

# LEAF – Linking Environment And Farming

## Whole Farm LEAF Marque Standard Version 9 Core Requirements

### Organisation and Planning

- Completion of LEAF Audit
- Member of assurance schemes for each enterprise
- Annually reviewed and updated Environmental Policy and Plan
- Communication of Environmental Policy to staff, suppliers and contractors
- Targets for improvement in environmental practices
- Regular communication / participation with local community
- Staff training and input on IFM (recommended)
- Carbon budget for whole farm (recommended)

### Soil Management and Fertility

- Qualified crop nutrition agronomist
- Use of Nutrient Management Plan and integration with Manure Management Plan
- Soil mapping techniques to understand and control soil issues
- Trace element management
- Long term rotation plan documented
- Records of organic and inorganic fertiliser applications
- Operators trained in accurate application of nutrients
- Maintenance of organic matter in soil
- Nitrogen efficiency measurement (recommended)

### Crop Health and Protection

- Crop Protection Policy in operation
- Strategies to avoid pest resistance
- System for monitoring and recording pest and diseases
- Justification of crop protection techniques
- Consideration of environmental impact of crop protection practices at decision time
- Appropriate rates of pesticides based on prevailing conditions
- Minimise damage to beneficial organisms and wildlife
- Harvest intervals are adhered to
- Pesticides are limited to area on which they are required
- Protection of water and environment when mixing pesticides
- Notification and control procedure in event of chemical spillages
- Sprayer Testing and calibration
- Operator professional development

### Pollution Control and By-Product Management

- Waste minimisation programme implemented on the farm

- Use of Manure Management Plan and integration with Nutrient Management Plan
- All fixed fuel tanks bunded
- Regular maintenance and calibration of equipment and machinery
- By-products and wastes disposed of without risk to water quality
- Identify and define risks of all likely pollutants on the farm with action plan to reduce risk
- Visual monitoring of watercourses with action plan (recommended)
- Plans of new drainage schemes and understanding of watercourses

### Energy and Water Efficiency

- Completion of energy efficiency audit
- Monitoring of energy use on farm
- Completion of whole farm Water Management Plan
- Measuring water efficiency on irrigated crops

### Wildlife & Landscape Management

- Completion of Whole Farm Conservation Audit
- Completion of Whole Farm Conservation Plan based on audit
- Assessment of conservation management of rented land
- Integration of conservation and wildlife management into farming system
- Retention of traditional field boundaries
- Boundary management for wildlife enhancement
- Ditch management for wildlife enhancement
- Maintenance and protection of trees within fields and boundaries
- Creation and maintenance of 2 metre field margins
- Sympathetic management of field margins
- Protection of field margins from inputs and operations
- Protection of scheduled and unscheduled ancient monuments
- Protection of nesting birds from farming operations
- Rights of way management
- Provide nesting habitat, summer and winter food
- Management of rented land and understanding landlords requirements

### Animal Husbandry and the Environment

- Adoption of measure to avoid poaching within field and adjacent to watercourses
- Adoption of best practice in storage of FYM, slurry and silage
- Identification and protection of environmentally sensitive areas from livestock
- Health planning
- Annual vet visit

**This does not represent the standard in total and should not be used as a checklist please refer to the full LEAF Marque Standard for a complete list of control points**