

FEBRUARY 2021



MARKETS & COLLECTION CENTRE TECHNICAL UPDATE

TECHNICAL UPDATE AND PRACTICAL ADVICE FROM YOUR RED TRACTOR ASSURANCE TEAM



NEW LIVESTOCK MARKETS AND COLLECTION CENTRE STANDARDS TO BE LAUNCHED

Following a comprehensive review and consultation last year, Red Tractor will be launching new standards for livestock markets and collection centres on 1 April 2021.

Keeping standards relevant, by ensuring that they address changes in legislation, industry best practice and reflect emerging issues is vital to preserve the public's trust in our members, UK agriculture and the Red Tractor logo. It has never been more important that we demonstrate our commitment to meeting consumer and customer expectations at a time of ever-increasing scrutiny.

To achieve this objective, we regularly review all our on-farm and supply chain standards.

You will see in your copy of the new standards enclosed in this mailing, that there is a revised format which gives greater clarity on how compliance with

the standards can be demonstrated in a practical setting. It should now be clearer to understand what is required to demonstrate compliance and the detail required at assessment, to show your compliance. While there have been only a few changes to the standards themselves, it is worth mentioning that greater emphasis has been placed on demonstrating that the requirements of an Animal Gathering Order are being adhered to.



UNDERSTANDING WHAT MATTERS TO YOU



Understanding what matters to you and gaining your feedback on how we are doing is important to us at Red Tractor, which is why we have launched a new scheme member pulse survey – What Matters to You. The survey will only take a few minutes to complete and gives you the opportunity to say what you really think about the scheme and how it delivers for you and your business. Your opinion is valued. Visit redtractor.citizenspace.com before 5 March to get involved.

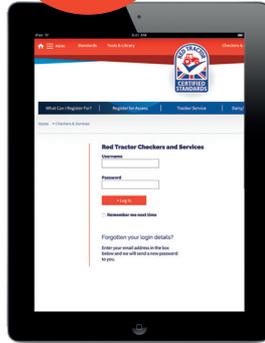


IN FOCUS

DIGITAL ASSURANCE CHECKER

Markets and collection centres can register for services to check the assurance status of Red Tractor farmers. Many of the services are free with options to have company specific data feeds. Certificate tracking states the certification status of assured farmer suppliers and provides email alerts of any key changes. Those without a regular supply base can use the Integrated Checker tool to query the database.

■ For more information get in touch with Hazel Moss on 020 7630 3320. To register go to Checkers & Services at checkers.redtractor.org.uk



ROBUST CERTIFICATION AT EVERY LINK IN THE SUPPLY CHAIN

The Red Tractor logo allows people to recognise food that has been produced to high standards across the whole length of the food chain: from farm to packet. Livestock markets and collection centres play an integral part in this chain.

We require all our standards to be met by our members every day. Compliance is an important tool to not only protect your business but also the reputation of the industry. It is important that we are made aware of issues with the way a business is operating which contravene our rules and/or standards.

Any concerns should be reported directly to Red Tractor or your certification body. We have also launched an anonymous TELL US web reporting service, and strengthened our partnership with other reporting authorities to help us assess issues and obtain more information to thoroughly investigate matters. We will shortly be launching a function in the Checker to allow reporting through a simple online form.

These measures are all part of safeguarding the robust chain of assurance and ongoing compliance with standards across the supply chain.

TOP TIPS ON COMPLIANCE

Based on the most common non-conformances found at market and collection centre assessments, here are Red Tractor's pointers on staying compliant

FACILITIES

- Look out for damaged concrete flooring, broken gates, sharp edges, broken drain covers, slippery flooring and poor lighting.
- Ensure facilities for the segregation of sick or injured livestock are available and are solid sided with signage and appropriate drainage.
- Display signs showing public access to the livestock and loading areas is restricted.

VERMIN CONTROL

- Vermin control records should include bait used and replenishment dates, who is responsible, a map, environmental risk assessments and site survey.

STAFF

- Maintain staff training records including training dates and an annual review for personnel. A nominated animal welfare officer must be in place, and records must show training.

INCIDENT DOCUMENTATION

- Procedures for emergency livestock slaughter should detail who would be responsible for the different classes of stock. Records must detail incidents which resulted returning of stock or emergency euthanasia.

