



BEEF & LAMB NEWS

News, updates and advice from your Red Tractor Assurance team

July 2022

MEET THE TEAM

JOHN DRACUP – BEEF AND LAMB SECTOR BOARD CHAIR

John joined the Red Tractor board in February, he runs a successful beef and lamb family farming business in Devon. He has more than three decades of experience as an advocate and leader in British agriculture and the food processing industry. John pioneered electronic auctions and managed one of the largest beef and lamb processors' livestock divisions, he is also the strategy director for The Royal Smithfield Club.



"I am passionate about the British food and farming industry and the need to maintain its position and reputation for supplying quality products with integrity. We need to ensure a continued focus on providing added value through the scheme, delivering an effective and robust assurance scheme to underpin the fantastic reputation of British Beef and Lamb."

JEMMA HOLDEN – BEEF AND LAMB AND DAIRY TECHNICAL MANAGER

Jemma joined Red Tractor in 2021. She grew up on the family sheep farm in Lancashire where they run to 650 Texel cross and Cheviot Cross ewes. Still involved with the farm she is always hands on with lambing in the spring. Following completion of her degree in Animal Behaviour and Welfare she took on the role of an animal welfare inspector for an independent organisation in partnership with a UK retailer. She has travelled extensively across the USA, Europe and Asia carrying out supply chain inspections in retail, manufacturing, food and non-food supply chains.



"I AM PASSIONATE ABOUT THE BRITISH FOOD AND FARMING INDUSTRY AND THE NEED TO MAINTAIN ITS POSITION AND REPUTATION FOR SUPPLYING QUALITY PRODUCTS WITH INTEGRITY." John Dracup

RED TRACTOR ON THE ROAD



The Red Tractor team has been meeting with and listening to members at various events across the country already this year. They are now looking forward to the National Sheep Association event at Malvern on 27 July. The team will be available to answer any questions you might have about your assurance membership.



NEVER MISS OUT! Add rtfcomms@redtractor.org.uk and membermatters@redtractor.org.uk to your address book and regularly check all your inbox folders.

MEETING EVERY STANDARD EVERY DAY

The revised standards for beef and lamb came into effect last November. All revisions to our standards are aimed at helping members to adapt and meet changes in legislation and evolving market demands.

Over the last eight months, we've been using this time to monitor and record whether any of the changes have proven to be particularly challenging

for our members, in order that we could provide more support and targeted guidance on the new requirements. If you visit the Red Tractor Assurance website (redtractorassurance.org.uk), you will find answers for frequently asked questions, tips and advice on how to avoid the most common non-conformances, so that you can meet every standard every day.

SOME COMMON NON-CONFORMANCES AND HOW TO AVOID THEM

AM.3.1 - At least one person, who is responsible for administering medicines has undertaken training and holds a certificate of competence/attendance from training undertaken since October 2016

Animal medicines play an important role in the control and prevention of disease and animal suffering but have the potential to harm if not used properly. Medicine use in farm animals and the development of antimicrobial resistance and transfer to humans is of increasing scientific, political and consumer concern. The RUMA targets for

2024 aim to increase uptake of medicines best practice training among farmers. The addition of training will raise awareness, knowledge and understanding of Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) and help drive medicine best practice in a consistent manner across UK farms.



TIP

The number of available training courses has expanded in recent months, click **HERE** for the full list on the Red Tractor website

