LEAF Marque Standard v17.0 Draft

LEAF Marque Standard Public Consultation: 12 March - 10 May 2024

LEAF Marque is an environmental assurance system recognising more sustainably farmed products.

Control Point Key:

All Control Points are either Core, Advanced I or Advanced II. Compliance can be recorded as Not Applicable (N/A) where determined within the Standard if the business meets the situation(s) stated.

Verification icons are listed for each Control Point; these highlight the means of verification needed to evidence the Control Point and are described in the table below. Unless specified in the verification text, the verification icon(s) are optional and suggestions only.

The Control Point categories have changed from "Essential" and Recommended" to "Core" and "Advanced" in v17.0. This change to the Control Point categories aims to recognise that LEAF Marque producers might be at different stages in their Integrated Farm Management/sustainability journey, and to encourage continuous improvement.

Control Point Compliance	
Core	**Core** Control Point.
	All certified businesses must comply with these Control Points.
Advanced I	**Advanced I** Control Point.
	Compliance with these Control Points is optional for LEAF Marque certification.
	Advanced I Control Points are more rigorous than Core Control Points.
Advanced II	**Advanced II** Control Point.
	Compliance with these Control Points is optional for LEAF Marque certification.
	Advanced II Control Points are more rigorous than Advanced I Control Points.
N/A	**Not-Applicable** Control Point.
	Applies to situations as determined within the Standard.
New	**New** Control Point.
	Control Points which are new to the Standard.
Purple text	Purple text indicates changes from the previous version of the LEAF Marque Standard.
	**Observe**
	e.g. observation of activities, practices, and environment.
	**Record**
	e.g. a printed or electronic copy of a record or document.

Tiering Key:

The new Control Point categories correspond to the new LEAF Marque Tiers. There are two tiers: Core and Advanced.

- Core Tier: A business must meet all "Core" requirements to be in the Core Tier of LEAF Marque.
- Advanced Tier: A business must meet all "Advanced I" requirements to be in the Advanced Tier of LEAF Marque. "Advanced II" requirements are optional in the Advanced Tier.
- There will be one LEAF Marque logo to represent both tiers (the current LEAF Marque logo).

Control Point Type	Required for **LEAF Marque certification**	Required for **Core Tier**	Required for **Advanced Tier**
Core	Yes	Yes	Yes
Advanced I	No	No	Yes
Advanced II	No	No	Optional

v17.0 LEAF Marque Standard - Draft							
CP No.	**LEAF Marque Control Points**	***Notes on N/A eligibility**	**Verification**	**Control Point Compliance**	**Guidance (Note: guidance is in development)**	**Observe**	**Record**
Business Planning & Resilience							
Internal Documentation							
1.1	The LEAF Sustainable Farming Review has been completed.	-	a. Record of Completion of the LEAF Sustainable Farming Review within the last 11 months.	Core			
			b. The 'Farm Details' and 'Production Information' section of the 'LSFR' has been completed and is accurate. i. 'Production Information' includes all the business' products.				
		N/A if not part of a Producer Group	c. If part of a Producer Group, the LEAF Sustainable Farming Review is completed by the operator of the Quality Management System on behalf of all members in the LEAF Producer Group.				
1.2	The business is a fully certified member of a LEAF Marque-approved baseline certification system for each product requiring LEAF Marque certification.	-	a. The LEAF Marque Standard, Integrated Farm Management, and scope of the audit applies to the whole farm (all products, land and farming activities within the control of the farming business).	Core	Contact LEAF Marque if unsure.		
			b. Products which are to be LEAF Marque certified and eligible to use the LEAF Marque logo must be certified to a LEAF Marque approved-baseline certification.				
			c. Where products do not have a baseline certification, activities are not detrimental to the intended impacts of LEAF Marque, the farm and its surrounding environment.				
			d. Independently verified baseline certification systems must be approved by LEAF Marque.				
1.3	Compliance with all applicable national and local regulatory and legislative requirements.	-	a. The business is responsible for complying with all applicable national and local regulatory and legislative requirements within the scope of the LEAF Marque Standard.	Core			
1.4	There is an Integrated Farm Management Policy.	-	a.The Integrated Farm Management Policy states the business' commitments and aims relating to Integrated Farm Management (IFM).	Core	i. Evidence that relevant elements of the Policy have been communicated to relevant contractors, including graziers or any other person(s) with a short-term rental licence who have access to land • E.g., via copy letters, meeting minutes, or emails		
			b. Policy sets out the business' short-term (present to five years) and long-term (more than five years) objectives.				
			c. Policy shows commitment to continuous improvement.				
			d. Policy is relevant to all of the business' activities.				
			e. Policy is reviewed annually and, where appropriate, updated.				
			f. Policy is signed and understood by permanent members of staff.				
			g. Policy is communicated to all staff.				
			h. Policy is displayed for all staff.				
		N/A where the business does not work with contractors	i. Relevant elements of the IFM Policy have been communicated to contractors.				

