of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Weights of livestock sold, weights of livestock during the growing and finishing periods, grading of livestock sold (where applicable) and market or abattoir feedback.</li></ul>	👁



➔ 3. Health Planning (cont.)

STANDARD DETAIL		REQUIREMENT	
KEY 3.3	A relevant written Animal Health and Welfare Plan (AHWP) must be in place for all livestock. This must be reviewed annually in conjunction with the member's vet. The purpose of the AHWP is to focus on improving animal health and welfare and minimising the risk of disease entering the herd or flock and to take account of recorded livestock health and welfare data (see Standard 3.2)	The AHWP must include the following as a minimum: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Parasite control and vaccination policy – results of any relevant testing (i.e. faecal egg count). See <a href="http://www.cattleparasites.org.uk">www.cattleparasites.org.uk</a> for cattle and <a href="http://www.scops.org.uk">www.scops.org.uk</a> for sheep</li><li>BVD status of a breeding herd (annual testing is a legal requirement)</li><li>If BVD is present, a plan of action to eradicate it from the herd, with any BVD-PI animals removed without delay into separate accommodation. See <a href="http://www.scoteid.com/scoteid/bvd_guidance">www.scoteid.com/scoteid/bvd_guidance</a> or <a href="http://www.gov.scot/publications/bovine-viral-diarrhoea-bvd/?utm_source=redirect&amp;utm_medium=shorturl&amp;utm_campaign=bvd">www.gov.scot/publications/bovine-viral-diarrhoea-bvd/?utm_source=redirect&amp;utm_medium=shorturl&amp;utm_campaign=bvd</a></li><li>Review date and signature of the member's vet</li><li>Any husbandry procedures (listed in Appendix 3) and their justification</li><li>A template can be downloaded from the QMS website at <a href="http://www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards">www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards</a></li><li>A map of the farm</li><li>Biosecurity plan which includes:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>incoming livestock (including any imported stock if applicable)</li><li>equipment</li><li>vehicles</li><li>farm visitors.</li></ul></li></ul>	<div>⚠</div>
		Further information on the adoption of biosecurity measures, visitors and farm staff should refer to the Codes of Recommendations for the Welfare of Livestock: Animal Health and Biosecurity, published by Scottish Government, at <a href="http://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/advice-and-guidance/2012/04/code-practice-welfare-cattle/documents/00391617-pdf/00391617-pdf/govscot%3Adocument/00391617.pdf">www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/advice-and-guidance/2012/04/code-practice-welfare-cattle/documents/00391617-pdf/00391617-pdf/govscot%3Adocument/00391617.pdf</a>	<div>📄</div>
		<div>👁 RECOMMENDATION</div> <p>3.3R. It is recommended that all incoming livestock are isolated from livestock already present on the farm and an isolation policy is agreed with the vet and documented in the AHWP.</p>	<div>👁</div>

STANDARD DETAIL		REQUIREMENT	
3.4	A written annual livestock health and performance review must be undertaken by the nominated vet or a vet from the nominated vet practice.	The review must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Regularly occurring problems and key issues, making recommendations to improve identified issues</li><li>Medicine records and data, including anthelmintic use, flukicide use, total antibiotic prescribed and utilised, making recommendations for responsible reduction of medicine used, where appropriate</li><li>The use of antibiotics, including the Highest Priority Critically Important Antibiotics (Category B) (if any), estimating average use as mg/kg (as per industry standard parameters) (collation template Standard 4.3)</li><li>Prophylactic treatment and make recommendations for alternative disease prevention strategies</li><li>Biosecurity</li><li>Template can be found at <a href="http://www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards">www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards</a></li><li>Where husbandry procedures (listed in Appendix 3) are carried out, their necessity must be reviewed annually and justification recorded in the AHWP.</li></ul>	<div>⚠</div> <div>📄</div>

📄 MORE INFORMATION

- [www.cattleparasites.org.uk](http://www.cattleparasites.org.uk)
- [www.scops.org.uk](http://www.scops.org.uk)
- [www.scoteid.com/scoteid/bvd\\_guidance](http://www.scoteid.com/scoteid/bvd_guidance)
- [www.gov.scot/publications/bovine-viral-diarrhoea-bvd/?utm\\_source=redirect&utm\\_medium=shorturl&utm\\_campaign=bvd](http://www.gov.scot/publications/bovine-viral-diarrhoea-bvd/?utm_source=redirect&utm_medium=shorturl&utm_campaign=bvd)
- [www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/advice-and-guidance/2012/04/code-practice-welfare-cattle/documents/00391617-pdf/00391617-pdf/govscot%3Adocument/00391617.pdf](http://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/advice-and-guidance/2012/04/code-practice-welfare-cattle/documents/00391617-pdf/00391617-pdf/govscot%3Adocument/00391617.pdf)

📄 PAPERWORK

- [www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards](http://www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards)





4. Animal Medicines

All veterinary medicines must be used and stored appropriately, and their use recorded. A template is available on the QMS website at [www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards](http://www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards)

STANDARD DETAIL		REQUIREMENT	
KEY 4.1	MEDICINE RECORDS  Records must be kept for the purchase of all medicines, including prescriptions for medicated feeds. These records must be kept for five years.	These records must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Identity of the medicine</li><li>• Quantity, date of purchase</li><li>• Name and address of supplier</li><li>• Medicine batch number(s) and expiry date(s).</li></ul> A purchase invoice is an acceptable record, provided it includes this information.	⚠
			📄
KEY 4.2	Records must be kept for the administration of all medicines, and they must be retained for five years.	The records of use must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reason for treatment, identity of medicine, quantity administered, batch number(s), identification of animal(s) treated, number treated, start and end date of treatment, date of the end of the withdrawal period and name of person administering the medicine</li><li>• Vaccinations and wormers used</li><li>• Anaesthetics and pain relief (analgesics) used</li><li>• Disposal route of out-of-date/surplus to requirement medicines, including date of disposal, quantity and identity.</li></ul>	⚠
			📄

MEDICINE USE AND STORAGE

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is an increasing concern. Guidance on the responsible use of antibiotics can be found on the Responsible Use of Medicine in Agriculture Alliance (RUMA) website, [www.ruma.org.uk](http://www.ruma.org.uk) See also the UK Government’s 20-year vision and five-year national action plan for how the UK will contribute to containing and controlling AMR by 2040 at [www.gov.uk/government/news/antimicrobial-resistance-uk-launches-5-year-action-plan-and-20-year-vision](http://www.gov.uk/government/news/antimicrobial-resistance-uk-launches-5-year-action-plan-and-20-year-vision)

4.3	All antibiotics must be used responsibly and appropriately, under the direction of the member’s vet.	Their use must be reviewed and collated annually when the member’s vet reviews the AHWP (see Standard 3.3). A template can be found at <a href="http://www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards">www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards</a>	⚠
			📄
4.4	When using Highest Priority Critically Important Antibiotics (HP-CIA) (i.e. those belonging to Category B ‘Restrict’, as defined by the European Medicines Agency), this must only be as a last resort, under veterinary direction. Further details can be found at <a href="http://www.ruma.org.uk/high-risk-antibiotics">www.ruma.org.uk/high-risk-antibiotics</a>	The use of HP-CIAs must be supported by a veterinary statement outlining the justification for use.	ℹ
4.5	All veterinary medicines and treatments must be licensed for use in the UK and be purchased from a veterinary practice or under the authorisation of a suitably qualified person (SQP) from a registered supplier.	A list of registered SQPs is available at <a href="http://www.vmd.defra.gov.uk/registers/sqpregister.aspx">www.vmd.defra.gov.uk/registers/sqpregister.aspx</a>	📄

STANDARD DETAIL		REQUIREMENT	
4.6	Medicines and needles must be used in line with manufacturer and veterinary instructions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Needles must be changed when necessary.</li><li>• Injection sites for all ages, including calves and lambs, must be selected in line with best practice and hygienic practices observed to avoid distress for the animal as well as abscesses and condemnations.</li><li>• <b>Unless otherwise advised, intramuscular injections should be administered in the neck area rather than into the high-value cuts such as the rump area.</b> See Guide to Best Practice for Intramuscular Needle Injection in Appendix 7.</li></ul>	
KEY 4.7	Manufacturers’ withdrawal periods must be observed.	When necessary, sellers must inform purchasers of store animals of medicines administered, the date used and date the withdrawal period ends.	📄
KEY 4.8	Medicines must be kept in a locked store.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• They must be managed in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions.</li><li>• Once opened, particular attention should be paid to the storage, use and expiry date of medicines.</li></ul>	⚠
			📄
4.9	Medicines past their expiry date must not be used and empty medicine containers must be stored safely pending disposal. This is a legal requirement, see <a href="http://www.gov.uk/guidance/retail-of-veterinary-medicines#out-of-date-products">www.gov.uk/guidance/retail-of-veterinary-medicines#out-of-date-products</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• They must be disposed of responsibly, in accordance with legislation.</li><li>• A record kept including the identity of the medicine, date of disposal, quantity and method of disposal (see Standard 4.2).</li><li>• Used needles must be stored in a suitable, sealed and labelled container pending disposal. If unsure about the best disposal route, please contact the supplier.</li><li>• Policy on disposal of sharps and pharmaceutical waste.</li></ul>	⚠

ℹ MORE INFORMATION

- [www.ruma.org.uk](http://www.ruma.org.uk)
- [www.gov.uk/government/news/antimicrobial-resistance-uk-launches-5-year-action-plan-and-20-year-vision](http://www.gov.uk/government/news/antimicrobial-resistance-uk-launches-5-year-action-plan-and-20-year-vision)
- [www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards](http://www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards)
- [www.ruma.org.uk/high-risk-antibiotics](http://www.ruma.org.uk/high-risk-antibiotics)
- [www.gov.uk/guidance/retail-of-veterinary-medicines#out-of-date-products](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/retail-of-veterinary-medicines#out-of-date-products)

📄 PAPERWORK

- [www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards](http://www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards)
- [www.vmd.defra.gov.uk/registers/sqpregister.aspx](http://www.vmd.defra.gov.uk/registers/sqpregister.aspx)

5. Rearing of Calves and Lambs

A calf is defined as a bovine animal under six months old in the Welfare of Farmed Animals (Scotland) Regulations 2010. A lamb is defined as an ovine animal up to one year old. The rearing of calves and lambs must be carried out in a manner that ensures their welfare and needs are met.