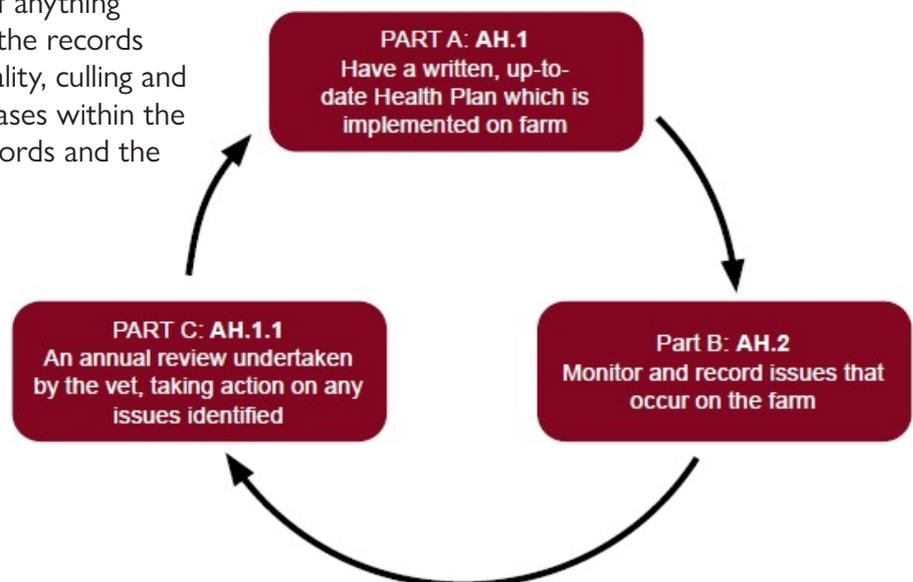
AH.1.1 - A written annual livestock health and performance review must be undertaken by the nominated vet or a vet from the nominated vet practice.

To be able to conduct useful reviews of anything you need to keep records. In this case the records required are for the incidence of mortality, culling and lameness plus noting any identifies diseases within the flock/herd, medicine administration records and the abattoir/vet feedback.



TIP

At least once a year we require a review of these records in conjunction with your vet, at which point you can identify the most significant issues and develop a plan of actions to control or reduced their prevalence where possible.



FEWER INSPECTIONS

Did you know that livestock farms that are not members of the beef and lamb scheme are up to three times more likely to have an inspection by a local authority?

Red Tractor is independently verified as a world-leader in food chain assurance. The scheme's logo is widely recognised and highly trusted by UK consumers.

The scheme is valued and respected by retailers, caterers, leading brands which

use our standards as their buying requirements, and by government which utilises our standards for exports and earned recognition.

One assurance accreditation, one fee, one inspection, opens the door to you supply UK farming's biggest customers.

A NOTE ABOUT VETERINARY HEALTH PLANS (AH.1)



Did you know that you can write your Health Plan yourself? However, your vet must review, sign and date the Health Plan each year. An active Health Plan will aid you in making quick, informed decisions when it comes to stock health. Taking action to avoid problems before they escalate can save you time and money.

SAFETY ON FARM

British agriculture has the worst rate of fatal injuries than all the other UK main industries. Farmers and farm workers are 20 times more likely to be killed at work than the national average, according to recent Health and Safety Executive (HSE) figures.

It is critically important that we all do our part to tackle this horrific blight on British Farming, which is why Red Tractor now requires all farms to have a Health and Safety Policy in place and communicated to anyone who is on site.

Of course, this isn't a fix-all solution, but having a written policy in place and making sure everyone on site understands it, is an important early step to improving on-farm safety.

Red Tractor assurance means food is British, traceable, safe, and responsibly produced. Not only is it all our responsibility to make sure that food is safe to eat, but also that the health of those whose job it is to produce isn't harmed in the process.

Preparing such a policy doesn't have to be time consuming. There are free tools available, including a downloadable policy template on the [HSE's website](#).

USING ASSURED TRANSPORTERS



Red Tractor operates full chain assurance therefore whenever you are selling animals as farm assured the animals must be transported on a Red Tractor farm assured vehicle. As a Red Tractor member you can sign up to our online checker service that makes it easy for you to find out if the transporter you are using is a scheme member. You can apply for member access [HERE](#).



DON'T FORGET

The Red Tractor portal is your free, secure online filing cabinet, allowing you to upload documents at any time ahead of your next assessment. Your certification body can review your documents before the assessor comes on farm, saving you precious time on the day of the assessment. Find out how to sign up and more [HERE](#).



MEMBERHELP@REDTRACTOR.ORG.UK | TELEPHONE: 0203 617 3670

[TWITTER.COM/RTFARMERS](https://twitter.com/RTFARMERS) | [FACEBOOK.COM/REDTRACTORFOOD](https://facebook.com/redtractorfood) | [INSTAGRAM.COM/REDTRACTORFOOD](https://instagram.com/redtractorfood)

Red Tractor Assurance 5th Floor, 100 Fenchurch Street, London EC3M 5JD