CP No.	LEAF Marque Control Points	*Notes on N/A eligibility	Verification	Control Point Compliance	Guidance (Note: guidance is in development)	Observe	Record
1.5	The business provides regular internal awareness and training on IFM principles and practices for relevant staff.	-	a. Record of staff training and attendance. b. Record of discussion or improvements that have arisen from the training. c. Training is provided annually. d. Staff have an appropriate awareness of IFM.	Core	a-c. Internal training does not refer to IFM Training facilitated by LEAF. The business is not required to attend a LEAF facilitated training.		
		N/A where the business does not work with contractors	e. Contractors have an appropriate awareness of IFM and carry out works in accordance with LEAF Marque Standard. f. Staff and contractors have access to the LEAF Marque Standard.				
1.6	Where the business has overall management, or ownership, of tenanted or contracted land, there is an agreement that stipulates that contractors or tenants, must manage the land in a way that protects and enhances the environment.	N/A where no contractors used or land is rented out	a. There is correspondence and an agreement that indicates the business has taken measures to ensure that contractors and tenants will protect and enhance the environmental features of the land and manage the land sustainably.	Core	Note: Tenants who farm LEAF Marque-approved land, where the certificate is held by the landlord, cannot sell their produce as LEAF Marque, without being LEAF Marque certified themselves.		
1.7	There is a record of all received complaints and evidence of appropriate actions.	-	Records show: i. type of complaint(s) ii. date of complaint(s) iii. observations as to how complaint has arisen iv. actions taken to resolve complaint(s)	Core			
			Management				
1.8	Resource use and waste management are considered when purchasing, designing, or refurbishing buildings and/or equipment.	N/A where no buildings and equipment purchased, designed, or refurbished in the past 12 months and/or future plans	a. During purchase, design, or refurbishment of building(s) and/or equipment in the past 12 months or future plans, consideration has been given to: i. renewable energy generation ii. ways to improve energy efficiency iii. ways to recover or recycle water iv. reducing potential GHG emissions v. opportunities to enhance utilisation of available CO2 and water, and natural sources of light and heat	Core	b. Justification can be stated in the IFM policy.		
			b. Purchase and design decisions are justified to demonstrate how they improve resource use efficiency (including energy, water, and waste management).				
1.9	All equipment is appropriately maintained and calibrated.	-	a. Records demonstrate that equipment is appropriately maintained and calibrated for safe use.	Core			

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			Resilience				
1.10	Risk Assessments are conducted to identify business and environmental risks.	-	a. **Health and Safety:** Risk assessment covers the whole business. i. Risk assessment is updated annually. ii. Risks are communicated to all staff and contractors. iii. Staff understand the importance of reducing risk in day-to-day operations.	**Core**	b. Definition of extreme weather events: The occurrence of unexpected, intense, and increasingly persistent weather events (e.g., flooding, drought, etc.) as a result of climate change. b. Extreme weather events can include extreme heat, extreme cold, extreme rainfall, wildfire, flooding, drought, etc. bii/iii. Example impacts: destroying crops, soil erosion/runoff, etc. biv. Severity of negative impacts: Indicate no/low/medium/high impact on finances, crop, livestock, margins, habitats, etc. Recovery refers to economic, environmental/physical recovery. cii. Example of potential pollutants: fuel tanks, chemicals/fertiliser store, manure, gas outlets, chimneys. cvi. Examples of pollution incidents: chemical spillages, gas leaks, noise complaints. dii. Strategies can be defined within the risk assessment or relevant management plan. diii. Measures can be defined within the risk assessment or relevant management plan. Examples: • Enterprise diversification: Agriculture production and non-agriculture enterprises (e.g., agrotourism) • Reduced dependence on external inputs		
			b. **Climate:** Risk assessment identifies locally relevant extreme weather events and their potential impact on the business. i. Risk assessment is reviewed annually and updated where appropriate. ii. The business defines strategies for responding to high-risk impacts of extreme weather events. iii. The business identifies measures to withstand and reduce the negative impacts of extreme weather events. iv. The business records information about extreme weather events that occurred in the last 12 months, including: • Type of event(s). • Severity of negative impacts of event. • Number of days to recover from the event.				
			c. **Pollution:** Risk assessment identifies actions to avoid the impact of pollution to the environment. i. Risk assessment is reviewed annually and updated where appropriate. ii. All types of pollution and their sources are recorded, including air pollution, light, noise, soil, surface and ground water pollutants. iii. Potential pollutants are recorded on a map. iv. The identified pollution risk is assessed against likelihood and severity. v. Variation in pollution risk over time is recorded. vi. Pollution incidents or near-misses are recorded.				
			d. **Financial:** Risk assessment identifies economic risks within the business, including risks related to factors such as: • Enterprises (type and number) • Number of staff • Debt • Costs (labour, inputs, rent, energy, etc.) • Profit margins • Diversity of market opportunities • consideration of external economic factors that impact the business • Availability of external funding (subsidies, grants, projects, etc.) i. Risk assessment is reviewed annually and updated where appropriate. ii. The business defines strategies to reduce high-risk financial impacts. iii. The business identifies measures to improve its economic opportunities.	**Advanced I**			

