

## LEAF Marque Standard Version 14.1, issued 22/12/16



Assessment points *THIS STANDARD SHOULD BE ADOPTED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE COMPLETION OF THE LEAF SUSTAINABLE FARMING REVIEW (LSFR). THE LEAF WEBSITE ALSO CONTAINS USEFUL INFORMATION ON HOW TO ADOPT INTEGRATED FARMING AND THE MEMBERSHIP RULES FOR LEAF MARQUE CERTIFICATION. PLEASE ALSO REFER TO THE FULL TEXT OF THE NEW STANDARD AS IT CONTAINS HELPFUL REFERENCES AND VERIFICATION REQUIREMENTS. Red text indicates new or edited standard / verification.*

CP No.	LEAF Marque assessment points Section / Question	E- Essential	R- Recommended	N/A	
<b>1. Organisation and Planning</b>					Notes on N/A eligibility
1.1	The LEAF Sustainable Farming Review has been completed.	E			
1.2	The business is a certified full member of an appropriate assurance system for each enterprise.	E			
1.3	The 'farm details and product information and area' section of the 'My Profile' of 'myLEAF' has been completed <b>and is accurate.</b>	E			
1.4	(Deleted 2015)				
1.5	(Deleted 2015)				
1.6	There is an <b>implemented</b> Farm Environmental Policy.	E			
1.7	There is a Farm Environmental Plan setting out short and long term objectives.	E			
1.8	In the Farm Environmental Plan targets are set to improve and enhance the environment.	E			
1.9	The Farm Environmental Plan and Farm Environmental Policy are annually reviewed and updated.	E			
1.10	The Farm Environmental Policy is signed and understood by permanent members of staff.	E			
1.11	The Farm Environmental Policy has been communicated to suppliers and contractors.	E			
1.12	<b>(Upgraded 2016)</b> Water and energy efficiency are considered when new equipment is purchased or new buildings are designed.	E			
1.13	Market outlets and product requirements are clearly identified prior to production and are integrated within enterprise planning.	E			
1.14	There is a record of all received complaints and evidence of appropriate actions.	E			
1.15	Relevant staff are given regular training or awareness events on the principles and practices of Integrated Farm Management (IFM).	E			
1.16	<b>Deleted 2016</b>	E			
1.17	There is a Health and Safety Risk Assessment.	E			

1.18	(New 2016) LEAF Marque Chain of Custody Grown Products and Output Products have been completed and is accurate.	E			
1.19	(New 2016) LEAF Marque Chain of Custody Self Assessment has been completed and approval received.	E			
1.20	(New 2016) The business is a Supply Partner for the LEAF Marque Chain of Custody.	E		N/A	N/A for businesses who do not buy, process, manufacture or mix LEAF Marque produce
1.21	(New 2016) There is a current LEAF Marque Chain of Custody Licence where a LEAF Marque claim is made.	E		N/A	N/A for first time LEAF Marque inspection or if the business is not making a claim
<b>2. Soil Management and Fertility</b>					
2.1	There is an <b>implemented</b> Soil Management Plan (including a descriptive map).	E			
2.2	There is a general policy to conserve and build up soil organic matter.	E		N/A	N/A in some circumstances where growing media other than soil is used
2.3	There is an implemented Nutrient Management Plan that is integrated with a Manure Management Plan (4.2).	E			
2.4	The business is aware of soils, livestock and crops that are prone to trace element deficiencies.	E			
2.5	(Deleted 2013)				
2.6	There is a long-term cropping plan.	E		N/A	N/A in some circumstances where there are perennial crops such as orchard <b>and long-term protected crops</b>
2.7	The risk of soil degradation is assessed prior to operations being carried out to ensure the timing, field conditions, equipment and soil management techniques are appropriate.	E		N/A	N/A in some circumstances where growing media other than soil is used
2.8	All cultivations and field operations are recorded.		R	N/A	N/A where business does not carry out cultivations or field operations
2.9	Recommendations for application of fertilisers (organic or inorganic) are given by competent, qualified persons.	E		N/A	N/A where business does not apply fertilisers
2.10	Organic and inorganic fertiliser applications are recorded.	E		N/A	N/A where business does not apply fertilisers
2.11	Operators/contractors are trained in accurate techniques of nutrient application.	E			
2.12	Nitrogen use efficiency is measured.		R		N/A in some circumstances where measurement is not practical. This should be justified by the business
2.13	Control measures are implemented to minimise the loss of nutrients when applying organic matter.	E		N/A	N/A if manure or organic matter not applied
<b>3. Crop Health and Protection</b>					
3.1	There is an <b>implemented</b> Crop <b>Health</b> and Protection Policy that is reviewed annually.	E			
3.2	There are strategies to avoid pest resistance to herbicides, fungicides and insecticides.	E			
3.3	There is a system in place for monitoring and recording pests (including vertebrate), disease, weed levels and beneficial predatory species. The system is used to decide when to apply plant protection products (PPPs).	E			