STANDARD DETAIL		REQUIREMENT	
5.1	<b>CALF AND LAMB HOUSING</b> Housing, where required for calves and lambs, must be constructed and maintained to provide a safe, comfortable and hygienic environment and be effectively ventilated.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Individual stalls or pens must be large enough to allow the animal to exhibit normal behaviour and stand up, lie down, turn around and groom without difficulty.</li><li>Calves over eight weeks old must be housed in groups of two or more, where there are two or more calves on the unit. Space allowances are shown in Appendix 8.</li></ul>	<div>⚠️</div>
5.2	Calves and lambs must have visual and tactile contact with each other except on the advice of the vet.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Open-fronted pens with solid side walls are not sufficient.</li><li>As a minimum, walls should be perforated, to allow physical and visual contact.</li></ul>	<div>⚠️</div>
KEY 5.3	Calves must not be tethered, with the exception of feeding times, where group housed and then for no longer than one hour during feeding.		<div>⚠️</div> <div>📌</div>
5.4	<b>CALF AND LAMB FEED AND WATER</b> All youngstock must receive maternal colostrum as soon as possible after birth and in any case within the first six hours of life.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Where maternal colostrum is unavailable, alternative sources (fresh/frozen/artificial) must be provided.</li><li>The Animal Health and Welfare Plan should show that there is a system in place to ensure sufficient colostrum is given as soon as possible after birth but within six hours.</li></ul>	<div>⚠️</div>
5.5	Artificially reared calves must be provided with at least two milk feeds a day until 28 days old.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>They must not be weaned until at least five weeks of age.</li><li>Fresh, clean, dry feed must be available from eight days old.</li></ul>	<div>⚠️</div>
5.6	Artificially reared lambs must be fed in accordance with the milk replacer manufacturer's guidelines and not weaned until at least five weeks of age.		<div>⚠️</div>
5.7	All feeding equipment must be kept in a clean and hygienic and safe condition.		<div>⚠️</div>
5.8	Fresh clean water must be always available from birth for all young livestock.		<div>⚠️</div>



6. Livestock Accommodation and Handling Facilities

Cattle and sheep which are housed indoors must be kept in conditions that maximise their health and welfare and allow them to exhibit normal behaviour.

STANDARD DETAIL		REQUIREMENT	
KEY 6.1	<b>CONSTRUCTION OF ACCOMMODATION</b> Livestock accommodation must be well constructed and effectively ventilated.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The interior of any building, including the floor, must be in a good state of repair and maintained with no sharp edges, protrusions or other hazardous objects likely to cause injury or distress to livestock.</li><li>Calves and lambs must have access to a non-slatted lying area with appropriate and well-maintained bedding.</li></ul>	<div>⚠️</div> <div>📌</div>
6.2	Where housing has slatted floors, they must be well maintained and suitable for the type of livestock housed.	<div>👁️ <b>RECOMMENDATION</b></div> <div>6.2Ra. It is recommended that non-slatted areas are provided for breeding cows and in-calf heifers.</div> <div>6.2Rb. It is recommended that rubber matting is used on slats, as it has been demonstrated to increase animal comfort.</div> <div>6.2Rc. It is recommended for any new building or when replacing slats that a non-slatted area/rubber matting or bedded area is provided.</div>	<div>👁️</div>
6.3	Bull housing must be suitable for its purpose and allow appropriate social contact with other cattle at all times, except where there is a specific requirement for isolation. See Appendix 8 for recommended minimum dimensions.		
KEY 6.4	Livestock accommodation must be of sufficient size for the livestock housed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Loose housed animals must have sufficient space to exhibit natural behaviour, with all animals able to lie down simultaneously (see Appendix 8).</li><li>Cubicle size and design must be suitable for the animal breed and size.</li><li>Where cubicles are used, there must be at least one cubicle, of an appropriate size, for each animal (see Appendix 8 for recommended minimum dimensions).</li></ul>	<div>📌</div>
6.5	<b>LIGHTING</b> Throughout the hours of daylight, the level of indoor lighting, either natural or artificial, must be such that all housed livestock can be seen clearly.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Adequate lighting for satisfactory inspection must be available at any time.</li><li>Livestock must not be kept permanently in darkness.</li><li>Livestock must have an appropriate period of low light or darkness to permit normal resting behaviour.</li></ul>	
6.6	Lighting, glass windows and glass skylights located above livestock feeding and lying areas must be covered or fitted with shatterproof bulbs, to prevent feed contamination and the risk of injury to livestock.		<div>⚠️</div>





➔ 6. Livestock Accommodation and Handling Facilities (cont.)

STANDARD DETAIL		REQUIREMENT	
6.7	<b>MANAGEMENT OF ACCOMMODATION</b>  Livestock accommodation must be maintained in a clean and hygienic condition.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Appropriate cleaning regimes must be applied.</li><li>• If disinfectants are used, they must be Defra-approved and suitable for use in close proximity to livestock. For approved products, see <a href="https://disinfectants.defra.gov.uk/DisinfectantsExternal/Default.aspx?Module=ApprovalsList_SI">disinfectants.defra.gov.uk/DisinfectantsExternal/Default.aspx?Module=ApprovalsList_SI</a></li></ul>	More information
KEY 6.8	Bedding materials must not include poultry litter. Recycled Manure Solids (RMS), also known as 'green bedding', is allowed for cattle, provided the user registers with, and follows guidance from, APHA, but can be used only in cubicle systems, not in deep bedded pens. Current government guidelines must be followed and are available at <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/use-recycled-manure-solids-as-cattle-bedding">www.gov.uk/government/publications/use-recycled-manure-solids-as-cattle-bedding</a> . Untreated paper and wood waste must be free from any contaminants such as glass.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Composted green waste can be used as a bedding material, provided the following conditions are met:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The member has considered any potential risks to animal health and welfare</li><li>• It must not be derived from food waste or other animal by-products</li><li>• It must be certified by the Compost Certification Scheme (CCS) to PAS100:2018 quality specifications, i.e. sourced from a supplier who can demonstrate this</li></ul></li><li>• It must meet the additional QMS requirements for physical contaminants, i.e. the quantity of physical contaminants must not exceed half that permitted by PAS100:2018 (please refer to Appendix 11 and 12 for further details)</li><li>• Members must retain evidence to prove:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– The product is not derived from food waste or other animal by-products, i.e. supplier statement of inputs</li><li>– The certified source, i.e. PAS100:2018 despatch note</li><li>– That the physical contaminants requirements have been met, i.e. supplier's laboratory analysis results.</li></ul></li><li>• After use, when applied to land, members must demonstrate they have met Standard 10.1, adhered to the Guidance Notes in Appendix 11 and the requirements of Appendix 12</li><li>• Records must be kept if used bedding material is subsequently exported off-farm.</li></ul>	More information
		<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>  6.8Ra. It is recommended that composted green waste is used in conjunction with straw, to aid absorption of urine and faeces.  6.8Rb It is recommended that dairy producer members obtain approval from their milk purchaser, prior to use.	Recommendation

More information





- [disinfectants.defra.gov.uk/DisinfectantsExternal/Default.aspx?Module=ApprovalsList\\_SI](https://disinfectants.defra.gov.uk/DisinfectantsExternal/Default.aspx?Module=ApprovalsList_SI)
- [www.gov.uk/government/publications/use-recycled-manure-solids-as-cattle-bedding](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/use-recycled-manure-solids-as-cattle-bedding)

STANDARD DETAIL		REQUIREMENT	
6.9	Each farm, must have sufficient and suitable segregation/isolation areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dry, comfortable bedding must be available for sick or injured livestock.</li><li>• When isolating an animal from others due to an infectious condition, it is recommended that the animal is isolated from the main flock/herd.</li></ul>	Assessment Checklist
6.10	Where required, there must be a suitable area for livestock to give birth.	This must allow the separation of cow/ewe from other livestock if required and the provision of appropriate restraining facilities, clean dry bedding and adequate lighting to allow close inspection of the livestock.	
6.11	Tethered livestock, with the exception of calves (see Standard 5.3), must be managed appropriately and allowed to exhibit natural behaviour without difficulty. Untethered exercise must be provided daily.	<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>  6.11R. It is recommended that routine tethering of livestock is not conducted with the exception of management purposes.	Recommendation
KEY 6.12	<b>HANDLING AND LOADING FACILITIES</b>  Facilities on the farm must allow for the safe movement of livestock with the minimum risk of injury and stress to livestock, farm staff and any visitors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• They must be well maintained, structurally sound and stable crush, race and handling pens with no sharp edges.</li><li>• There must be suitable restraining devices held for type of stock on-farm.</li><li>• Have secure gates and barriers to prevent livestock escaping.</li><li>• Adequate lighting must be available.</li><li>• Goads must not be used, only low-risk handling aids used as an extension to the arm.</li></ul>	Key Standard
KEY 6.13	Loading and unloading facilities on the farm must allow for the safe movement of livestock with the minimum risk of injury and stress to livestock, farm staff and any visitors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• They must be structurally sound with secure gates and barriers to prevent livestock escaping.</li><li>• Where loading ramps are used, they must be designed to minimise the risk of slipping and have secure side guards – ramp angles do not exceed 26.6° for adult cattle and sheep, and 20° for calves.</li><li>• Goads must not be used, only low-risk handling aids used as an extension to the arm.</li></ul> <b>RECOMMENDATION</b>  6.13R. It is recommended for the safety of the livestock haulier, that a stockperson is present when loading/unloading livestock.	Recommendation
KEY 6.14	<b>LIVESTOCK KEPT OUTDOORS</b>  Livestock kept outdoors in grazings or corrals must be provided with shelter (natural or man-made).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• They must have access to a well-drained lying area and any feed areas must be located where run-off from any poached areas does not enter watercourses.</li><li>• Maintain areas in line with Good Agricultural and Environmental Conditions and PEPPAA Code.</li></ul>	Key Standard



## 7. Feeding and Water Provision


All feed used must be appropriate to the stage of production, safe to feed and contamination free. Purchased feed must be sourced from approved suppliers or be covered by a relevant warranty declaration where appropriate.

STANDARD DETAIL		REQUIREMENT	
KEY 7.1	<b>FEEDING AND WATERING</b>  Livestock must be provided daily with sufficient feed, with diets providing nutrient levels which are appropriate to their stage of growth and development.	There must be an up-to-date written feed plan detailing the daily feed rations of all livestock, which is accessible to all staff.	⚠
		 <b>RECOMMENDATION</b> 7.1R. It is recommended that forage analysis is used as a basis for formulating supplementary feed rations.	 
7.2	Adequate feeding space must be available for all livestock. See Appendix 8 for guidelines on trough space.		
KEY 7.3	All livestock must have access to sufficient fresh, clean water for their daily needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Water accessible to all stock, particularly where different ages, sizes and species are mixed.</li><li>• Water troughs clean and functional.</li><li>• Adequate volumes for seasonal differences with a plan for back-up supplies.</li><li>• Contingency plan must be in place in the event of failure in water supply.</li></ul>	

### FEED AND FOOD BUSINESS REGISTRATION

All livestock farms are defined in legislation as feed businesses because they undertake feed business activities, which may include growing, mixing, storing and feeding. They are also defined as food businesses because they rear animals which will enter the food chain. See [www.foodstandards.gov.scot/food-safety-standards/advice-business-and-industry/animal-feed](http://www.foodstandards.gov.scot/food-safety-standards/advice-business-and-industry/animal-feed) and [www.foodstandards.gov.scot/food-safety-standards/advice-business-and-industry/farming-primary-production](http://www.foodstandards.gov.scot/food-safety-standards/advice-business-and-industry/farming-primary-production)

7.4	It is a legal requirement under Feed Hygiene Regulation (EC) No 183/2005 and Food Hygiene Regulation (EC) No 852/2004 that all feed and food businesses must be registered with Food Standards Scotland (FSS).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• FSS will provide a registration form on request. It can also be found online at <a href="http://www.foodstandards.gov.scot/business-and-industry/industry-specific-advice/farming-and-primary-production/reigstration-and-approval-of-feed-businesses/registration-and-approval-of-feed-businesses-form">www.foodstandards.gov.scot/business-and-industry/industry-specific-advice/farming-and-primary-production/reigstration-and-approval-of-feed-businesses/registration-and-approval-of-feed-businesses-form</a></li><li>• As part of the farm assessment, members will be asked to provide proof of registration (this may be a registration number, if the local authority has issued one).</li><li>• A registration application form is available at <a href="http://www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards">www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards</a></li></ul>	⚠
			ℹ
			📄
7.5	If producing medicated feed, all producers and home-mixers must register with the Veterinary Medicines Directorate (VMD).		

