



## **Farm Assurance Schemes - Alignment with the CRRU UK Code of Best Practice beyond 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017**

Under transitional arrangements agreed between the Campaign for Responsible Rodenticide Use (CRRU) UK, all relevant stakeholder organisations and the Government Oversight Group<sup>1</sup> (chaired by the Health and Safety Executive), members of farm assurance schemes whose standards involve a systematic approach to rodent pest management, with documentation and regular independent audit procedures, were considered competent to purchase professional rodenticide products for application outdoors (see: <http://www.thinkwildlife.org/list-of-approved-farm-assurance-schemes/>). This temporary arrangement ends on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017.

The CRRU UK Best Practice Work Group has been working with farm assurance schemes which previously met the transitional requirements so that alignment may be maintained beyond the transitional period. To do this, the work group has established a set of 13 'key indicators' for alignment of assurance scheme standards with the CRRU UK Code of Best Practice on rodent pest management (available at: <http://www.thinkwildlife.org/stewardship-regime/>).

Farm assurance schemes listed below will introduce new standards that have been assessed by the work group and found to meet the 13 key indicators for alignment. CRRU UK has further received an assurance from the schemes listed that amended standards will be published, and therefore will be in force, before 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018. Consequently, members of the listed schemes will be considered to be competent professionals and membership documents, when presented at points of sale, will be regarded as 'certification' for the purchase of professional rodenticide products which carry labels with stewardship conditions under the requirements of the Biocidal Product Regulation (BPR, Regulation (EU) 528/2012).

CRRU UK is also working with other farm assurance schemes to bring their standards into line with the CRRU UK Code of Best Practice over the coming months. The list below will then be amended as necessary. CRRU UK also welcomes discussion with any farm assurance scheme that may wish to become aligned and, thereby, offer its membership as proof of competence for purchase of professional rodenticides.

Members of farm assurance schemes not listed below can have no certainty that their membership will provide proof of competence for purchase of professional rodenticides after the end of 2017. Alternatives for those whose schemes no longer provide proof of competence are one of the following: 1) possession of a certificate from an approved course of training (<http://www.thinkwildlife.org/list-of-training-and-certification/>), 2) employment of a certificated pest management professional and 3) purchase and use of amateur rodenticide products.

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<sup>1</sup> The Government Oversight Group comprises representatives of HSE, Defra, Public Health England, Natural England and the Devolved Administrations.

Farm Assurance Schemes expected to be compliant beyond 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017 are:

- Agricultural Industries Confederation/Trade Assurance Scheme for Combinable Crops (<https://www.aictradeassurance.org.uk>)
- Duck Assurance Scheme (Breeder Replacement, Breeder Layers, Hatcheries, Table Birds, Free-Range Table Birds) (<https://www.saiglobal.com/assurance/farm-assurance/DAS.htm>).
- Farm Assured Welsh Livestock (Beef and Lamb)( <http://www.fawl.co.uk/>).
- Laid in Britain (<http://www.laidinbritaineggs.co.uk/>).
- Red Tractor Farm Assurance (Beef and Lamb, Dairy, Combinable Crops and Sugar Beet, Fresh Produce, Pigs, Poultry) (<http://assurance.redtractor.org.uk/>).
- Quality British Turkey (<http://www.britishturkey.co.uk/about-us/quality.html>).
- Scottish Quality Crops (<http://www.sqcrops.co.uk/>).