CP No.	LEAF Marque Control Points	*Notes on N/A eligibility	Verification	Control Point Compliance	Guidance (Note: guidance is in development)	Observe	Record
Soil & Substrate Management							
Internal Documentation							
2.1.1	There is a Soil Management Plan.	N/A where businesses do not grow in soil	a. The Soil Management Plan includes: i. different soil types and their condition. ii. strategies to reduce compaction, slumping, poaching, erosion, runoff, or leaching. iii. strategies to reduce risks to soil health. iv.strategies to improve carbon capture and carbon sequestration. v. targets to improve and maintain biological, physical, and chemical attributes of soil health. vi. measures to build up soil organic matter, where climatic and soil characteristics allow.	Core			
			b. The plan is reviewed annually and updated to record progress towards all targets.				
			c. The plan is available and communicated to relevant staff and contractors.				
2.1.2	There is a Substrate Management Plan.	N/A where businesses do not grow in substrate	a. The Substrate Management Plan includes: i. reference to choice, utilisation, management, and disposal of substrate.	Core			
			b. If growing in neither soil nor substrate, reference measures taken to optimise management of the root-zone environment.				
			c. The plan is reviewed annually and updated to record progress towards all targets.				
			d. The plan is available and communicated to relevant staff and contractors.				
2.1.3	There is a descriptive soil map.	N/A where businesses do not grow in soil	a. The soil map identifies: i. different soil types and their condition. ii. areas prone to compaction, slumping, poaching, erosion, runoff, or leaching.	Core			
			b. The map is reviewed annually and updated.				
2.2	There is an Integrated Nutrient Management Plan.	-	a. An Integrated Nutrient Management Plan includes: i. calculation of likely crop requirements based on regular soil testing including pH testing. ii. calculation of nutrient content in animal returns and manure or slurry applications. iii. reference to nitrogen (N), phosphorus (P), potassium (K), and sulfur (S) applications as well as other nutrients. iv. accounting for available nutrients in soil, manures, composts and crop residues v. accounting for trace element deficiencies in the soil (e.g., records of visible crop symptoms). vi. Measures to reduce nitrous oxide emissions from synthetic nitrogen applications, where possible.	Core			
			b. The plan shows effective use of nutrients and enhancing overall efficiency (e.g., optimal use of inputs).				
			c. The plan references and justifies the use of nutrient inputs.				
			d. There are strategies to source nutrient inputs from more sustainable alternatives or reduction where possible (i.e., inorganic inputs and using other substitutes).				

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			e. The plan is reviewed annually and updated recording achievements and progress towards all targets.				
			Soil Management				
2.3	Soil health is measured at least annually.	N/A where businesses do not grow in soil	a. Soil health is measured by monitoring the physical, biological or chemical characteristics of the soil. i. Business identifies and implements an appropriate sampling strategy. ii. The business must justify the measurement they choose. b. Measurements are taken and recorded annually. c. Results are used to inform strategies within the Soil Management Plan (see Control Point 2.1.1).	Core	a. Testing soil health in the field may include tests such as: • Earthworm counts • Infiltration test • Slake test (soil structure) • Teabag index • Visual evaluation of soil structure (VESS) • Solvita test (used widely in Europe, North America, Korea, Australia, and South Africa) • Drop shatter test • EDNA test		
2.4	Measures are taken to conserve and build up soil organic matter, where climatic and soil characteristics allow.	N/A where businesses do not grow in soil	a. Measures include incorporation of crop residues and efficient use of other organic materials, where available and appropriate. b. Measures are taken to capture and retain soil organic carbon. c. Where climatic and soil characteristics impact the build up of soil organic matter, the producer must justify.	Core			
2.5	Control measures are implemented to minimise the loss of nutrients when applying organic matter.	N/A if manure or organic matter not applied	a. Records of storage, nutrient application dates and cultivation practices appropriate to cropping plan.	Core			
2.6	Measures are taken to avoid soil degradation.	N/A where businesses do not grow in soil	a. Measures include incorporation of cover crops and reducing tillage, where available and appropriate. b. Measures are taken to reduce compaction, slumping, poaching, erosion, runoff, or leaching. c. Ensure the timing, field conditions, equipment and soil management techniques are appropriate. d. The business is able to explain how soil management operations are planned and carried out. e. The business is able to justify and demonstrate that field operations (and where appropriate, grazing) have minimum environmental impact. f. Records of cultivations and field operations are used to inform the assessment of risk. g. There is no significant visual evidence of soil degradation such as compaction, slumping, poaching, erosion, runoff, or leaching.	Core			

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2.7	Measures are taken to avoid soil salinisation.	N/A where businesses do not grow in soil	a. Measures are taken to avoid excessive salt penetration. b. Measures are taken to optimise irrigation (see guidance).	Core	b. Optimising irrigation includes: • Reduce salty water usage. • Implement drip irrigation. • Use desalinated, recycled, or rain-harvested water. • Implement mulch, cover crops, and organic matter, where available and appropriate. • Do not over-irrigate.		
			Substrate Management				
2.8	Peat-free growing medium is considered by the business.	N/A where the business does not use peat	a. Based on national and local regulations, the use of peat-free compost must be considered as a growing media for plants. b. Evidence of sustainably sourced alternative growing media are used (see guidance for examples). c. Evidence to show regulations are adhered to. d. Re-use of growing media is considered. e. Non-organic growing medium must be collected pending appropriate disposal through a registered waste contractor and recorded. f. Where peat is used as a growing medium, the business must justify and include: i. measures to reduce reliance on peat-based substrate. ii. reduction targets, appropriate and realistic to the business. iii. sourcing substrate materials from suppliers that encourage sustainably managed resources (e.g., suppliers certified to Responsibly Produced Peat Scheme (RPP)).	Advanced I	b. Alternative growing media could include: (examples)		
			Resource Management and Training				
2.9	Recommendations for application of fertilisers (organic or inorganic) are given by competent, qualified persons.	N/A where business does not apply fertilisers	a. Evidence of qualifications for competent, qualified person(s). b. Evidence to show professional development of competent, qualified person(s) (i.e., training records of adviser or staff). c. The recommended minimum amount of training or professional development is four hours per year.	Core			
2.10	Organic and inorganic fertiliser applications are recorded.	N/A where business does not apply fertilisers	a. Field records and fertigation records that show evidence that all nutrient applications have been applied at the correct rate and time, and placed accurately. b. Records align with the to strategies within the Nutrient Management Plan (see 2.2), and if applicable, the Manure Management Plan (see 4.2). c. Operator records referring to field applications.	Core			
2.11	Operators/contractors are trained in accurate techniques of nutrient application.	N/A where business does not apply nutrients or manure	a. Operator/contractor training records including reference to the appropriate understanding and awareness of protected and/or high conservation value areas on the farm and risks associated with nutrient losses through runoff. b. Operator/contractor training records include any internal training and experience. c. Operator/contractor training records include nutrient mixing for fertigation systems.	Core			