STANDARD DETAIL		REQUIREMENT	
7.6	<b>PURCHASED FEED STUFFS</b>  All purchased compound feeds, blended feeds, feed materials (straights) and mineral/vitamin supplements, including milk replacers, must be sourced from a merchant/manufacturer who is a member of the QMS Feeds Assurance Scheme and approved under the AIC's Universal Feed Assurance Scheme or a scheme recognised by UFAS as equivalent (see <a href="http://www.aictradeassurance.org.uk/latest-documents/feed-food-schemes">www.aictradeassurance.org.uk/latest-documents/feed-food-schemes</a> ).	Delivery notes/declaration tickets for all purchased feedstuffs must be kept for a minimum of two years.	ℹ
			⚠
7.7	Members purchasing by-products from human food and drink production or from farms that are not part of an assurance scheme must obtain a warranty declaration from the seller, assuring that the product is safe for feeding to cattle and/or sheep as appropriate (see Appendix 9 for example warranty declaration).	Delivery notes/declaration tickets for all purchased feedstuffs must be kept for a minimum of two years.	⚠
7.8	Inter-farm trading of farm-grown feed materials, including combinable crops and vegetable waste, is acceptable provided that the source unit is a member of one of the following assurance schemes: QMS Cattle & Sheep, Scottish Quality Crops (SQC), Scottish Organic Producers Association (SOPA), Red Tractor Combinable Crops and Sugar Beet, Red Tractor Fresh Produce or an equivalent scheme recognised by QMS.	Records must be kept for a minimum of two years of all delivered materials, including delivery date, feedstuff, quantity, the source farm and details of the relevant Assurance Scheme membership.	⚠
7.9	Mobile mill and mix processors and contractors must be members of the QMS Feeds Assurance Scheme.		
7.10	All feed, whether purchased or home-mixed, must be produced in accordance with all current EU and UK feeding stuffs legislation, ensuring traceability of raw materials.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Feed must exclude all animal products, with the exception of fish oil, milk products contained in milk substitutes and gelatine in vitamin supplements.</li><li>• The use of growth promoters or unlicensed veterinary products is strictly prohibited.</li></ul>	
KEY 7.11	<b>FEED STORAGE AND HANDLING</b>  All feed must be stored, clearly labelled and handled to avoid cross contamination and minimise spoilage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Storage facilities must protect feed from access from vermin, birds and domestic animals.</li><li>• The lighting in the storage area must be covered or have shatterproof bulbs.</li><li>• Glass windows and glass skylights must be protected to prevent the risk of broken glass getting into the feed and plastic windows and skylights must be intact.</li></ul>	⚠
			
7.12	Medicated feeds must be clearly identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• They must be labelled in bulk storage or bags and stored and distributed in a manner that reduces the risk of feeding to non-target animals.</li><li>• A label must be kept from one bag in each batch.</li></ul>	





➔ 7. Feeding and Water Provision (cont.)

STANDARD DETAIL		REQUIREMENT
7.13	Additives and premixtures should be stored in a separate building from processed feeds and feed materials. If this is impractical, they must be stored in bags with sufficient separation to avoid cross-contamination.	Where formulations change, mixing equipment should be thoroughly cleaned.
7.14	Mechanised feeding equipment must be maintained, clean and in good working order.	A contingency plan must be known by all staff, for implementation in the event of a system failure (see Standard 2.11).

**MORE INFORMATION**

- [www.aictradeassurance.org.uk/latest-documents/feed-food-schemes](http://www.aictradeassurance.org.uk/latest-documents/feed-food-schemes)

**PAPERWORK**

- [www.foodstandards.gov.scot/business-and-industry/industry-specific-advice/farming-and-primary-production/reigstration-and-approval-of-feed-businesses/registration-and-approval-of-feed-businesses-form](http://www.foodstandards.gov.scot/business-and-industry/industry-specific-advice/farming-and-primary-production/reigstration-and-approval-of-feed-businesses/registration-and-approval-of-feed-businesses-form)
- [www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards](http://www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards)

8. Farm Biosecurity and Cleanliness

Managing the environment, promoting biodiversity, and animal and human safety are an important part of managing a food production business. The appearance of a farm has a big impact on public perception.

STANDARD DETAIL		REQUIREMENT
8.1	Cleaning and disinfecting facilities must be available for use on-farm.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Disinfectants must be DEFRA-approved.</li><li>Cleaning equipment available for use on boots, clothing, vehicles and facilities.</li></ul>
 KEY 8.2	<b>FALLEN STOCK AND CARCASS MANAGEMENT</b> <p>Carcasses of fallen stock must be removed from housing or fields without undue delay. They must be stored in a dedicated area, covered and out of public view and in a manner that minimises the risk to biosecurity and protects them from vermin and other animals. They must be disposed of by licensed collectors. Members in derogated areas are required to record the location of any stock burial sites in accordance with legislation.</p>	
	<b>VERMIN CONTROL</b> <p>An effective vermin control procedure must be maintained at all times, which complies with current best practice guidance (see Campaign for Responsible Rodenticide Use: UK Code of Best Practice at <a href="http://www.thinkwildlife.org/about-crru">www.thinkwildlife.org/about-crru</a>). Members must comply with the following requirements, whether carrying out their own vermin control or using an external contractor:</p> <p><b>Prior to baiting:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Prepare written site survey to identify extent of infestation, non-target animals, housekeeping, hygiene and vermin-proofing issues</li><li>Prepare written environmental risk assessment, if site survey identifies any risks (see template at <a href="http://www.thinkwildlife.org/downloads">www.thinkwildlife.org/downloads</a>)</li><li>Consider alternative, non-chemical methods before using rodenticides, e.g. minimise vermin entry and harbour areas and use traps (risk hierarchy)</li><li>Use least toxic bait initially, where it is deemed necessary to use rodenticides</li><li>Use rodenticides only in areas where their use is permitted, as shown on product labels</li><li>Ensure bait is safely placed away from children and non-target animals, dogs are particularly sensitive to rodenticides.</li></ul>	
8.3	<b>After baiting:</b>	
8.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Ensure permanent baiting is not routinely undertaken</li><li>Remove and dispose of unused bait and dead or dying rodents, in accordance with manufacturer's instructions, to prevent secondary poisoning of non-target animals</li><li>Ensure all bait is stored safely and securely</li><li>Record dates of regular inspection of bait points and dates bait was topped up</li><li>Record name and quantity of bait used and location of safe bait points.</li></ul>	
 KEY 8.5	<b>FARM APPEARANCE</b> <p>Appearance is important to the public perception of farming and the Scotch Beef PGI and Scotch Lamb PGI brands' image.</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The exterior and interior areas of the farm must be maintained to a good level of hygiene and tidiness to ensure animal health and food safety is not compromised, and vermin harbourage is not encouraged.</li><li>The tidiness of the farm must also convey a good image to promote food public perception of the holding.</li></ul>	
 KEY 8.6	Livestock must be kept away from any hazardous or dangerous materials.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Fencing must be livestock-proof.</li><li>Areas must be free from loose wire, net and silage wrap, scrap machinery, jagged metal and disused tyres.</li></ul>

**MORE INFORMATION**

- [www.thinkwildlife.org/about-crru](http://www.thinkwildlife.org/about-crru)

**PAPERWORK**

- [www.thinkwildlife.org/downloads](http://www.thinkwildlife.org/downloads)



## 9. Transporting Livestock

The movement and transport of livestock must conform to all relevant legislation and be practised with regard to animal welfare and wellbeing. The Welfare of Animals during Transport Council Regulation (EC) No. 1/2005 on the protection of animals during transport and related operations sets out minimum standards for the welfare of animals during transport (see [www.gov.uk/guidance/animal-welfare#animal-welfare-during-transport](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/animal-welfare#animal-welfare-during-transport)).

The Regulation considers the following animals unfit for travel:

- Very young animals (calves less than 10 days old and lambs less than one week old), unless the journey is under 50km (31 miles)
- Calves less than 14 days old, if the journey is over eight hours
- Newborn mammals where the navel hasn't completely healed, unless their welfare will be compromised
- Heavily pregnant females, where more than 90% of the expected gestation period has passed, unless they are being transported for veterinary treatment.

**Note – The meat from these animals is not eligible for the Scotch Beef PGI and Scotch Lamb PGI brands:**

- Females who have given birth during the previous seven days, unless their welfare will be compromised
- Sick or injured animals where moving them would cause additional suffering, unless instructed by a vet.

STANDARD DETAIL		REQUIREMENT
9.1	<b>MEMBERS USING LIVESTOCK HAULIERS</b> All livestock must be transported by livestock hauliers who are approved members of the QMS Haulage Assurance Scheme or an equivalent scheme recognised by QMS, such as the Red Tractor Assurance Livestock Transport Scheme.	⚠
9.2	<b>MEMBERS TRANSPORTING THEIR OWN LIVESTOCK</b> When transporting their own livestock, members must comply with the provisions of the Welfare of Animals During Transport Council Regulation (EC) No.1/2005, including relevant documentation.  Members transporting their livestock must comply with the following requirements: <b>JOURNEYS UP TO 65KM (40 miles)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Complete an Animal Transport Certificate (ATC) and retain this for 6 months.</li></ul> <b>Note – This does not apply to farmers transporting their own animals in their own means of transport on journeys up to 50km (31 miles) from their own holding.</b>	⚠
9.3	<b>JOURNEYS OVER 65KM (40 miles) AND UP TO 8 HOURS</b> As 9.2, plus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hold a short journey (Type 1) transporter authorisation</li><li>• Hold a valid/relevant certificate of competence.</li></ul>	⚠
9.4	<b>LONG JOURNEYS OVER EIGHT HOURS</b> As 9.2 and 9.3, plus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hold a long journey (Type 2) transporter authorisation (instead of Type 1)</li><li>• Hold a Welfare in Transport Vehicle Approval Scheme certificate of approval and inspection, for the vehicle and container being used</li><li>• Maintain a journey log to include place of departure and destination; date and time of departure; origin and owner of the livestock; expected duration of the journey.</li></ul>	⚠
9.5	Members are responsible for the welfare of any livestock they transport, which must be fit for the intended journey. Sick and injured livestock may only be transported under the direction of a vet.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Animals becoming unfit during transit should be delivered as soon as possible to a suitable place for unloading or slaughter.</li><li>• Animals must be transported in suitable transport that provides sufficient comfort.</li><li>• For members' information, abattoirs receiving unfit livestock from a QMS Cattle &amp; Sheep Scheme member may report this to Trading Standards or Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA).</li></ul>

