

Red Tractor Update

11th March 2025



CONFIDENTIAL

FARM ASSURANCE REVIEW



- Commissioned by NFU and AHDB to review UK farm assurance
- Evidence collected from across the supply chain over 9 months
- Final report published 20th January 2025
- Red Tractor public response due by end of March



FAR STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS



1. On-farm audits must be reduced, simplified and delivered more consistently
2. There must be a transformational step forward in embracing technology
3. Schemes need to reset and/or restate their structures to establish farmers as the driving voice in standards development
4. A new industry-led initiative must set out the future environmental ambitions for farm assurance
5. The inclusion of regulatory requirements within farm assurance should be conditional on government agreeing a form of 'earned recognition'
6. There must be greater collaboration between farm assurance schemes across the UK
7. Schemes must better position the UK farming industry in world food markets and in competition with imported food
8. All schemes must review and improve their communication with farmers
9. The Red Tractor scheme must complete the implementation of recommendations in the Campbell Tickell report on its governance.

FRESH PRODUCE STANDARDS CHANGES



- Fresh Produce standards reviewed and updated to strengthen and clarify standards, ensuring the UK industry keeps pace with international competitors and driving continuous improvement
 - Changes allow us to maintain benchmarks with GLOBALG.A.P and SAI Platform
 - New approach to GLOBALG.A.P allows members to “opt in” while keeping specific requirements separate from core standards



FRESH PRODUCE STANDARDS CHANGES



- **Grievance Mechanisms:** Measures to ensure workers can raise concerns
- **Health & Safety:** Requirements for a health and safety risk assessment and communication of emergency procedures to protect workers
- **IPM Training:** Those responsible for IPM plans must have appropriate training or advice
- **Application Records:** Requirements to document the application of substances not defined as PPPs (e.g. biostimulants) and biological controls

SAFE HAVEN – SEED POTATO SCHEME



- Developed with industry to control disease risk in seed
- Remains valued by growers and supply chain
- Standards content still relevant, opportunities to streamline assessment delivery