

# Cross-Compliance Checklist

This document provides a quick guide to the 2005 and 2006 Cross-Compliance Verifiable Standards. It does not provide full details of these standards nor should you rely upon it for assurance that you meet all the Statutory Management Requirements (SMRs) and Good Agricultural and Environmental Condition (GAEC) Measures. For full details you should refer to the Cross-Compliance Verifiable Standards 2005 and 2006 booklet.

## Statutory Management Requirements (SMRs)

### SMR 1. Conservation of Wild Birds

You must not kill, capture or keep any wild bird without a licence. You must not destroy, damage, remove or keep their nests or eggs, nor disturb birds while nesting without a licence to do so. You must not damage the interests of a Natura 2000 site without permission and must comply with terms of management agreements.

### SMR 2. Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Flora and Fauna

You must not pick, cut, destroy, sell, transport material from European protected plants without a licence. You must not disturb, kill or injure European protected animals without a licence. You must not damage the interests of a Natura 2000 site without permission and must comply with terms of management agreements.

### SMR 3. Protection of Groundwater Against Pollution

You must not dispose of List I or II substances such as spent sheep dip or waste pesticides to land without written authorisation from Environment and Heritage Service. The terms of the authorisation, including record keeping requirements, must be followed. You must not discharge List I substances or cause pollution by indirect discharge of List II substances from activities in or on the ground, such as a discharge from a poorly maintained sheep dipper.

### SMR 4. Protection of the Environment when Sewage Sludge is used in Agriculture

When disposing of either sewage or septic tank sludge you must follow the statutory requirements. These include spreading controls, crop nutrient requirements, harvesting timetables, controls on the addition of certain metals and requirements to supply information.

### SMR 5. Protection of Water Against Nitrate Pollution

On land located within a Nitrate Vulnerable Zone you must follow the Nitrate Action Programme measures which include not spreading N fertiliser (chemical or organic manures) during the closed period, not exceeding the crop requirement for N, not exceeding the field and whole farm limits. You must also observe the spreading controls, storage and record keeping requirements of the Action Programme. A new Action Programme will be applied to all of Northern Ireland in 2006.



## **SMR 6. Identification and Registration of Animals**

### **Cattle:**

Any person keeping cattle must register with DARD and obtain a herd number.

### **Pigs:**

Any person keeping pigs must register with DARD and obtain a pig holding number. Any person in charge of pigs shall maintain a record, which includes identification mark, breed and description of pig, date of birth/purchase, movements on to or off a holding. All pigs must be correctly identified before leaving the holding premises or when they reach six months of age, whichever is the sooner. When pigs move off a holding, a movement document must be completed and a copy sent to the sellers local Divisional Veterinary Office.

## **SMR 7. Identification and Registration of Bovine Animals**

On-farm records must be maintained and include the following information: ear tag numbers, breed, sex and date of birth, date of movement on/off holding or date of death, name and address of premises to which moved or manner and place of disposal of carcasses.

## **SMR 8. Identification and Registration of Bovine Animals (Labelling of beef and beef products)**

Any person keeping cattle must register with DARD and obtain a herd number. Only DARD approved ear tags may be used. All calves should be double tagged within 20 days of birth. All births should be notified to DARD within 27 days of birth. All deaths must be notified to DARD within 7 days. All movements should be notified to DARD within 7 days of movement.

## **SMR 9. Sheep and/or Goat Identification and Registration Requirements**

Any person keeping sheep and/or goats must register with DARD and obtain a flock/herd number. Flock/herd keepers must keep a flock/herd register and record all dates of birth, death, sale, purchase of sheep and/or goats including numbers and categories of sheep and/or goats, natal tag numbers, movement document serial numbers and details of replacement tags.

All sheep and goats born on a holding from 9 July 2005 must be tagged in the left ear (natal tag) before reaching 9 months of age or before moving off the holding, whichever is sooner; all sheep and goats moving off a second holding must be tagged in the right ear (movement tag) prior to movement; if desired, for ease of recording on movement documents, a movement tag may be inserted in the right ear prior to movement off a third holding. Sheep and/or goats being exported to GB must be tagged with a natal tag or movement tag; sheep and/or goats being exported to the ROI must be tagged with a natal tag and a blue export tag.

An annual inventory, which will be provided by DARD, must be completed during the period 1 to 5 December and returned to DARD by 5 January. A movement document must be completed for all movements off a holding and sent to the Divisional Veterinary Office within 7 days of the movement; for sheep and/or goats moving out of a market, a market dispatch document in the format prescribed by DARD must accompany the sheep and/or goats.