STANDARD DETAIL		REQUIREMENT
9.6	Vehicles and containers must be fit for purpose, regularly maintained, kept in good, clean condition and comply with relevant Health and Safety regulations, to avoid injury and suffering and ensure the safety of livestock.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Vehicles and containers must be well ventilated at all times.</li><li>• The container must be free from sharp edges or projections and fitted with non-slip flooring.</li><li>• Ramp angles must not exceed 26 degrees (50% to the horizontal) for adult cattle and sheep and 20 degrees (36.4% to the horizontal) for calves.</li></ul>
9.7	Livestock must be penned into batches of a suitable size.	Statutory stocking densities must be adhered to (see Appendix 10).
9.8	Horned cattle, different species and significantly different-sized animals must be separated.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Animals may be mixed where they have been raised in compatible groups and separation could cause distress or where females are accompanied by dependent young.</li><li>• Sexually mature males should be kept separate from females.</li></ul>
9.9	Where bedding is used, it must be clean, safe and suitable.	
9.10	All livestock containers must be cleansed and disinfected in accordance with current legislation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Livestock vehicles and containers must be cleansed and disinfected after every load, or within 24 hours of a delivery, unless the vehicle is used to make repeated journeys between the same two points in a single day. Legislation breaches are likely to be reported.</li><li>• Disinfectants used must be Defra-approved. See approved products at <a href="http://disinfectants.defra.gov.uk/DisinfectantsExternal/Default.aspx?Module=ApprovalsList_SI">disinfectants.defra.gov.uk/DisinfectantsExternal/Default.aspx?Module=ApprovalsList_SI</a></li></ul>

### 📄 MORE INFORMATION

- [www.gov.uk/guidance/animal-welfare#animal-welfare-during-transport](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/animal-welfare#animal-welfare-during-transport)
- [disinfectants.defra.gov.uk/DisinfectantsExternal/Default.aspx?Module=ApprovalsList\\_SI](http://disinfectants.defra.gov.uk/DisinfectantsExternal/Default.aspx?Module=ApprovalsList_SI)

### 📄 PAPERWORK

- [www.gov.uk/farm-animal-welfare-during-transportation](http://www.gov.uk/farm-animal-welfare-during-transportation)





## 10. Environmental

STANDARD DETAIL		REQUIREMENT	
10.1	Approved organic derived fertilisers and soil improvers may be stored and subsequently applied to land for the purposes of agricultural benefit, in accordance with good agricultural practice and any regulatory requirements. They must be applied to land in a manner that does not compromise the environment or the health and welfare of livestock. Specified no graze and no harvest intervals must be observed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Members must retain evidence to demonstrate that the requirements of the Guidance Notes in Appendix 11 and Table in Appendix 12 have been met.</li><li>The required evidence will vary for each organic derived fertiliser and soil improver and might include:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Soil test results</li><li>Certified compost and digestate test results</li><li>Copies of SEPA authorisations</li><li>Supplier paperwork</li><li>Notes on the timing of material application and timing of subsequent grazing or harvest.</li></ul></li><li>Members are advised to seek professional advice when planning to apply organic derived fertilisers.</li><li>Further guidance can be found in FAS Technical Note TN736 at <a href="http://www.fas.scot/downloads/technical-note-tn736-optimising-application-livestock-farmyard-manures-slurries">www.fas.scot/downloads/technical-note-tn736-optimising-application-livestock-farmyard-manures-slurries</a> and in the 2005 PEPFAA Dos and Don'ts Guide at <a href="http://www.gov.scot/publications/prevention-environmental-pollution-agricultural-activity-dos-donts-guide">www.gov.scot/publications/prevention-environmental-pollution-agricultural-activity-dos-donts-guide</a></li></ul>	<div>⚠</div> <div>ℹ</div>
10.2R	It is recommended that farms undertake an exercise to measure their carbon footprint.		
KEY 10.3	<b>WASTE, FARMYARD MANURE AND SLURRY MANAGEMENT</b>  Livestock waste must be stored and handled in a way which minimises the dangers of polluting the environment, removes the risk of spreading disease to other animals or humans and conforms to current legislation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Farms must have a copy of and follow the Prevention of Environmental Pollution from Agricultural Activity, Code of Good Practice (PEPFAA Code).</li><li>Care must be taken at all times when working with slurry, in particular to ensure there is adequate ventilation when mixing slurry in cellars. For more information, see <a href="http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/ais9.pdf">www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/ais9.pdf</a> and <a href="http://www.gov.scot/publications/delivering-scotlands-river-basin-management-plans-silage-slurry-anaerobic-digestate-improving-storage-application/pages/3">www.gov.scot/publications/delivering-scotlands-river-basin-management-plans-silage-slurry-anaerobic-digestate-improving-storage-application/pages/3</a></li></ul> <div>👁 <b>RECOMMENDATION</b> 10.3R. It is recommended that the use of splash plates should be avoided when applying slurry. These should be replaced with dribble bars or alternatively a direct injection – the legislation is changing in 2025.</div>	<div>ℹ</div> <div>📄</div> <div>👁</div>

STANDARD DETAIL		REQUIREMENT	
10.4	Fixed fuel tanks must be bunded and spillages prevented from entering watercourses.		⚠
10.5	A Manure Management Plan must be kept and followed when applying manures and/or slurries to land.	Plan includes, but is not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Where and when manure can/cannot be applied (shown on farm map)</li><li>Calculations of the Total Area Required to apply the manure/slurry produced</li><li>Further details can be found at <a href="http://www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards">www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards</a></li></ul>	<div>⚠</div> <div>ℹ</div>
KEY 10.6	A verbal or written farm waste management plan is required. Under The Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012 farms must present metal, plastic, glass, paper and card separately for recycling.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Waste materials must be disposed of via registered waste carriers and waste transfer notes/receipts must be retained and available for inspection.</li><li>From 1 January 2019, SEPA enforced the ban on burning most types of agricultural waste on farms. Instead, farmers will be expected to arrange for it to be managed and disposed of legally.</li><li>The burning of materials such as brash or hedge trimmings can continue, provided an exemption has been registered online and it does not cause pollution or harm human health. For more information, see <a href="http://www.sepa.org.uk/regulations/waste/agricultural-waste/burning-on-farm-waste/#Advice">www.sepa.org.uk/regulations/waste/agricultural-waste/burning-on-farm-waste/#Advice</a></li></ul>	<div>⚠</div> <div>ℹ</div> <div>📄</div>
KEY 10.7	Forage storage areas must be maintained in line with the guidance in the PEPFAA Code.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Effluent must be collected in a safe manner that prevents any risk of pollution.</li><li>The base and sides of the silage pit, effluent tank and drains must be impermeable.</li><li>For compliance with SSAFO Regulations, please visit <a href="http://www.gov.scot/publications/delivering-scotlands-river-basin-management-plans-silage-slurry-anaerobic-digestate-improving-storage-application/pages/3">www.gov.scot/publications/delivering-scotlands-river-basin-management-plans-silage-slurry-anaerobic-digestate-improving-storage-application/pages/3</a></li></ul>	<div>ℹ</div> <div>📄</div>
KEY 10.8	If there is a sheep dipper on-farm it must comply with the Prevention of Pollution from Agricultural Activity Code of Good Practice (PEPFAA Code) for sheep dipping and health and safety recommendations.	If sheep dip is disposed onto land, a current authorisation from SEPA must be held.	<div>⚠</div> <div>📄</div>

➔ 10. Environmental (cont.)

MANAGEMENT OF CROPS INTENDED FOR GRAZING, FORAGE AND/OR FEED

Plant Protection Products (PPPs), i.e. pesticides and herbicides, must be stored safely and used with consideration to the safety of livestock, the environment and harvest intervals.

STANDARD DETAIL		REQUIREMENT	
10.9	PPPs which are applied to agricultural land must be approved for use in the UK. It is a legal requirement to comply with General Binding Rule GBR 23, see <a href="http://www.sepa.org.uk/media/34761/car_a_practical_guide.pdf">www.sepa.org.uk/media/34761/car_a_practical_guide.pdf</a>		More information
10.10	Injurious and toxic weeds, especially ragwort, must be kept under control.		
10.11	Spraying must only be undertaken by competent operators.	All spray operators must hold the specified and appropriate certificates of competence (CoC) for the application method. When undergoing training, spray operators must work under the supervision of someone who holds the appropriate certificates. Details of the qualifications and test centres can be found on the NPTC website at <a href="http://www.nptc.org.uk">www.nptc.org.uk</a>	Assessment Checklist
			More information
10.12	All PPP equipment, must be maintained, calibrated and tested in line with current legislation. See guide to testing schedules at <a href="http://www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards">www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards</a> Details of test centres are on the NSTS website at <a href="http://www.nsts.org.uk/Find-your-nearest-Test-Centre">www.nsts.org.uk/Find-your-nearest-Test-Centre</a>	• All new trailed/mounted/self-propelled sprayers are NSTS tested before they are five years old.	Assessment Checklist
		• Trailed/ mounted/self-propelled sprayers with a boom width over three metres are NSTS-tested once every three years.	
		• Trailed/mounted/self-propelled sprayers with a boom width of three metres or less and other application equipment (slug pellet, micro-granular applicators, weed wipers) are NSTS-tested once every six years.	More information
10.13	<b>APPLICATION RECORDS</b> Records must be kept of all PPP applications and retained for a minimum of three years.	• Knapsack, handheld and pedestrian equipment does not require an NSTS test but should be checked by the operator at least annually.	
		• Records must be kept and available for inspection. • A template detailing the records that must be kept can be found at <a href="http://www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards">www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards</a>	Assessment Checklist
			Paperwork

STANDARD DETAIL		REQUIREMENT	
KEY 10.14	<b>STORAGE</b> PPPs must be kept in a store that is fit for purpose.	The store must be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Well maintained</li><li>• Clearly signed</li><li>• Locked and bunded</li><li>• Pesticides must be kept in their original packaging</li><li>• Emergency facilities must be in place for dealing with spillages e.g. provision of sand or absorbent granules.</li></ul>	Assessment Checklist
		<b>RECOMMENDATION</b> 10.14R. It is recommended that if using PPPs, an Integrated Pest Management plan (IPM) is completed.	Recommendation
10.15	If manufactured fertilisers and organic manures are applied to land:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• They must be applied in a manner that minimises the risk of contamination and pollution.</li><li>• Manufactured fertiliser equipment must be checked at least annually to ensure accurate application.</li><li>• Any applications must be in ways which prevent the pollution of waterways, air, soil and wildlife habitats.</li></ul>	
10.16	Artificial fertilisers must be stored in a manner which minimises the risk of contamination, pollution and theft.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The store should be sited where there is no public access.</li><li>• The product is not visible from a public highway.</li><li>• The store must be at least 10 metres from any watercourse or drain.</li></ul>	

More information

- [www.gov.scot/publications/prevention-environmental-pollution-agricultural-activity-dos-donts-guide](http://www.gov.scot/publications/prevention-environmental-pollution-agricultural-activity-dos-donts-guide)
- [www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/ais9.pdf](http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/ais9.pdf)
- [www.gov.scot/publications/delivering-scotlands-river-basin-management-plans-silage-slurry-anaerobic-digestate-improving-storage-application/pages/3](http://www.gov.scot/publications/delivering-scotlands-river-basin-management-plans-silage-slurry-anaerobic-digestate-improving-storage-application/pages/3)
- [www.sepa.org.uk/regulations/waste/agricultural-waste/burning-on-farm-waste/#Advice](http://www.sepa.org.uk/regulations/waste/agricultural-waste/burning-on-farm-waste/#Advice)
- [www.sepa.org.uk/media/34761/car\\_a\\_practical\\_guide.pdf](http://www.sepa.org.uk/media/34761/car_a_practical_guide.pdf)
- [www.nptc.org.uk](http://www.nptc.org.uk)
- [www.nsts.org.uk/Find-your-nearest-Test-Centre](http://www.nsts.org.uk/Find-your-nearest-Test-Centre)
- [www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards](http://www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards)

PAPERWORK

- [www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards](http://www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards)



# 11. Complaints Handling, Compliance with the Law and Scheme Reputation

STANDARD DETAIL		REQUIREMENT	
11.1	The farm business must have a complaints record and if a written complaint is received it must be recorded.	The record must include the name of the complainant, the date and the action taken, e.g., abattoir fluke feedback, complaints from abattoirs or markets about dirty cattle or sheep, or dirty livestock containers.	⚠
11.2	Members must not commit any offence or otherwise be in breach of any legal requirement relating to the provenance, production, wellbeing or welfare of livestock, or environmental protection and must not engage in any practice which brings the Cattle & Sheep Assurance Scheme or QMS into disrepute. This includes threatening and unprofessional behaviour towards any QMS representative or its assurance contractor's personnel or contracted personnel.		

