

LEAF Marque Standard Version 16.0 Checklist

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This Checklist aims to support businesses when preparing for their LEAF Marque Audit. It does not replace the LEAF Marque Standard v16.0 which provides further information on the verification requirements and evidence needed. Further guidance can be found on the LEAF Sustainable Review and the LEAF Marque Website.

Red text indicates the information which has been either edited or new for the LEAF Marque Standard v16.0.

CP No.	Control Point	E- Essential
1. Organisation and Planning		
1.1	The LEAF Sustainable Farming Review has been completed.	E
1.2	The business is a certified full member of a LEAF Marque approved baseline certification system for each product.	E
1.3	The 'Farm Details' and 'Production Information' section of the 'My Profile' of 'myLEAF' has been completed and is accurate.	E
1.4	(Deleted since v13.0)	
1.5	(Deleted since v13.0)	
1.6	There is an Integrated Farm Management Policy.	E
1.7	(Deleted since v15.0)	
1.8	(Deleted since v15.0)	
1.9	(Deleted since v15.0)	
1.10	The Integrated Farm Management Policy is signed and understood by permanent members of staff.	E
1.11	Relevant elements of the Integrated Farm Management Policy have been communicated to suppliers and contractors.	E
1.12	Resource use and waste management are considered when purchasing or designing buildings and/or equipment.	E
1.13	(Deleted since v15.0)	
1.14	There is a record of all received complaints and evidence of appropriate actions.	E
1.15	Relevant staff attend regular training or awareness events on the principles and practices of Integrated Farm Management (IFM).	E
1.16	(Deleted since v14.1)	
1.17	There is a Health and Safety Risk Assessment.	E
1.18	(Deleted since v15.0)	
1.19	(Deleted since v15.0)	
1.20	(Deleted since v15.0)	
1.21	(Deleted since v15.0)	
1.22	(New v16.0) The business collaborates with others	
1.23	(New v16.0) The business is part of collective action(s).	
1.24	(New v16.0) Measures are taken to enhance climate resilience	E
2. Soil Management and Fertility		

2.1	There is an implemented Soil Management Plan (including a descriptive map).	E
2.2	Measures are taken to conserve and build up soil organic matter.	E
2.3	There is an implemented Integrated Nutrient Management Plan.	E
2.4	The business is aware of soils, livestock and crops that are prone to trace element deficiencies.	E
2.5	(Deleted since v11.0)	
2.6	There is a long-term cropping plan.	E
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
2.8	[Deleted since v16.0]	
2.9	Recommendations for application of fertilisers (organic or inorganic) are given by competent, qualified persons.	E
2.10	Organic and inorganic fertiliser applications are recorded.	E
2.11	Operators/contractors are trained in accurate techniques of nutrient application.	E
2.12	[Deleted since v16.0]	
2.13	Control measures are implemented to minimise the loss of nutrients when applying organic matter.	E
2.14	(Upgraded v16.0) Soil health is measured.	E
3. Crop Health and Protection		
3.1	There is an implemented Crop Health and Protection Plan.	E
3.2	There are strategies to avoid weed, disease and 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 all crop protection practices.	E
3.5	The business considers the environmental impact of all crop protection practices, including plant protection product(s) (PPP), mechanical and cultural practices.	E
3.6	Growth stages, infestation levels and plant protection product type are considered before deciding on the appropriate rate of plant protection product (PPP) used.	E
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 applied.	E
3.9	Precautions are taken to ensure plant protection product (PPP) use is limited to the area in which it is required.	E
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, people and animals.	E
3.11	Plant protection product (PPP) applications are recorded.	E
3.12	Protection measures are in place where plant protection products (PPPs) are mixed/handled to ensure potential spillage or resulting pollution is prevented from entering water and the local environment.	E