CP No.	LEAF Marque Control Points	*Notes on N/A eligibility	Verification	Control Point Compliance	Guidance (Note: guidance is in development)	Observe	Record
Plant Health & Protection							
Internal Documentation							
3.1	There is a Plant Health and Protection Management Plan.	-	a. Plant Health and Protection Management Plan includes Integrated Pest Management principles (IPM): i. Agronomic practices such as crop rotation, resistant varieties, undersowing, intercropping, etc. ii. Decision support including monitoring and forecasting. iii. Biological control, such as using beneficial organisms to suppress pest populations. iv. Chemical control where necessary including: o strategies to reduce synthetic chemical use. o selection and justification of Plant Protection Product (PPP) use to reduce any negative effects on beneficial species. o appropriate dose rates and timings. o resistance management strategies (see 3.8.e).	**Core**			
			b. Actions need to be appropiate to crops grown and companion plants, including monitoring and recording of pests, weeds and diseases.				
			c. The plan is reviewed annually and updated to record progress towards all targets.				
3.2	There is a long-term cropping plan.	N/A in some circumstances where there are perennial crops such as orchard and long-term protected crops and permanent pasture	a. The plan identifies cropping cycles, including intentions for the future (over at least three years).	**Core**			
			b. The rotation/cycle is sustainable and appropriate to the farm business, considering the soil, plants, livestock (where applicable) and climate.				
			c. The cropping plan references nutrient availability, effective use of nutrients and pest and weed pressures in cropping choice and rotation decisions.				
			d. Cropping plan is reviewed annually and, where appropriate, updated.				
			e. The business considers how the cropping plan can contribute to strategies in the Energy and GHG Emissions Management Plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	**Advanced I**			

CP No.	LEAF Marque Control Points	*Notes on N/A eligibility	Verification	Control Point Compliance	Guidance (Note: guidance is in development)	Observe	Record
3.3	There is a documented and displayed Pollution Emergency Procedure.	-	a. The Pollution Emergency Procedure identifies measures for dealing with spillages damaging to the environment, people and animals. Including: i. contact details for all staff and authorities. ii. the notification process to alert relevant staff and authorities. iii. a logical sequence to be followed based on the nature of the spillage. iv. what immediate action should be taken. v. relevant equipment (equipment is appropriate, available, and easy to find).	**Core**			
			b. Staff are aware of the existence of the procedure and can easily understand it.				
			c. The procedure is reviewed annually and contact details updated where appropriate.				
			Integrated Pest Management (IPM)				
3.4	The business considers the environmental impact of all plant protection practices.	-	a. Identified environmental impacts are used to inform and provide justification for management decisions of all plant protection practices, including PPP, mechanical and cultural practices.	**Core**			
			b. Strategies to minimise environmental impact are recorded at the planning stage prior to the growing season.				
			c. Measures and actions to mitigate environmental impact are recorded.	**Advanced I**			
3.5	Pests, diseases, weeds and beneficial organisms are monitored and recorded.	-	a. There are records of regular monitoring.	**Core**	Pests include vertebrates and invertebrates.		
			b. Monitoring is completed by an agronomist, a trained member of staff or by technology, if available.				
			c. Records reference: i. the use of pest, disease and weed thresholds (where appropiate) ii. local weather conditions				
			d. Monitoring outcomes are used to decide when to apply PPP.				
3.6	Steps are taken to minimise negative impacts to beneficial and non-target species.	-	a. Records state the steps taken to minimise negative impact to beneficial and non-target species, including pollinators.	**Core**			
			b. Evidence could include: i. the use of selective PPP ii. evidence of predators iii. buffer zones				
3.7	There is a record to justify the use of all plant protection practices.	-	a. Plant protection operation records include justification of the products and practices used.	**Core**			
			b. Records justify any deviations from the practice and the reason for the deviation.				
			c. Decision support systems and advice tools are used.	**Advanced I**			
			d. Other precision farming techniques are implemented where appropriate.				