## Standards Setting Committee

The following Standards Setting Committee was responsible for agreeing these Standards:

- **Charles Milne (Chair)**  
QMS Board Member
  - **Kate Rowell**  
QMS Board Member, Farmer
  - **Robert Anderson**  
BVA Scottish Branch, Vet
  - **John Bell**  
Board Member Scottish Beef Association, Farmer
  - **Neil Wilson**  
IAAS
  - **Grace Reid**  
NSA Scotland, Farmer
  - **Suzie England**  
Scotbeef
- **Ann Irvine**  
QMS Board Member
  - **Tom Gatherer**  
Scottish SPCA
  - **Scott Henderson**  
QMS Board Member, Farmer
  - **Jimmy Ireland**  
Chairman NFU Scotland Livestock Committee, Farmer
  - **Hannah Baker**  
NFUS
  - **Ian McWatt**  
Food Standards Scotland
  - **Yvonne White**  
Scottish Crofting Federation
- **Simon Williams**  
Agricultural Industries Confederation (AIC)

### ADVISORS TO THE COMMITTEE:

- **Alan Clarke**  
QMS Chief Executive
- **Kathryn Kerr**  
QMS Head of Brands Integrity
- **James Foad**  
Assessor





## Appendix 1: How the Scheme Works

An overview of how to join the QMS Cattle & Sheep Assurance Scheme and how to remain an approved member is provided below.

### Introduction

QMS annually reviews and sets the Cattle & Sheep Assurance Scheme Standards. Farm assessments are contracted by QMS to an independent inspection and certification company. This company is accredited by the United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS) to ISO/IEC 17065, the international standard for product conformity certification. QMS has agreed procedures for these assessments with an accredited certification body, which is regularly (at least once each year) audited by UKAS to ensure these procedures are maintained.

### How to Join the Scheme

An application form to join the scheme can be downloaded from [www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards](http://www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards)

**Note:** *Additional units (farm business(es) with a second unit more than 15 miles from the main unit) are required to join as a separate member, pay the current membership fee and are subject to the same assessment procedures as the main unit.*

### Assessments

New applicants will be assessed within four weeks of receipt of their completed application form and cleared payment. Existing scheme members will be assessed at least once every assessment year and the interval between assessments may vary slightly from year to year to allow the business to be seen at different times.

New applicants will become assured only after any non-compliances have been rectified and corrective actions reviewed, after which the certification body will send a letter confirming **assured status** and issue a Certificate of Conformity.

**Livestock must not be sold as assured until written**

**confirmation has been received from the certification body. The Scotch Potential Eligibility Cattle Checker (SPECC) can be used to check the status of animals before sale dates, to ensure documentation is accurate.**

Cattle & Sheep Assurance Scheme members may be subject to spot check visits to ensure ongoing compliance with Scheme Standards. These may be triggered by information received from farmers, other parts of the supply chain, general public, press, government agencies or previous assessment history. The assessor must be given access to the member's unit(s) in order to conduct these visits. In line with Certification Regulations, when a member does not reasonably accommodate a spot check, this may result in withdrawal from the scheme.

For detailed information on the farm assessment visit and what happens after the assessment has been conducted, including how any non-compliances should be rectified, please refer to the following separate document *QMS Cattle & Sheep Assurance Scheme – Farm Assessment Information*, available at [www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards](http://www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards)

### Membership Renewal - Payment of Annual Membership Subscription

Scheme membership renewal notices are issued annually in April and will indicate the due date for receipt of payment of the annual membership subscription.

If payment has not been received by the due date advised on the final reminder letter, the **assurance status** of holding(s) relating to the membership number will be withdrawn and animals will lose their Scotch Potential Eligibility status if traded after that date.

It will then be necessary to reapply to join the scheme, pay a full subscription fee by Direct Debit, undertake a reassessment and a new membership number will be issued.

## Appendix 2: Certification Regulations

**MEMBERS should refer to the Certification Regulations for operational details of the Certification Scheme (i.e. conditions of membership, obligations, assessment process, certification decisions, appeals procedures etc.). These can be accessed at [www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards](http://www.qmscotland.co.uk/cattle-sheep-standards)**

### General Points to Note:

#### Changes of Business Details

If there are any changes to the member's business which are relevant to membership of the QMS Cattle & Sheep Assurance Scheme, the certification body must be notified or contact QMS.

#### External Complaints

Occasionally, a complaint may be received about a Scheme member's farm business(es). On behalf of QMS as Scheme owners, the certification body has a procedure in place which is designed to investigate legitimate complaints that may affect the reputation and integrity of the Scheme and QMS brands, and also protects members from unjustifiable discrimination. Where an animal welfare issue has been identified, a Scottish SPCA inspector will normally accompany an assessor to investigate the complaint. If involved with a complaint, we would appreciate cooperation with this process.

### Opportunity to Appeal Decisions

Should a member (existing or new applicant) be unhappy about the assessment outcome and/or the certification decision, the Appeals procedure is detailed in the Regulations.

### Prosecutions

It is a requirement of the Scheme that any current, past or pending prosecutions relating to the farm business(es) are reported to the certification body without undue delay. Failure to do so could result in the withdrawal of QMS Cattle & Sheep Assurance Scheme membership and Certificate of Conformity.

### Withdrawal of Membership

The certification body is entitled to withdraw a member's Certificate and Membership of this Scheme should it become aware of breaches to any requirements specified in the Certification Regulations.

### Cancellation of Assessments

Should a member cancel an assessment within 48 hours of the confirmed assessment date, without good reason, the certification body reserves the right to reclaim the cost of the cancelled assessment from the member.





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**Please note that the following practices are not permitted: routine tail docking of cattle and branding using a hot iron.**

## Cattle

Procedure/Method		Conditions of Use			
		Animal age	Operator	Anaesthetic	Analgesic
Castration	Elastration/Rubber ring	Up to 7 days old	Competent Stockperson	Recommended	Recommended
	Clamp/Bloodless e.g. burdizzo	Up to 2 months	Competent Stockperson	Recommended	Recommended
	Any other method	Up to 2 months	Vet only	Yes	Recommended
	When animal is over 2 months of age	2 months and over	Vet only	Yes	Yes
Disbudding	Chemical cauterisation (this method is not recommended)	Up to 7 days	Competent Stockperson		Recommended
	Other methods e.g. hot iron	Up to 2 months	Competent Stockperson	Yes	Recommended
Dehorning	Dehorning (this method is not recommended; disbudding is preferred)	Up to 5 months	Competent Stockperson (ideally Vet)	Yes	Recommended
	Trimming insensitive tip of ingrowing horn	Any age	Competent Stockperson	Recommended	Recommended
	Any other method	Any age	Vet only	Yes	Yes
	Any method	Over 5 months	Vet only	Yes	Yes

Protection of Animals (Anaesthetics) Act 1954 as amended and Veterinary Surgeons Act 1966.  
The Prohibited Procedures on Protected Animals (Exemptions)(Scotland) Regulations 2010, as amended.  
Animal Health and Welfare (Scotland) Act 2006.

## Sheep

Procedure/Method		Conditions of Use			
		Animal age	Operator	Anaesthetic	Analgesic
Castration	Elastration/Rubber ring	1st week of life only	Competent Stockperson	Recommended	Recommended
	Clamp/Bloodless e.g. burdizzo	Up to 3 months	Competent Stockperson	Recommended	Recommended
	When the animal is over 3 months of age or where any methods other than above are used		Vet only	Yes	Yes
Tail Docking*	Rubber ring	Up to 7 days	Competent Stockperson	Recommended	Recommended
	Hot iron/clamp	Up to 2 months	Competent Stockperson	Yes	Recommended
	Surgical/Other	Any age	Vet only	Yes	Yes
Dehorning and disbudding	Trimming insensitive tip of ingrowing horn	Any age	Competent Stockperson	Recommended	Recommended
	All other cases	Any age	Vet only	Yes	Yes

\*There must be sufficient tail to cover the vulva or the anus. Any shorter must only be in the case of emergency, disease or injury following consultation with a vet (and administration of anaesthetic).

**\*\* Under the Veterinary Surgeons Act 1966 (as amended), only a veterinary surgeon may dehorn or disbud a sheep, apart from trimming the insensitive tip of an ingrowing horn, which if left untreated could cause pain or distress.**

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Emergency Contacts List			
Stock Owner/Manager		Electricity Supplier	
Farm/Site Address & Postcode		Gas Supplier	
OS Grid Reference e.g. NT140727		Feed Supplier	
CPH Number(s)		Agri Chemical Supplier (in event of spillage)	
Vet Practice		SEPA	03000 99 66 99
Local Animal Health Office		Scottish Water	0848 601 8855
Neighbours		Scottish SPCA Helpline	03000 999999
Livestock Haulier		APHA	
Local Authority			

## Contingency Plan Template

The following template can be used to describe the action to be taken in the event of extreme weather, equipment or power failure, flood and fire etc. Entries are included as examples only.

[illegible]





Appendix 5:  
Cattle and Sheep - Health and Welfare Records (Standard 3.2)

(To be completed for the annual Animal Health Plan review)  
Further help and information can be found in the *QMS Cattle and Sheep Enterprise Profitability in Scotland* booklet, available at [www.qmscotland.co.uk/sites/default/files/qms\\_cattle\\_and\\_sheep\\_enterprise\\_profitability\\_2021\\_final.pdf](http://www.qmscotland.co.uk/sites/default/files/qms_cattle_and_sheep_enterprise_profitability_2021_final.pdf)

Farm business name: .....  
Date of review: .....  
Reviewed by (Print Name): .....

	2021 Actual	2022 Target	2022 Actual	Comments and Reasons
Cattle				
Barren cows				
Calves born				
Calvings per cow/heifer to the bull				
Cows calved in first 6 weeks				
Calves reared per cow/heifer to the bull				
Culls				
Deaths				
Sheep				
Scanning %				
Lambs born/marked				
Lambing/marking %				
Weaning %				
Culls				
Deaths				



Appendix 6:  
Collation of Antibiotic Usage Template (Standard 4.3)

Entry included as an example only.

Year	Antibiotic name	Quantity used	Animals treated	Reason(s) for treatment	Actions to reduce reliance on antibiotic use
2019	Draxxin	500ml	100 Spring born calves	Pneumonia	Shed ventilation improved to help reduce incidence of pneumonia



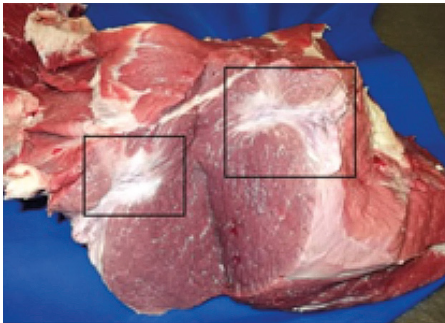
# Appendix 7: Best Practice for Injection Sites (Standard 4.6)

## Guide to Best Practice for Intramuscular Needle Injection

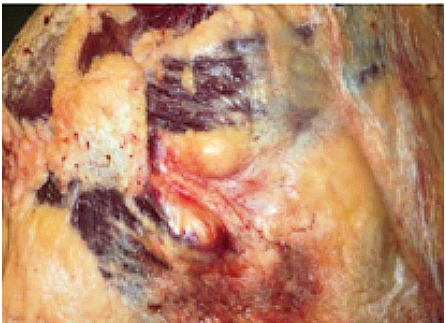
Injection into the hindquarters can devalue a carcass, no matter what age the animal is when it is injected. This includes calves and lambs.