3.13	Plant protection product (PPP) recommendations 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	[Deleted since v16.0]	
3.16	Plant protection products (PPPs) application equipment 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
3.18	Only plant protection products (PPPs) with approval are used and stored.	E
3.19	Plant protection products (PPPs) are used at the appropriate rate and timing for safe and effective use.	E
3.20	(Upgraded v16.0) Adequate precautions are taken to protect neighbouring businesses and the public from agrochemical application activities.	E
3.21	(New v16.0) Actions are taken to inform neighbouring businesses and the public of agrochemical application activities.	
4. Pollution Control and By-Product Management		
4.1	[Deleted since v16.0]	
4.2	There is an implemented Manure Management Plan that is integrated with the Nutrient Management Plan (see 2.3).	E
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
4.5	There is a Pollution Risk Assessment that identifies, documents and records all potential pollutants on a map.	E
4.6	(Deleted since v15.0)	
4.7	(Deleted since v16.0)	
4.8	(Upgraded v16.0) There are maps of all drainage for general farm building areas and land.	E
4.9	[Deleted since v16.0]	
4.10	(New v16.0) There is an annual Waste Audit.	
4.11	(New v16.0) There is an implemented Waste Audit Action Plan.	
5. Animal Husbandry		
5.1	Measures are taken to avoid damage to grassland by livestock and to optimise biodiversity.	E
5.2	Nesting birds and wildlife are protected when cutting forage.	E
5.3	Organic material, digestate, compost, silage, silage effluent, slurry and solid organic matter are stored according to best practice.	E
5.4	There is adequate safe holding capacity for animal manure and slurry for the requirements of the business.	E
5.5	Dirty water and silage effluent are collected and safely recycled.	E

5.6	[Deleted since v16.0]	
5.7	There is an implemented Livestock Health Plan.	E
5.8	There is an annual visit from your vet(s) to discuss animal health strategy and welfare issues.	E
5.9	Animal health and welfare indicators are monitored and used to assess performance on a production cycle basis.	E
5.10	Key Staff/ contractors are trained in monitoring of animal health and welfare indicators.	
5.11	Animal performance indicators are monitored on a production cycle basis.	
5.12	(Upgraded v16.0) There is an Animal Feed Audit.	E
5.13	(Upgraded v16.0) There is an implemented Animal Feed Action Plan.	E
6. Energy Efficiency		
6.1	There is an annual Energy Audit.	E
6.2	Energy consumption is monitored.	E
6.3	On farm Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions are recorded.	E
6.4	There is an implemented Energy Action Plan	E
6.5	(New v16.0) A carbon footprinting tool is used.	
7. Water Management		
7.1	There is an implemented Water Management Plan.	E
7.2	(Deleted since v15.0)	
7.3	Applied water use efficiency is measured.	E
7.4	(Upgraded v16.0) Applied water use efficiency measurements are analysed, any changes justified, and measurements are used to plan improvements.	E
7.5	[Deleted since v16.0]	
7.6	(New v16.0) The sources of water used are justified.	
7.7	(New v16.0) Water quality is monitored.	
8. Landscape and Nature Conservation		
8.1	There is a documented Landscape and Nature Conservation Audit (including map).	E
8.2	There is an implemented 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
8.5	Contractors, or tenants who rent land from the certified business, manage the land in a way that protects and enhances the environment.	
8.6	[Deleted since v16.0]	
8.7	Measures are taken to protect and enhance habitats in field and/or site boundaries and other landscape features.	E
8.8	[Deleted since v16.0]	
8.9	Timing and frequency of watercourse management is restricted.	E
8.10	There is a license for any removal of trees (where required and appropriate).	E
8.11	In-field trees and trees in boundaries and hedgerows are retained.	E
8.12	Deep cultivation under the canopy of trees is avoided.	E
8.13	(Deleted since v15.0)	
8.14	Field margins and/or site boundaries are under sympathetic management.	E
8.15	[Deleted since v16.0]	
8.16	Native and/or appropriate species are used in field margins and other habitats.	E
8.17	(Deleted since v14.1)	
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	[Deleted since v16.0]	
8.20	Farm management activities are adjusted to avoid areas where birds and/or other species are nesting.	E
8.21	Staff are involved in planning and implementing improvement to habitats and landscape features.	
8.22	[Deleted since v16.0]	
8.23	10% or more of the farm/ site land is managed as a habitat area.	
8.24	Nesting habitat(s) and food are provided to enhance the habitat for native fauna. Nesting habitat(s) and food are provided 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	The LEAF Sustainable Farming Review question On-Farm Habitats has been completed.	E
8.27	(Upgraded v16.0) At least one representative species or habitat, that can be justified in environmental terms, is monitored on the farm.	E
8.28	(New v16.0) Conversion of natural ecosystems for agricultural use only occurs where there is compliance with national and/or global commitments and minimal negative environmental impact	E
8.29	(New v16.0) Protected and/or high conservation value areas, are protected and managed appropriately	E

	9. Community Engagement	
9.1	(Deleted since v15.0)	
9.2	(Deleted since v15.0)	
9.3	(Deleted since v15.0)	
9.4	At least one activity is carried out annually with the intention of engaging local or wider community(ies).	E
9.5	The LEAF Sustainable Farming Review data questions on Community Engagement have been completed.	E