CP No.	LEAF Marque Control Points	*Notes on N/A eligibility	Verification	Control Point Compliance	Guidance (Note: guidance is in development)	Observe	Record
			Plant Protection Products (PPP)				
3.8	The PPP application rate is appropiate, justified and recorded.	N/A where PPP are not applied	a. PPP application rate and timing comply with the legal requirements and PPP label instructions.	**Core**	See glossary for definition of Plant Protection Products (PPP). e. Resources for info in resistance: IRAC (Insecticide Resistance Action Committee), FRAC (Fungicide Resistance Action Committee) and HRAC (Herbicide Resistance Action Committee).		
			b. Growth stages, infestation levels and PPP type are considered to justify the appropriate rate of PPP application.				
			c. Monitoring, recommendation, and spray records show evidence of appropriate dose rates and that resistance strategies have been implemented.				
			e. Resistance strategies exist for each respective PPP's used against weeds, diseases and pests and must include: i. use of thresholds. ii. utilising different modes of action application. iii. minimising use of herbicides, fungicides, insecticides, molluscicides, and plant growth regulators.				
			d. The use of modifying agents enabling reduced rates and low volume spraying on crops complies with local and national regulations.	**Advanced I**			
3.9	PPP recommendations and applications are made by competent and qualified persons.	N/A where no PPPs are used	a. PPP recommendations are made by competent and qualified persons.	**Core**	See glossary for definition of competent and qualified person.		
			b. Operators/contractors are trained in the use of PPPs and participate in continuous professional development.				
			c. There must be evidence of qualifications or certificate for competent and qualified person(s).				
			d. There must be evidence to show professional development of competent and qualified person(s).	**Advanced I**			
3.10	PPP applications are recorded.	N/A where PPPs are not applied	a. Records meet appropriate baseline certification system requirements.	**Core**			
			b. Records include soil conditions, where appropriate.				
			c. All operators (including contractors) within the spray team are recorded.				
3.11	There is a documented procedure to ensure harvest intervals are	N/A where PPPs are not applied	a. Procedures identify first permissible harvest time and date after plant protection product (PPP) application.	**Core**			
			b. Procedures are adhered to.				

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			Safety Requirements for PPP Application				
3.12	Precautions are taken to ensure PPP use is limited to the application area.	N/A where PPPs are not applied	a. Precautions are taken by staff/contractors to limit PPP application to the area in which it is required and avoid spray drift. This may include methods, such as: i. planning ii. precision farming techniques iii. accurate applications iv. correct spraying conditions v. low drift techniques vi. choice of sprayer vii. choice of spray nozzle viii. buffer strips or unsprayed strips b. The size of buffer zones are justified though local best practice guidance, legislation, and product label requirements.	**Core**			
3.13	Protection measures are in place where PPP are mixed to prevent spillage or pollution to waterbodies and the local environment.	N/A where PPPs are not applied	a. PPP mixing and handling areas avoid: i. gateways, ii. locations near ditches, dikes and aquaducts, iii. permeable ground in groundwater b. Portable drip trays or bunds are used.	**Core**			
3.14	PPP application equipment are appropriately maintained and calibrated.	N/A where PPPs are not applied	a. PPP application equipment have test certificates from a nationally-recognised scheme where a national scheme is available b. Where there is no national scheme, there are records of routine maintenance and calibration.	**Core**			
3.15	PPP are stored and disposed of securely to protect the environment and people.	N/A where business does not store PPPs	a. PPP are stored and disposed of in accordance with national regulations and guidance. b. PPP containers are disposed of in accordance with national regulations when appropriate	**Core**			
3.16	Only PPP with approval are used and stored.	N/A where business does not store PPPs	a. Stores, stock rotation and records show all PPPs that are used have been approved according to national regulation. b. Some countries may require the business to use Extrapolated Usage from another country. The PPP itself must already have another legal use in the country in which it is used. Full justification for any extrapolation is present, in line with baseline requirements.	**Core**			
3.17.1	Adequate precautions are taken to protect neighbouring businesses and the public from agrochemical use.	N/A where agrochemicals are not used	a. The set-up and operation of application equipment is accurate. b. There is a no-spray buffer strip when spraying next to neighbouring properties (see 3.12) and public access areas.	**Core**			

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3.17.2	Actions are taken to inform neighbouring businesses and the public of agrochemical application activities.	N/A where agrochemicals are not used	a. When areas are sprayed adjacent to business and residential properties or public access areas, the business informs these properties and the public of when agrochemical application will take place	Advanced I			
Waste & By-Product Management							
Internal Documentation							
4.1.1	There is a Waste and By-Product Assessment.	-	a. The assessment records: i. all sources of waste/by-products (eg. polytunnel operations, crop harvesting, processing, livestock raising) ii. all types of waste/by-products (e.g., plastic, crop waste, chemical, animal waste, cardboard, food waste) iii. the quantity of waste and by-products produced per year (e.g. tonnes) iv. how waste and by-products are reused, reduced or recycled v. how waste is disposed of and where	Core			
			b. The Assessment is reviewed annually and updated to record progress towards all targets.				
4.1.2	There is a Waste and By-Product Management Plan.	-	a. The Plan is based on 4.1.a. and includes targets and actions set to: i. reduce and avoid waste ii. reuse waste/byproducts iii. recycle iv. responsibly dispose of waste where it cannot be used v. reduce dependency on non-recyclable, single use materials vi. use alternative materials (e.g., biodegradable or compostable plastics) vii. implement closed-loop or circular approaches (e.g., send packaging back to manufacturer/supplier for reuse)	Advanced I			
			b. The business must provide justification where waste and by-products cannot be reused, reduced, or recycled.				
			c. The plan is reviewed and updated annually recording achievements and progress towards all targets.				
4.2	There is a Waste and By-Product Application Plan.	N/A if organic material is not used	a. The Plan includes reference to: i. Waste or by-product materials applied to the land, such as: • slurry • manure • compost • anaerobic digestate • industrial waste (treated sewage) ii. Records of field application date and application rate. iii. Strategies to minimise emissions when applying and storing slurry	Core	Application Plan can be incorporated into the Management Plan.		
			b. The plan is reviewed and updated annually recording achievements and progress against targets.				
			c. Records demonstrate that land spreading of industrial waste is registered with the relevant environmental agency or authority.				