Silverside without muscle degeneration



Silverside muscle degeneration (Fibrosis) due to injection into the muscle



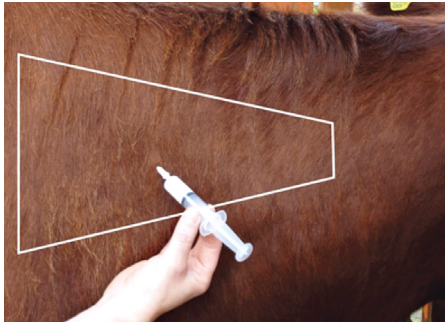
Abscess before removal



Carcass after removal of abscess

## To ensure Scotch meat is produced to the highest standard:

- Use the neck injection technique, unless the product you use states otherwise
- See diagram below for the safe area to inject into.



Cattle injection



Sheep injection

CONTACT YOUR VET IF YOU  
REQUIRE ADDITIONAL ADVICE  
ON WHERE TO INJECT.

# Appendix 8: Space Allowances (Standards 5.1, 6.4 and 7.2)

Individual Calf Pens	
Liveweight (kg)	Minimum space allowance (m)
Up to 60	1 x 1.5
60 – 80	1 x 1.8

British Standard BS5502: Part 40: 1990  
British Standards Relevant to Agriculture – BS5502:40, Cattle Buildings ([everysite.co.uk](https://www.everysite.co.uk))

Loose Housing for Calves	
Liveweight (kg)	Minimum space allowance (m²)
Up to 150	1.5
151 to 200	2.0
Over 200	3.0

Welfare of Farmed Animals (Scotland) Regulations 2010 (S.S.I. 2010 No, 388).

Housed Cattle				
Space allowance (m²)				
Animal Type	Liveweight (kg)	Solid Floors		Fully slatted
		Bedded area	Total area	
Dairy Cows	400 – 499	5.5	8.0	Space allowance should be based on age, weight and behavioural needs of the stock, together with the size of the group
	500 – 599	6.0	8.5	
	600 – 699	6.5	9.0	
	700 – 799	7.0	10.0	
	Over 800	8.0	11.0	
Suckler Cow & Calf (excl. creep area)	Up to 500	3.75	5.0	As for Dairy Cows above
	500 – 600	4.35	6.0	
	Over 600	4.65	6.5	
Growing/ Finishing stock	200 – 299	2.0	3.0	1.1
	300 – 399	2.75	3.95	1.5
	400 – 499	3.5	4.9	1.8
	500 – 599	4.25	5.85	2.1
	600 – 699	5.0	6.8	2.3

British Standard BS5502: Part 40: 1990  
British Standards Relevant to Agriculture – BS5502:40, Cattle Buildings ([everysite.co.uk](https://www.everysite.co.uk))



➔ Appendix 8: Space Allowances (Standards 5.1, 6.4 and 7.2) (cont.)

Housed sheep		
Sheep type & weight (kg)	Category	Space Allowance (m²)
Lowland ewes 60 – 90	Ewe only	1.2 – 1.4 per ewe
	With lamb at foot	2.0 – 2.2 per ewe and lambs
Hill ewes 45 – 65	Ewe only	1.0 – 1.2 per ewe
	With lamb at foot	1.8 – 2.0 per ewe and lambs
Lambs	Up to 3 months	0.5 – 0.6 per lamb
	3 months to 12 months	0.75 – 0.9 per lamb
Rams	N/A	1.5 – 2.0 per ram

Codes of practice for the welfare of sheep

Cattle – Cubicle Sizes			
Animal type	Liveweight (kg)	Length (m)	Width (m)
Cows	Up to 600	2.4	1.15
	Over 600	2.5	1.20
Growing/ Finishing stock	200	1.45	0.7
	300	1.70	0.85
	350	2.05	1.05
	350	2.1	1.10

British Standard BS5502: Part 40: 1990  
<http://adlib.everysite.co.uk/adlib/defra/content.aspx?id=000HK277ZW.0A774HQI2BI6TZX>

Cattle – Feeding Space		
Cattle Liveweight (kg)	Ration fed Trough space (cm per head)	Ad lib/self-feed Trough/ feeder space (cm per head)
200 – 299	40	15
300 – 399	50	15
400 – 499	55	19
500 – 599	60	24
600 – 699	67	28
700 – 799	70	32
Over 800	75	32

British Standard BS5502: Part 40: 1990  
British Standards Relevant to Agriculture –  
BS5502:40, Cattle Buildings ([everysite.co.uk](http://adlib.everysite.co.uk))

Appendix 9:

Feed Warranty Declaration  
(Standard 7.6)

Draft Supplier Letter

Supplier Name  
Address Line 1  
Address Line 2  
Address Line 3  
Address Line 4  
Postcode

Date

Dear [named customer]

Feed Warranty Declaration

With reference to the supply of [list of feed type(s)] to [farm business name], we hereby declare that:

- The feed supplied is suitable for consumption by food producing livestock.
- Legal requirements, in particular those covered by EC Feed Hygiene Regulation (183/2005) and relevant UK Feed Hygiene Regulations have been adhered to in the production and supply of this feed.
- The production site and all intermediary sites are registered as a Feed Business Operator with the relevant local or national authority.
- The feed supplied does not contain, nor has been in contact with, meat or fish products.
- The feed supplied has been stored, handled and transported in such a way as to minimise the risk of contamination.
- Hygiene standards have been maintained at a level that is appropriate for materials entering the feed/food chain.

Yours sincerely,

Signature  
[of Feed Supplier representative]

Printed name  
[of Feed Supplier representative]





## Appendix 10: Statutory Stocking Densities – Transport by Road (Standard 9.7)

**SCIENTIFIC research has shown space to be a critical factor in the production of stress in transported animals.**

The available space in a vehicle includes the space at head level, which should be adequate to provide fresh air for all animals and to facilitate removal of excess body heat. Particular attention must be given to stocking density at the front of an artic trailer/swan neck, where the head height can be less than the rest of the vehicle.

Space allowances must conform to the following figures:

Cattle		
Category	Approximate Weight (kg)	Area (m² per animal)
Small calves	50	0.30 to 0.40
Medium sized calves	110	0.40 to 0.70
Heavy calves	200	0.70 to 0.95
Medium sized cattle	325	0.95 to 1.30
Heavy cattle	550	1.30 to 1.60
Very heavy cattle	Over 700	Greater than 1.60

The Welfare of Animals during Transport –  
Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005  
[faolex.fao.org/docs/pdf/eur69655.pdf](http://faolex.fao.org/docs/pdf/eur69655.pdf)

Sheep		
Category	Approximate Weight (kg)	Area (m² per animal)
Shorn sheep and lambs of 26kg and over	Up to 55	0.20 to 0.30
	Over 55	Greater than 0.30
Unshorn sheep	Up to 55	0.30 to 0.40
	Over 55	Greater than 0.40
Heavily pregnant ewes	Up to 55	0.40 to 0.50
	Over 55	Greater than 0.50

The Welfare of Animals during Transport –  
Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005  
[faolex.fao.org/docs/pdf/eur69655.pdf](http://faolex.fao.org/docs/pdf/eur69655.pdf)

## Appendix 11: Guidance Notes on Approved Fertilisers and Soil Improvers Derived from Organic Materials (Standard 10.1)

### Approved Fertilisers Derived from Organic Materials are Defined as Follows:

**MANURE, SLURRY AND SILAGE EFFLUENT**

In Scotland, manure, slurry and silage effluent are not regulated by SEPA as waste, if applied to agricultural land as fertilisers or soil conditioners, in order to meet crop requirements. Members may use these materials for these purposes in accordance with good agricultural practice.

**Scheme members should check that using the following organic derived fertilisers and soil improvers is acceptable to their customers. When stored on farm before application to land, these materials must be stored in such a way that livestock cannot access them:**

**TREATED SEWAGE SLUDGE (BIOSOLIDS)**

Treated sewage sludges can only be applied to agricultural land under strictly controlled conditions which are regulated by SEPA, whereas untreated sewage sludges are not permitted by the Safe Sludge Matrix. Prior to applying treated sewage sludge, the soil must be tested by the sludge supplier and application must be in accordance with the **Table in Appendix 12**. For further information on how to comply with the regulations, see [www.netregs.org.uk/environmental-topics/waste/managing-waste-materials/sewage-sludge-landspreading](http://www.netregs.org.uk/environmental-topics/waste/managing-waste-materials/sewage-sludge-landspreading)

**Note:** *It is recommended that members apply Biosolids Assurance Scheme (BAS) certified products, see [www.assuredbiosolids.co.uk](http://www.assuredbiosolids.co.uk). BAS Standards provide comprehensive controls for biosolids treatment and recycling, ensuring products are safe to use and pose no threat to the environment, the food chain and consumers.*

**CERTIFIED COMPOSTS AND DIGESTATES DEFINITIONS**

Only composts certified by the Compost Certification Scheme (CCS) and digestates certified by the Biofertiliser Certification Scheme (BCS) may be used and only where the supplier confirms that the material meets the **additional** requirements for physical contaminants listed under ‘Application’ below. CCS and BCS guarantee conformance of materials to the UK compost and digestate quality specifications, PAS 100:2011/2018 and PAS 110:2014

respectively. They require compost and digestate suppliers to provide their customers with specific information relating to product consignments, confirming compliance with baseline PAS quality requirements and any additional customer requirements. A helpful Checklist is provided in Appendix 13 and it is strongly recommended to incorporate this into a Contract of Supply. The Checklist information is also useful for nutrient planning.

**Note:** *Excessive application of anaerobic digestate to land may be regarded as disposal and would require a landfill permit under the Pollution Prevention and Control (Scotland) Regulations 2012.*

Information on how to source and use compost and digestate can be found at [www.zerowastescotland.org.uk/sites/default/files/Farmers\\_guidance\\_document.PDF](http://www.zerowastescotland.org.uk/sites/default/files/Farmers_guidance_document.PDF). Visit [www.qualitycompost.org.uk/producers](http://www.qualitycompost.org.uk/producers) and [www.biofertiliser.org.uk/producers](http://www.biofertiliser.org.uk/producers) for details of certified compost and digestate suppliers.

**PHYSICAL CONTAMINANTS**

The compost and digestate quality specifications (PAS 100 and PAS 110) include limits on the presence (by weight) of physical contaminants, defined here as all fragments of ‘glass, metal, plastic and other non-stone/man-made fragments’. Only fragments larger than 2mm are measured and checked against the limits. While there is no requirement under CCS or BCS to measure fragments of plastic less than 2mm in size, members need not accept material containing such small fragments and should discuss this with their supplier.