## **SMR 10. Placing of Plant Protection Products on the Market**

A Plant Protection Product can only be used if it has been approved under the appropriate legislation. It should only be used under the conditions stated, for example, on approved crops, at the correct dose etc, and in accordance with good plant protection practice.

## **SMR 11. Food and Feed Law**

You must not place unsafe food or feed on the market. If you consider you have placed unsafe food or feed on the market you must withdraw it immediately and inform the competent authorities. You must keep adequate records and documentation and make this available to the competent authorities on demand.

## **SMR 12. Prohibition on the Illegal use in Stock Farming of Certain Substances having a Hormonal or Thyrostatic Action and of Beta-agonists**

You must not store substances related to oestradiol and beta-agonists that are for induction of birth or uterine relaxation in food producing animals, or products containing these substances on the farm. You must not use hormonal substances for growth promotion or use substances containing, or related to, oestradiol for oestrus induction in food-producing animals after October 2006.

## **SMR 13. Prevention, Control and Eradication of Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (TSE)**

If you suspect you have an animal infected by a TSE you must immediately notify the Divisional Veterinary Officer and comply with any movement restrictions or other notices issued by the Department. You must not feed to ruminants any animal protein or any feedingstuffs containing animal protein or feed to farmed animals processed animal proteins, subject to certain exceptions. You must only use fishmeal, blood products, blood meal (only in feeding to farmed fish) dicalcium phosphate and tricalcium phosphate of animal origin for the production of feed for non ruminants and store and use complete feed containing them separately from ruminant feed. You must be authorised by the Department to use derogated proteins to produce non-ruminant feed and registered by the Department to use derogated proteins to produce non-ruminant feed where no ruminant animals are present or to use feed products containing derogated proteins on premises where ruminants are present.

## **SMR 14. Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease**

If you have, or suspect you have, a Foot-and-Mouth infected animal you should notify DARD 'with all practicable speed'.

## **SMR 15. Control of Certain Animal Diseases**

If you have, or suspect you have, an animal or carcase infected with any of the following diseases: rinderpest, peste des petits ruminants, swine vesicular disease, epizootic haemorrhagic disease of deer, sheep and goat pox, vesicular stomatitis, lumpy skin disease and rift valley fever, you should notify DARD 'with all practicable speed'.

## **SMR 16. Specific Provisions for the Control and Eradication of Bluetongue**

If you have, or suspect you have, a Bluetongue infected animal you should notify DARD 'with all practicable speed'.

# Good Agricultural and Environmental Condition (GAEC) Measures

## 1. Soil Management

You must protect soils from erosion and maintain soil structure by preventing land from being severely trampled or poached.

All cultivated land must have either crop cover, stubble cover, grass cover or be ploughed or disced over the winter.

You must not carry out cultivations if water is standing on the surface or if the soil is waterlogged.

## 2. Supplementary Feeding

No supplementary feeding is permitted on semi-natural habitats (woodland, scrub, moorland, wetlands, species rich grass land) archaeological sites or within ten metres from waterways or 50 metres from a borehole or well or 250 metres from a borehole used for public water supply.

Feeding sites should be rotated and managed to prevent excessive trampling, poaching or vehicle rutting to minimise soil erosion and to avoid run off to waterways.

## 3. Overgrazing

You must avoid overgrazing grassland, semi-natural habitats or archaeological sites with livestock in such numbers, which would damage the growth, quality or species composition of vegetation, or destroy the archaeological feature.

## 4. Undergrazing

You must avoid undergrazing by using appropriate grazing or cutting management, except where it is deemed necessary for environmental management, for example as part of an Agri-environment agreement.

You must avoid infestation by species such as rhododendron, gorse/whin, giant hogweed, Japanese knotweed and noxious weeds.

## 5. Field Boundaries

You must not remove field boundaries except by prior written permission from DARD. This includes infilling or laying drainage pipes in open sheughs. DARD will assess and grant derogations for field boundary removal after using DARD field boundary assessment criteria. Such requests should be made in writing to Countryside Management Branch offices.

Hedge cutting/coppicing or laying is not permitted during the bird nesting season, that is between 1 March and 31 August.

## 6. Protection of Habitats, Archaeological Sites and Permanent Pasture

You must retain all semi-natural habitats (woodland/scrub; wetlands; species rich grasslands, moorland) ponds, shelterbelts, trees protected under the Tree Preservation Order, archaeological features and earth science sites.

You must comply with the DARD EIA Uncultivated/Semi-natural Areas Regulations 2001. You must not undertake new drainage, ploughing, clearing, levelling, reseeding or cultivations on uncultivated land or semi-natural habitats without prior approval from DARD.

Heather and gorse burning is not permitted between 15 April and 31 August.