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			Source and Storage				
4.3	Fixed fuel tanks are bunded and maintained to prevent potential spillages.	N/A where a business does not store fuel	a. Reduce the pollution risk of fuel to the environment by ensuring: i. Fuel tanks that store more than 200 litres are bunded ii. Underground tanks are pressure tested every five years iii. Fuel oils are stored in either a fuel storage tank or within a bunded storage area iv. Bunded storage areas are impermeable and more than 10-metres away from high-risk contamination areas, such as open drains and ditches. b. Chemical stores are secure and well maintained.	Core			
4.4	Equipment and machinery for applying slurry is maintained and calibrated.	N/A where slurry is not applied	There is evidence to demonstrate that farm machinery and equipment (including owned and contracted equipment) for applying slurry is maintained and calibrated to prevent pollution to the environment.	Core			
4.5	There are maps of all drainage routes on farm.	-	Maps must show: i. drainage and outfalls ii. the maps are updated annually iii. These areas are considered in the pollution risk assessment	Core			
			Management and Disposal				
4.6	Waste or by-products are utilised.	-	Measures are taken to reuse or repurpose waste and by-products to prevent unecessary disposal, where possible.	Advanced I	For example: improving soil organic matter, energy generation, slurry for straw trading, wool for mulches or insulation.		
4.7.1	Food waste produced on-farm is managed.	-	a. Risk areas for high production of food waste are identified. b. There are strategies to reduce on-farm food waste, including: i. prevent high-production of food waste ii. options for reusing food waste iii. food donation options c. A justification is provided where only low risks of food waste are identified.	Core	• Defining food waste: "Food waste" may also be referred to as "food surplus and waste" or "food loss and waste". Whilst not identical, these terms are quite similar. They all refer to food that was intended directly for human consumption but which, for one reason or another, was diverted and ended up in one of several specific alternative destinations. o Note: non-food crops (including crops grown specifically for animal feed) are excluded from the definition of food waste. • Internationally, the Food Loss & Waste Standard provides a full set of definitions. • In the UK it is best to refer to the UK Food Waste Reduction Roadmap. b. Strategies and targets can be documented in the		

CP No.	LEAF Marque Control Points	*Notes on N/A eligibility	Verification	Control Point Compliance	Guidance (Note: guidance is in development)	Observe	Record
4.7.2	Food waste produced on-farm is measured.	-	a. There are records measuring food waste produced on-farm annually, where appropriate.	Advanced II			
4.8	There is no burning or incineration of waste unless justified by the business.	-	The business does not burn or incinerate waste. i. Where waste is burned or incinerated, there must be a justification and it must be done legally.	Core			
4.9	Waste is disposed of responsibly and as a last resort after all other options to reuse or recycle are exhausted.	-	a. Waste to landfill or other local system is sorted, handled and stored efficiently. b. The business must justify why waste and by-products cannot be reused, reduced, or recycled.	Core			
			Energy & GHG Emissions				
			Internal Documentation				
5.1.1	There is an internal Energy Assessment.	-	a. Assessment is completed annually. b. Assessment records and identifies: i. All sources of energy used (e.g., electricity, fuel) ii. A measurement for each major energy use (e.g., drying, heating, livestock housing, field operations). iii. The most significant use(s) of energy in the business. iv. All renewable and non-renewable energy sources. v. Proportion of purchased energy used. vi. Relevant financial figures related to energy management are recorded, (e.g., energy savings or investments).	Core			
5.1.2	There is an Energy and Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Management Plan.	-	a. Energy and GHG Emissions Management Plan is based on: i. the internal Energy Assessment (see 5.1.1) ii. monitoring of reneweable and non-renewable energy consumption (see 5.2) iii. GHG emission records (see 5.3) b. Energy and GHG Emissions Management Plan includes reference to and targets around: i. enhancing energy use efficiency ii. minimising energy consumption iii. reducing dependency on non-renewable energy sources iv. increasing use of renewable energy sources v. reducing energy-related GHG emissions c. Plan is reviewed annually and updated to record progress towards all targets.	Core	Focus is on: • Improving energy efficiency • Reducing energy consumption • Reducing non-renewable energy use • Transitioning to/increasing renewable energy sources • Reducing energy-related emissions (burning of fossil fuels like coal, natural gas, and oil for electricity generation and heating, fuel used on-farm etc.)		
5.2	Non-renewable and renewable energy consumption is monitored.	-	a. Energy consumption is recorded quarterly. b. All renewable and non-renewable energy sources identified in the Energy Assessment (see 5.1.1.b) are measured. c. The most significant uses of energy identified in the Energy Assessment (see 5.1.1.b) are measured. d. Energy use is measured per unit of output or other relevant metric (kWh per tonne/head/hectare).	Core	Focus is on: • Differentiating between renewable and non-renewable energy monitoring. • Monitoring non-renewable energy sources (in order to reduce dependency).		