**APPLICATION**

Applications of certified composts and digestates are permitted in accordance with the **Table in Appendix 12**, but only where the supplier confirms that the material meets the following **additional** requirements for physical contaminants. A copy of this confirmation must be retained for inspection:

- Compost: The quantity of physical contaminants does not exceed half that permitted by PAS 100:2011/2018
- Digestate: The quantities of physical contaminants do not exceed 8% of those permitted by PAS 110:2014.



➔ **Appendix 11: Guidance Notes on Approved Fertilisers and Soil Improvers Derived from Organic Materials (Standard 10.1) (cont.)**

**ON FARM ANAEROBIC DIGESTERS (USING MANURE, SLURRY AND OTHER FARM MATERIALS AS FEEDSTOCK)**

Where members operate their own anaerobic digestion systems, processing only manure, slurry and non-wastes (such as maize silage), which originate from their farm or other assured farms, the resulting digestate outputs may be applied to agricultural land as fertilisers or soil conditioners, without the requirement for a SEPA authorisation. Where distillery wastes are also used as feedstock, an appropriate SEPA authorisation must be in place before the resulting digestate outputs are applied to land.

Further information on the regulatory requirements can be found in SEPA's Position Statement WST-PS-016: Classification of Outputs from Anaerobic Digestion Processes, available at [www.sepa.org.uk/media/219842/wst-ps-016-regulation-of-outputs-from-anaerobic-digestion-processes.pdf](http://www.sepa.org.uk/media/219842/wst-ps-016-regulation-of-outputs-from-anaerobic-digestion-processes.pdf)

**DISTILLERY AND BREWERY DIGESTATES**

Anaerobic and aerobic digestates derived solely from outputs of the distillery and brewery industries may be applied to land as fertilisers or soil conditioners. Where these digestates are not certified to PAS100:2011/2018 or PAS110:2014, an appropriate SEPA authorisation must be in place, before their application to land.

**CRUSTACEAN SHELLS**

Crustacean shells may be applied to land as organic fertilisers/soil improvers without additional processing

or treatment, but only by complying with the following requirements:

- The six conditions laid out in the Scottish Government **Authorisation B6 document**, see Appendix 14 and [www.gov.scot/publications/animal-by-products-competent-authority-authorisations/application-of-animal-by-products-and-derived-products-to-land/b6-aquatic-crustacean-shells](http://www.gov.scot/publications/animal-by-products-competent-authority-authorisations/application-of-animal-by-products-and-derived-products-to-land/b6-aquatic-crustacean-shells)
- Applying for, being granted and complying with a SEPA Paragraph 7 waste management exemption, see [www.sepa.org.uk/regulations/waste/activities-exempt-from-waste-management-licensing](http://www.sepa.org.uk/regulations/waste/activities-exempt-from-waste-management-licensing)
- Compliance will ensure crustacean shells are stored and applied in the recommended manner (see Appendix 14), to prevent risks arising to public and animal health.

**POULTRY LITTER**

Poultry litter may be applied to agricultural land, provided there is no contamination with carcass material. It should be stored in a way that prevents access by livestock and ideally should only be used on arable land. If applied to forage, fodder or grass land, a minimum four week no graze or harvest interval applies and records to demonstrate compliance with these requirements must be retained for inspection.

***Note:** Poultry litter is a **known source of botulism** and members need to evaluate this risk accordingly (see [www.gov.uk/guidance/how-to-use-store-or-move-manure-guano-and-digestive-tract-content](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/how-to-use-store-or-move-manure-guano-and-digestive-tract-content))*

**Appendix 12:  
Requirements for Safe Applications to Land  
(Standard 10.1)**

Crop type	Certified PAS 100 composts <sup>1</sup> (ABP and non ABP <sup>2</sup> )	Certified PAS 110 digestates <sup>1</sup> (ABP and non ABP <sup>2</sup> )	Sewage Sludge (Biosolids)	
			Conventional <sup>4</sup>	Enhanced <sup>5</sup>
Grass (grazed)	3 week no graze interval. No compost of grade/ particle sizes greater than 20mm in any dimension	3 week no graze interval. No digestate with particle sizes greater than 20mm in any dimension	3 week no graze interval. Sludges must be deep injected or ploughed-in	3 week no graze interval
Grass (harvested)	3 week no harvest interval. No compost of grade / particle sizes greater than 20mm in any dimension	3 week no harvest interval. No digestate with particle sizes greater than 20mm in any dimension	3 week no harvest interval. No grazing in season of application (where surface applied)	3 week no harvest interval
Containable crops	Must be applied before drilling/planting. No compost of grade/particle sizes greater than 40mm in any dimension	Liquid digestates <sup>3</sup> may be applied before or after drilling/ planting. Fibre digestates <sup>3</sup> must be applied before drilling/planting. No digestate with particle sizes greater than 40mm in any dimension	Must be applied before drilling/planting	Must be applied before drilling/ planting
Fodder & forage crops	3 week no graze or harvest interval. Apply before drilling/planting. No compost of grade/particle sizes greater than 20mm in any dimension	3 week no harvest interval. Liquid digestates <sup>3</sup> may be applied before or after drilling/ planting. Fibre digestates <sup>3</sup> must be applied before drilling/planting. No digestate with particle sizes greater than 20mm in any dimension	3 week no graze or harvest interval. Sludges must be deep injected or ploughed-in	3 week no graze or harvest interval
Notes	1. Members are referred to <b>Standard 10.1</b> , which lists the physical quality requirements for certified compost and digestate. 2. ABP composts and digestates are derived from feedstocks that include animal by-products (ABPs), which are processed according to the requirements of Scottish Statutory Instrument. 2013 No. 307, The Animal By-Products (Enforcement) (Scotland) Regulations 2013. When applied to farmland, statutory no graze and no harvest intervals apply. These are three weeks (for ruminants) and eight weeks (for pigs). The no harvest intervals apply to any crop intended to be fed to livestock, including those listed as 'Combinable' below. 3. Liquid digestate = dry matter less than or equal to 15%. Fibre digestate = dry matter greater than 15%. 4. Conventionally treated sludge has been subjected to defined treatment processes that ensure at least 99% of pathogens have been destroyed. 5. Enhanced treated sludge will be free from <i>Salmonella</i> and has been treated to ensure that 99.9999% of pathogens have been destroyed (a 6-log reduction).			

Combinable crops include:  
Wheat, barley, oats, rye, triticale, field peas, field beans, linseed/flax, oilseed rape, sugar beet, sunflower, borage.

Fodder & forage crops include:  
Silage maize, forage swedes and turnips, fodder mangolds, fodder beet, fodder kale, forage rye and triticale.



## Appendix 13: Checklist: Information to be Provided by Suppliers of Certified Composts and Digestates (Standard 10.1)

PAS 100:2011/2018 and PAS 110:2014 require that compost and digestate suppliers provide their customers with specific information relating to consignments of compost and digestate supplied. It is recommended that this information forms the basis of a Contract of Supply between scheme members and their compost/digestate suppliers. The following list is derived from the baseline requirements of PAS 100:2011/2018 and PAS 110:2014.

### 1. Contact details

- Producer's contact details, including address of anaerobic digestion or composting site.
- Customer's contact details, including delivery address.

### 2. Declarations of conformity

- Compost Certification Scheme PR number or Biofertiliser Certification Scheme certification number.
- Declaration that the compost or digestate has been independently certified as compliant with PAS 100:2011/2018 or PAS 110:2014.
- Declaration that the compost or digestate meets the additional quality requirements of this scheme, listed in Appendix 11.
- Declaration that the compost or digestate meets the additional quality requirements of the customer.

### 3. Product information

- Despatch date.
- Quantity despatched (by weight or volume).
- Product type (i.e. certified compost or certified digestate).
- Compost particle size grade (e.g. 0 – 10mm; 10 – 40mm) or digestate type (whole digestate, separated fibre or

- separated liquor) and approximate particle size range
- Information that enables traceability checks – such as a unique batch code.
- Confirmation as to whether the compost or digestate has been derived in whole or in part from animal by-product (ABP) material – and if so, instructions on use restrictions and record-keeping requirements.

### 4. Laboratory data

Must be representative of the consignment despatched. For certified composts and digestates:

- *Salmonella* species and *E. coli*
- Potentially Toxic Element concentrations (cadmium, chromium, copper, mercury, nickel, lead and zinc)
- pH
- Total nitrogen content
- Total phosphorus content
- Total potassium content
- Dry matter (also referred to as total solids) content
- Physical contaminant content (individual reporting of glass, metal, plastic and other 'non-stone' fragments of greater than 2mm).

For certified composts only:

- Confirmation that the sample complies with the plant response and weed seed/propagule requirements of PAS 100:2011/2018
- Quantity of stones greater than 4mm.

For certified digestates only:

- Ammoniacal nitrogen (NH<sub>4</sub>-N) content
- Quantity of stones greater than 5mm.

## Appendix 14: Authorisation B6 (Standard 10.1)



Scottish Government  
Riaghaltas na h-Alba  
gov.scot

Agriculture, Food and Rural Communities  
Directorate  
Animal Health and Welfare Division

### Authorisation for the application to land of Category 3 aquatic crustacean shells with soft tissue and flesh attached

In accordance with Article 14(h) (disposal and use of Category 3 material) of Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009 the Scottish Ministers determine that shells from aquatic crustaceans with soft tissue and flesh attached, which do not show any signs of disease communicable to humans or animals (in this document referred to as “crustacean shells”), may be applied to land as organic fertilisers/soil improvers without additional processing or treatment<sup>1</sup>, provided the following conditions are complied with to prevent risks arising to public and animal health:

1. The crustacean shells originate from crustaceans cooked<sup>2</sup> in a fishery products processing plant approved under Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 and meeting the requirements of Annex 1 of Commission Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005.
2. The crustacean shells should have as much soft tissue and flesh removed as is reasonably practicable to leave no more than 40% volatile solids<sup>3</sup>.

3. The crustacean shells should be crushed and not reduced to a powdered material.
4. When it is necessary to store the crustacean shells prior to spreading on land, they must be stored in a way that prevents access by animals and birds, including all farmed animals.
5. The crustacean shell material is injected or otherwise incorporated with soil in such a way that animals and birds cannot access it e.g. by spreading on land and ploughing in without undue delay.
6. The waiting period of at least 21 days before grazing or feeding with cut herbage (and at least 60 days in the case of pigs) referred to in Article 11(1)(c) of Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009 and regulation 6 of the Animal By-Products (Enforcement) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 is observed following application of cooked crustacean shells.

If these conditions are met, the cooked crustacean shells can be applied to land without further “processing”. However, there will still be environmental conditions for land spreading waste that must be followed: users of crustacean shells are advised to contact the SEPA.

This Authorisation applies to Scotland.

### NOTES ON THE WORDING USED IN THIS AUTHORISATION:

1. “Processing” means using the methods set down in Annex 4, Chapter 3 of Commission Regulation (EU) No 142/2011; “treatment” means using other methods set out in Commission Regulation (EU) No 142/2011, such as composting and anaerobic digestion, as defined in Annex 5 of that Regulation.
2. “Cooked” means subjected to the application of heat for a given period of time to reduce to an acceptable level the risks to public health arising from the material, in accordance with the HACCP principles set out in Regulation (EC) No 852/2004. It must be done as part of the routine food production activities in the plant, under the controls detailed in Regulation (EC) No 853/2004.
3. “Volatile solids” is a laboratory measure of the soft tissue content of a crustacean shell. The shell with its residual flesh is dried at 105°C until it reaches a constant weight. The dried residue is then ignited and the loss of the volatile solids is determined by the reduction in weight.