3.4	There is a record to justify the use of crop protection practices.	E			
3.5	The <b>business</b> considers the environmental impact of all crop protection practices, including plant protection product (PPP), mechanical and cultural practices.	E			
3.6	Growth <b>stages</b> , infestation levels and plant protection product type are considered before deciding on the appropriate rate of plant protection product (PPP) used.	E		N/A	N/A where business does not apply PPPs
3.7	Steps are taken to minimise damage to beneficial and non-target species.	E			
3.8	There is a documented procedure to ensure harvest intervals are observed.	E		N/A	N/A where business does not apply PPPs
3.9	Precautions taken to ensure plant protection product (PPP) use is limited to the area in which it is required.	E		N/A	N/A where business does not apply PPPs
3.10	There is a documented and displayed procedure and notification process to alert relevant staff and/or authorities for dealing with spillages damaging to the environment, <b>people and animals</b> .	E			
3.11	Plant protection product (PPP) applications are recorded.	E		N/A	N/A where business does not apply PPPs
3.12	Protection measures are in place where plant protection products (PPPs) are mixed/ <b>handled</b> to ensure potential spillage or resulting pollution is prevented from entering water and the local environment.	E		N/A	N/A where business does not handle or mix PPPs
3.13	Plant protection product (PPP) <b>recommendations</b> are made by competent qualified persons.	E			
3.14	Operators/contractors are trained in the use of plant protection products (PPPs) and participate in continuous professional development.	E			
3.15	Staff/contractors are trained in the identification of pests, diseases and crop disorders.		R		
3.16	Sprayers/granular applicators have test certificates from a nationally-recognised scheme or are appropriately maintained and calibrated to ensure safe and reliable operation.	E			
3.17	Plant protection products (PPPs) are stored securely to give protection to the environment and people.	E		N/A	N/A where business does not store PPPs
3.18	Only plant protection products (PPPs) with approval are used and stored.	E		N/A	N/A where business does not store PPPs
3.19	Plant protection products (PPPs) are used at the appropriate rate and timing for safe and effective use.	E		N/A	N/A where business does not apply PPPs
3.20	Adequate precautions are taken to protect neighbouring businesses and the public from plant protection product (PPP) application activities.		R		
<b>4. Pollution Control and By-Product Management</b>					
4.1	<b>There is a general policy to minimise waste.</b>	E			
4.2	There is an <b>implemented</b> Manure Management Plan that is integrated with the Nutrient Management Plan (see 2.3).	E		N/A	N/A if organic material is not produced or used
4.3	Fixed fuel tanks are bunded and potential spillages are prevented from entering watercourses.	E			
4.4	Equipment and machinery is regularly maintained and calibrated to ensure accurate and efficient application and operation.	E		N/A	N/A where business does not use sprayers, fertiliser and muck/manure spreaders, and tractors

4.5	There is a <b>Pollution Risk Assessment</b> that identifies, documents and records all potential pollutants on a map.	E			
4.6	There is an action plan to reduce the impact of all potential pollutants on the environment.	E			
4.7	Quality and condition of drainage ditches and watercourses are visually monitored.		R	N/A	N/A if no ditches or watercourses
4.8	There are maps of all drainage schemes for fields and general farm building areas.		R		
4.9	New land drainage is recorded and outlets are identified.	E			
<b>5. Animal Husbandry</b>					
5.1	Measures are taken to avoid undue grazing damage leading to soil erosion and runoff.	E		N/A	N/A if no grazing
5.2	Nesting birds and wildlife are protected when cutting forage.	E		N/A	N/A if forage is not cut
5.3	Organic material, digestate, compost, silage, silage effluent, slurry and solid organic matter are stored according to best practice.	E		N/A	N/A in circumstances where organic material, digestate, compost, silage, silage effluent or solid organic matter is not used or stored
5.4	There is adequate safe holding capacity for animal manure and slurry <b>for the requirements of the business.</b>	E		N/A	N/A in circumstances where animal manure and slurry is not stored
5.5	Dirty water and silage effluent are collected and safely recycled.	E		N/A	N/A if no dirty water or silage effluent
5.6	Environmentally-sensitive areas, identified in the Landscape and Nature Conservation and Enhancement Plan, are protected and managed appropriately.	E		N/A	N/A if business has no livestock
5.7	There is an <b>implemented</b> Livestock Health Plan.	E		N/A	N/A if business has no livestock
5.8	There is an annual visit from your vet to discuss animal health strategy and welfare issues.	E		N/A	N/A if business has no livestock
5.9	Animal welfare indicators are monitored and used to assess performance on a production cycle basis.		R	N/A	N/A if business has no livestock
<b>6. Energy Efficiency</b>					
6.1	There is an Energy Audit.	E			
6.2	Energy consumption is monitored.	E			
6.3	CO2 emissions are recorded from energy consumption records.	E			
6.4	<b>(New 2016) The business is taking steps to optimise energy use.</b>		R		
<b>7. Water Management</b>					
7.1	There is an <b>implemented</b> Water Management Plan.	E			
7.2	Water Management Plan is reviewed annually.	E			
7.3	Applied water use efficiency is measured.	E		N/A	N/A when no irrigation is carried out or in some circumstances when measurement is not practical and justified by the business
7.4	Applied water use efficiency measurements are analysed, any changes justified, and measurements are used to plan improvements.		R	N/A	N/A when no irrigation is carried out or in some circumstances when measurement is not practical and justified by the business
7.5	The business is increasing the percentage of water use from stored water from periods of natural rainfall abundance over direct abstraction. The business is also developing rainwater harvesting and water reuse opportunities.		R	N/A	N/A for those not using irrigation