CP No.	LEAF Marque Control Points	*Notes on N/A eligibility	Verification	Control Point Compliance	Guidance (Note: guidance is in development)	Observe	Record
			Greenhouse Gas Emissions				
5.3	On farm Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions are recorded.	-	a. There is an annual record of GHG emissions: i. reference to energy consumption records (see 5.1 and 5.2) ii. reference to indirect emissions from the consumption of purchased energy, where possible iii. reference to emissions from livestock and their feed, where applicable iv. reference to emissions from fertiliser application	**Core**	Focus is on: • Recording all GHG emissions including energy-related emissions. • Main GHG emissions include carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide.		
5.4	A carbon footprinting tool is used.	-	a. Carbon footprint of the business is calculated annually. b. Selection of the carbon footprinting tool is justified. c. Results from carbon footprinting are used to establish a baseline for year-on year comparison of emissions measurements. d. Carbon footprint calculations are used to inform GHG emission reduction strategies. e. Footprinting must include direct emissions controlled by the farm (Scope 1): i. tractors ii. farm machinery iii. change of land use iv. methane emissions from livestock, where applicable v. leaks from refrigeration vi. sequestration off-setting potential from environmental features (e.g., waterbodies, peat, and trees, etc.)	**Advanced I**	d. Strategies include: the GHG emssions reduction and carbon sequestration strategies required in Soil, Nutrient, Energy and Landscape & Biodiversity Management Plans and cropping plan.		
		N/A where it is not possible for the business to include Scope 2 emissions in the carbon footprint	f. Where possible, footprinting includes indirect emissions associated with purchased energy (Scope 2): i. Electricity use for buildings and facilities ii. Heating and cooling energy iii. Off-site energy generation emissions iv. Renewable energy v. Emission factors for farm energy sources vi. Utility bills and consumption data validation vii. Justification is provided where it is not possible for a business to include Scope 2 emissions in the carbon footprint.	**Advanced II**			

CP No.	LEAF Marque Control Points	*Notes on N/A eligibility	Verification	Control Point Compliance	Guidance (Note: guidance is in development)	Observe	Record
Water Management							
Internal Documentation							
6.1	There is a Water Management Plan.	-	a. The Water Management Plan includes: i. Water sources used, and quantity of water from each source is justified by the business. ii. An average of daily water use and water needed is calculated. iii. Irrigation schedule. iv. Water harvesting plan. v. Water use efficiency and water quality targets. vi. Actions in place to optimise water use efficiency and improve quality. vii. Description of the water challenges in the catchment. viii. Information about the business' participation in collaboration/collective action in the catchment to address water challenges, where applicable. b. The Plan is reviewed annually and updated to record progress towards all targets. c. There is a flood and drought action plan.	**Core**			
6.2	There is a descriptive water map.	-	a. The water map identifies: i. Water sources (e.g., surface water). ii. Stored water. iii. Flood risk areas.	**Core**			
Source and Storage							
6.3	Water sources used are justified by the business.	-	a. All sources of water used are detailed and justified. b. Proportion of water used from each source is stated (e.g., matrix of available sources and sources chosen for use).	**Core**	a. Sources of water may include: • Mains or municipal water • Ground water • Surface water (lake/river/wetland/streams/ponds/canals) • Harvested water • Stored surface water • Recycled process/wastewater • Desalinised water • Precipitation (harvested water) • Non-renewable resources (fossil water)		
6.4	Water is harvested and reused.	-	a. Water is harvested, where appropriate. b. Water is reused, where appropriate.	**Advanced I**	a. For example, harvesting via: • Buildings • Garages • Greenhouses • Waterbutts, or tanks		

CP No.	LEAF Marque Control Points	*Notes on N/A eligibility	Verification	Control Point Compliance	Guidance (Note: guidance is in development)	Observe	Record
6.5	Water is stored securely in appropriate storage facilities.	-	a. Water is stored securely for access during water scarcity. b. Storage facilities and pipes are frequently maintained to prevent unessesary water loss or contamination	Core	c. Stored water may include: • Reservoirs • Tanks • Waterbutts • Troughs • Ditches and ponds • Cisterns and rain barrels		
			c. Stored water must provide at least 48h of average water needs (should supply be cut off or limited)	Advanced I			
6.6	Measures are taken to mitigate flooding risks and impacts.	-	a. Flood risk areas are identified on the map.	Core			
			b. Measures are implemented to reduce flood risks.	Advanced I			
			Water Usage				
6.7	Water irrigation efficiency is measured and analysed to plan improvements.	N/A when no irrigation is carried out	a. Efficiency of water irrigation is analysed and documented annually: i. Analysis identifies and records actions to improve water irrigation efficiency ii. Efficiencies are measured using practical, accurate and repeatable methods iii. If irrigation measurement is not practical it must be justified by the business	Core			
			b. Any changes to water irrigation practices are justified.				
6.8	Water outlets are monitored to prevent or reduce water loss.	-	Water outlets (e.g., taps, hoses, basins, over and underground pipes) are monitored for leaks and drips, and repaired accordingly.	Core			
6.9	Quantity of water used across the business is monitored to improve efficiency.	-	a. Quantity of water used across the business is monitored and recorded to inform strategies to improve water use efficiency.	Advanced I			
			Quality Monitoring				
6.10	The quality of water on the farm is monitored.	N/A where there is no surface water and natural waterbodies	a. Water quality on farm is monitored using one or more of the following: i. biological health (e.g., freshwater invertebrates, mammals) ii. physical health (e.g., turbidity, flow, clarity) iii. chemical health (e.g., ammonia, nitrate, phosphorus, pH, compounds)	Core	Note: Focus is on monitoring of natural surface water and water ways with a consideration of potential adverse impacts. This is different from food safety and irrigation water which is covered under baseline systems where appropriate.		
			b. The business identifies and implements a reliable and repeatable sampling strategy.				
			c. Measurements are taken throughout the year or continuously.				
6.11	Actions are taken to actively improve and protect water quality and the health of water bodies on and adjacent to the farm.	-	a. Measures are in place to ensure water discharged into the environment from the farm system is healthy/safe (see CP in soil and waste for actions).	Core			
			b. Buffer zones of vegetation (e.g., trees, scrub, grasses) are grown 5-10m from rivers, streams and other water courses to minimise water pollution.	Advanced I			
			c. Water is captured and filtered before being discharged if necessary.				