# Appendix 15: Guide to Relevant Legislation and Codes of Practice

## ASSURANCE AND TRACEABILITY

[www.gov.scot/publications/livestock-identification-and-traceability-guidance](http://www.gov.scot/publications/livestock-identification-and-traceability-guidance)

The Cattle Identification (Scotland) Regulations 2007 as amended  
[www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2007/174/made](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2007/174/made)

The Sheep and Goats (Records, Identification and Movement) (Scotland) Order 2009  
[www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2009/414/made](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2009/414/made)

The Cattle Identification (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2007  
[www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2007/312/contents/made](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2007/312/contents/made)

The Cattle Identification (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2011  
[www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2011/412/contents/made](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2011/412/contents/made)

Statutory Management Requirements (SMRs)  
[www.ruralpayments.org/publicsite/futures/topics/inspections/all-inspections/cross-compliance/detailed-guidance/statutory-management-requirements](http://www.ruralpayments.org/publicsite/futures/topics/inspections/all-inspections/cross-compliance/detailed-guidance/statutory-management-requirements)

## FARM HUSBANDRY

The Animal Health and Welfare (Scotland) Act 2006  
[www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2006/11/contents](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2006/11/contents)

The Welfare of Farmed Animals (Scotland) Regulations 2010  
[www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2010/388/contents/made](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2010/388/contents/made)

The Protection of Animals (Anaesthetics) Act 1964  
[www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1964/39](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1964/39)

The Veterinary Surgeons Act 1966 (as amended)  
[www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1966/36](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1966/36)

Summary of the Law Relating to Farm Animal Welfare – Defra (PB2531)  
[adlib.everysite.co.uk/adlib/defra/content.aspx?doc=122807&id=122808](http://adlib.everysite.co.uk/adlib/defra/content.aspx?doc=122807&id=122808)

Codes of Practice for the Welfare of Cattle (Scottish Government)  
[www.gov.scot/publications/code-practice-welfare-cattle](http://www.gov.scot/publications/code-practice-welfare-cattle)

Codes of Practice for the Welfare of Sheep (Scottish Government)  
[www.gov.scot/publications/code-practice-welfare-sheep](http://www.gov.scot/publications/code-practice-welfare-sheep)

Codes of Recommendations for the Welfare of Livestock: Animal Health and Biosecurity (Scottish Government)  
[www.gov.scot/publications/biosecurity-practices-for-animal-health-guidance](http://www.gov.scot/publications/biosecurity-practices-for-animal-health-guidance)

VMD Code of Practice on the responsible use of animal medicines on the farm  
[assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/424685/Responsible\\_use\\_COP\\_April\\_2015.pdf](http://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/424685/Responsible_use_COP_April_2015.pdf)

The Responsible Use of Medicines in Agriculture Alliance (RUMA)  
[www.ruma.org.uk](http://www.ruma.org.uk)

SRUC Technical Note TN617 Stockowner Biosecurity  
[www.sruc.ac.uk/media/ns4barz0/tn617-biosecurity.pdf](http://www.sruc.ac.uk/media/ns4barz0/tn617-biosecurity.pdf)

## FOOD AND FEED

Regulation (EC) No 852/2004 on the hygiene of foodstuffs  
[ec.europa.eu/food/safety/biosafety/food\\_hygiene/legislation\\_en](http://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/biosafety/food_hygiene/legislation_en)

The Food Hygiene (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended)  
[www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2006/3](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2006/3)

The General Food Law Regulation (EC) No 178/2002  
[www.food.gov.uk/business-guidance/general-food-law](http://www.food.gov.uk/business-guidance/general-food-law)

Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 laying down specific hygiene rules for food of animal origin  
[extwprlegs1.fao.org/docs/pdf/eur63427.pdf](http://extwprlegs1.fao.org/docs/pdf/eur63427.pdf)

Regulation (EC) No 854/2004 laying down specific hygiene rules for the organisation of official controls on products of animal origin intended for human consumption  
[faolex.fao.org/docs/pdf/eur63428.pdf](http://faolex.fao.org/docs/pdf/eur63428.pdf)

Scottish Food and Feed Law Guide  
[www.foodstandards.gov.scot/downloads/Scottish\\_Food\\_and\\_Feed\\_Law\\_Guide\\_-\\_August\\_2018.pdf](http://www.foodstandards.gov.scot/downloads/Scottish_Food_and_Feed_Law_Guide_-_August_2018.pdf)

FSS Food Law Code of Practice (Scotland) 2019  
[www.foodstandards.gov.scot/downloads/Food\\_Law\\_Code\\_of\\_Practice\\_2019.pdf](http://www.foodstandards.gov.scot/downloads/Food_Law_Code_of_Practice_2019.pdf)

Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 on official controls performed to ensure the verification of compliance with feed and food law, animal health and animal welfare rules  
[faolex.fao.org/docs/pdf/eur66444.pdf](http://faolex.fao.org/docs/pdf/eur66444.pdf)

The Animal Feed (Scotland) Regulations 2010  
[www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2010/373/contents/made](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2010/373/contents/made)

The Feed (Hygiene and Enforcement) (Scotland) Regulations 2005 (as amended)  
[www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2005/608/contents/made](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2005/608/contents/made)

The Feed (Hygiene and Enforcement) and Animal Feed (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2013  
[www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2013/340/pdfs/ssi\\_20130340\\_en.pdf](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2013/340/pdfs/ssi_20130340_en.pdf)

The Official Feed and Food Controls (Scotland) Regulations 2009  
[www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2009/446/part/1/made](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2009/446/part/1/made)

The Animal By-Products (Enforcement) (Scotland) Regulations 2013  
[www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2013/307/introduction/made](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2013/307/introduction/made)

The Animal By-Products (Scotland) Regulations 2003  
[www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2003/411/contents/made](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2003/411/contents/made)

The Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (Scotland) Regulations 2010  
[www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2010/177/contents/made](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2010/177/contents/made)

Feed Hygiene Regulation (EC) No 183/2005  
[rb.gy/js0lgd](http://rb.gy/js0lgd)

## FARM ENVIRONMENT

[www.sepa.org.uk/land/agriculture/agricultural\\_regulation.aspx](http://www.sepa.org.uk/land/agriculture/agricultural_regulation.aspx)

Prevention of Environmental Pollution from Agricultural Activity, Code of Good Practice (PEPFAA Code)  
[www.gov.scot/policies/agriculture-and-the-environment/pepfaa](http://www.gov.scot/policies/agriculture-and-the-environment/pepfaa)

The Safe Sludge Matrix  
[adlib.everysite.co.uk/resources/000/094/727/SSMatrix.pdf](http://adlib.everysite.co.uk/resources/000/094/727/SSMatrix.pdf)

Agriculture health and safety  
[www.hse.gov.uk/agriculture/index.htm](http://www.hse.gov.uk/agriculture/index.htm)

Weeds Act 1959  
[www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/Eliz2/7-8/54/contents](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/Eliz2/7-8/54/contents)

Sheep Dipping Code of Practice for Scottish Farmers, Crofters and Contractors (SEPA)  
[www.sepa.org.uk/media/100596/sheep-dipping-code-of-practice-for-scottish-farmers-crofters-and-contractors.pdf](http://www.sepa.org.uk/media/100596/sheep-dipping-code-of-practice-for-scottish-farmers-crofters-and-contractors.pdf)

NetRegs Agriculture Guidance  
[www.netregs.org.uk/business-sectors/agriculture](http://www.netregs.org.uk/business-sectors/agriculture)

The Control of Pollution (Silage, Slurry and Agricultural Fuel Oil) (Scotland) Regulations 2003 (as amended in 2006)  
[www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2003/531/resources](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2003/531/resources)

The Water Environment (Oil Storage) (Scotland) Regulations 2006  
[www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2006/133/pdfs/ssi\\_20060133\\_en.pdf](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2006/133/pdfs/ssi_20060133_en.pdf)

The Water Environment (Miscellaneous) (Scotland) Regulations 2017  
[www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2017/389/contents/made](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2017/389/contents/made)

The Sludge (Use in Agriculture) Regulations 1989 (as amended 1990)  
[www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/1990/880/made?view=plain](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/1990/880/made?view=plain)

The Landfill (Scotland) Regulations 2003 (as amended)  
[www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2003/235/schedules](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2003/235/schedules)

The Waste Management Licensing (Scotland) Regulations 2011 (as amended)  
[www.legislation.gov.uk/sdsi/2011/9780111012147/contents](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/sdsi/2011/9780111012147/contents)

Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012  
[www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2012/148/contents/made](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2012/148/contents/made)

Biofertiliser Certification Scheme  
[www.biofertiliser.org.uk](http://www.biofertiliser.org.uk)

Compost Certification Scheme  
[www.qualitycompost.org.uk](http://www.qualitycompost.org.uk)

Farmer's guide to sourcing and using compost and digestate  
[www.zerowastescotland.org.uk/sites/default/files/Farmers\\_guidance\\_document.PDF](http://www.zerowastescotland.org.uk/sites/default/files/Farmers_guidance_document.PDF)

Standards of Good Agricultural and Environmental Condition (GAEC)  
[www.fas.scot/publication/good-agricultural-environmental-conditions-gaecs](http://www.fas.scot/publication/good-agricultural-environmental-conditions-gaecs)

The 4 Point Plan  
[www.farmingandwaterscotland.org/managing-water-on-your-farm/the-4-point-plan-4pp](http://www.farmingandwaterscotland.org/managing-water-on-your-farm/the-4-point-plan-4pp)

Farm Soils Plan  
[www.gov.scot/publications/developing-method-estimate-costs-soil-erosion-high-risk-scottish-catchments/pages/19](http://www.gov.scot/publications/developing-method-estimate-costs-soil-erosion-high-risk-scottish-catchments/pages/19)

Pesticides: Code of Practice for Using Plant Protection Products in Scotland  
[www.gov.scot/publications/pesticides-code-practice-using-plant-protection-products-scotland](http://www.gov.scot/publications/pesticides-code-practice-using-plant-protection-products-scotland)

The General Binding Rules  
[www.sepa.org.uk/regulations/water/septic-tanks-and-private-sewage-treatment-systems](http://www.sepa.org.uk/regulations/water/septic-tanks-and-private-sewage-treatment-systems)

Planet Nutrient Management  
[www.planet4farmers.co.uk](http://www.planet4farmers.co.uk)

## TRANSPORT

[www.gov.uk/guidance/animal-welfare#animal-welfare-during-transport](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/animal-welfare#animal-welfare-during-transport)

The Welfare of Animals during Transport – Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005  
[www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/69384/pb13551-satellite-tracking.pdf](http://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/69384/pb13551-satellite-tracking.pdf)

Welfare of Animals (Transport) (Scotland) Regulations 2006  
[www.opsi.gov.uk/legislation/scotland/ssi2006/ssi\\_20060606\\_en.pdf](http://www.opsi.gov.uk/legislation/scotland/ssi2006/ssi_20060606_en.pdf)

The Transport of Animals (Cleansing and Disinfection) (Scotland) Regulations 2005  
[legislation.data.gov.uk/ssi/2005/653/made/data.htm?wrap=true](http://legislation.data.gov.uk/ssi/2005/653/made/data.htm?wrap=true)

Defra-approved disinfectants  
[disinfectants.defra.gov.uk/DisinfectantsExternal/Default.aspx?Module=ApprovalsList\\_SI](http://disinfectants.defra.gov.uk/DisinfectantsExternal/Default.aspx?Module=ApprovalsList_SI)



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