8. Landscape and Nature Conservation				
8.1	There is a documented Landscape and Nature Conservation Audit (including map).	E		
8.2	There is an <b>implemented</b> Landscape and Nature Conservation and Enhancement Plan.	E		
8.3	The Landscape and Nature Conservation and Enhancement Plan is an integral part of the farming system.	E		
8.4	Information is sought about landlord's conservation management practices where land is rented for less than three years.	E		N/A N/A where there is no rented land
8.5	Tenants who rent land from the certified business manage the land in a way that protects and enhances the environment.		R	N/A N/A where no land is rented out
8.6	Environmental impact is minimised if business has brought or is planning to bring "uncultivated land or semi-natural areas" into agricultural use <b>in the last 12 months or near future</b> .	E		N/A N/A where business has not brought or is not planning to bring "uncultivated land or semi-natural areas" into agricultural use in the last 12 months or near future
8.7	Traditional field boundaries, environmental/landscape features and other natural habitats are retained.	E		
8.8	Timing and frequency of field/boundary management is restricted.	E		
8.9	Timing and frequency of watercourse management is restricted.	E		N/A N/A for businesses where there are no watercourses
8.10	There is a license for any removal of trees (where required and appropriate).	E		N/A N/A for businesses where no trees have been removed
8.11	In-field trees and trees in boundaries and hedgerows are retained.	E		N/A N/A where there are no trees in-field, within hedges or within boundaries
8.12	Deep cultivation under the canopy of trees is avoided.	E		N/A N/A for businesses where there are no in-field trees or hedgerows
8.13	There is a two-metre wide undisturbed field margin around all field boundaries.	E		
8.14	Field margins <b>and boundaries</b> are under sympathetic management.	E		
8.15	Native habitat banks are present in fields larger than 20 hectares.		R	
8.16	Native and/or appropriate species are used in field margins and other habitats.	E		
8.17	<b>Deleted 2016</b>			
8.18	Care is taken to avoid damage or destruction of national/local important ancient monuments and areas of archaeological or historical interest.	E		
8.19	Flora and fauna are able to thrive through rotation and leaving land uncropped.		R	
8.20	Field operations are adjusted to avoid <b>areas where birds are nesting</b> .	E		
8.21	Staff are involved in planning and implementing improvement to habitats and landscape features.		R	
8.22	Flora/fauna, wildlife and/or wider environment on the farm is monitored.		R	
8.23	There is a minimum of 5% farm area available as habitats, not used for cropping and food production.		R	
8.24	Nesting habitat, summer food and winter food for farmland birds are provided alongside other activities to enhance the habitat for native fauna.	E		

8.25	Bees and pollinators are included as key species in the Landscape and Nature Conservation and Enhancement Plan.	E			
8.26	(New 2016) The LEAF Sustainable Farming Review question On-Farm Habitats has been completed.		R		
<b>9. Community Engagement</b>					
9.1	There is regular communication and participation with local community initiatives to communicate a balanced and positive approach to farming.	E			
9.2	Public and traditional paths are kept clear from obstructions. Stiles and gates are in good condition.	E			N/A for businesses where there are no designated paths
9.3	Public and traditional paths are clearly marked.		R		N/A for businesses where there are no designated paths