CP No.	LEAF Marque Control Points	*Notes on N/A eligibility	Verification	Control Point Compliance	Guidance (Note: guidance is in development)	Observe	Record
Landscape and Biodiversity							
Internal Documentation							
7.1.1	There is an internal Landscape and Biodiversity assessment. E	-	a. The assessment must be: i. Completed by the business or a specialist advisor (see guidance column) ii. Reviewed by the business annually iii. Reviewed by a specialist advisor in the first year and every 5 years after b. The assessment includes reference to the following key environmental features, where applicable: i. linear features ii. protected and high conservation value areas iii. uncropped or unused land managed for the benefit of flora and fauna iv. areas that are grazed v. semi-natural habitats vi. fire breaks that help protect crops and habitats vii. lakes, ponds, and watercourses viii. traditional buildings ix. archaeological or historical sites x. identifies any important species recorded in the area including: o rare, threatened, and endangered species o invasive species xi. other land on which important species are found xii. wildlife c. The assessment includes detailed notes on how farming operations could damage, or have detrimental effects, on the features identified above.	**Core**	bi. linear features may include, for example, boundaries, fence lines, verges, field margins, walls, hedges, ditches bv. Semi natural habitats may include, for example, wetlands, shrubland/scrubland, species-rich grassland, moorland, lowland health, carbon sinks, etc.		
7.1.2	There is a Landscape and Biodiversity map.	-	The map includes the key environmental features listed in 7.1.1.b , where applicable.	**Core**	Google Maps can be used to generate map.		

CP No.	LEAF Marque Control Points	*Notes on N/A eligibility	Verification	Control Point Compliance	Guidance (Note: guidance is in development)	Observe	Record
7.1.3	There is a Landscape and Biodiversity Plan.	-	a. Plan is reviewed annually by the business and, where appropriate, updated to record progress towards targets. b. Plan is reviewed every five years by a specialist advisor (see guidance column). c. Plan is communicated to all relevant staff. d. The Plan is an integral part of the farming system. • Agronomic, crop protection and livestock management practices take account of the Plan. e. The Plan is based on: i. the whole farm including any land rented for more than three years ii. the internal assessment (see 7.1.1) f. The Plan must include: i. All key features identified in the Assessment / Map ii. Actions to conserve and enhance biodiversity, habitats and landscapes on-farm iii. Opportunities to create additional habitat over time, where applicable and possible iv. Reference to the protection and maintenance of archaeological or historical sites on-farm, where applicable v. Strategies to provide habitat and food for protected species (see 7.14) vi. Strategies to provide seasonal food (nectar and pollen), shelter and foraging sites for bees and pollinators vii. Reference to local or national Biodiversity Action Plan (BAPs), where applicable viii. Strategies to improve carbon sequestration on-farm, where possible ix. Short term (18 months) and long term (at least 5 years) targets x. A list of key species on-farm o 4 key species are identified as a focus (one of the key species must be a pollinator) xi. Where applicable, a description of appropriate and legal management of wildlife. xii. Where applicable, a description of appropriate and legal management of invasive species.	Core			
7.2	Staff are involved in planning and implementing improvement to habitats and landscape features.	-	a. Records to show staff engagement with planning or improvements to habitat and landscape. b. Improvements align to strategies stated in the Landscape and Biodiversity Plan (see 7.1.3).	Advanced I	a. Records may include, for example, meeting notes, attendance register, photographs.		
7.3.1	Where land is rented for less than three years, information is sought about landlord's landscape and biodiversity management practices.	N/A where there is no land rented for less than three years	The business seeks at least one of the following pieces of information: i. Documentation from the landlord regarding engagement with LEAF (e.g., Record of Completion of the LEAF Sustainable Farming Review or LEAF Marque certificate) ii. OR Environmental management plans or assessments of the land that is rented (e.g., conservation plan, Landscape and Biodiversity Audit) iii. OR Correspondence with landlord showing requests for information	Core			

CP No.	LEAF Marque Control Points	*Notes on N/A eligibility	Verification	Control Point Compliance	Guidance (Note: guidance is in development)	Observe	Record
7.3.2	Where land is rented, the business collaborates with the landlord to enhance habitats and biodiversity on farm.	N/A where the business does not rent land N/A where the landlord does not have objectives to enhance habitats and biodiversity	Where the landlord has objectives in place to enhance habitats and biodiversity, the business takes measures to support landlord's objectives during the tenancy period.	Advanced II			
			Landscape				
7.4	Protected and High Conservation Value areas are managed appropriately.	-	a. Protected and high conservation value areas are managed to protect wildlife and water quality.	Core	High conservation value areas may include, for example, such as forests, ponds, streams, rivers, margins, hedges, ditches, etc.		
			b. Management practices are targeted to benefit species and habitats identified in the Landscape and Biodiversity Assessment (see 7.1.1).				
		N/A where there are no livestock	c. Strategies align with livestock management practices, where relevant.				

CP No.	LEAF Marque Control Points	*Notes on N/A eligibility	Verification	Control Point Compliance	Guidance (Note: guidance is in development)	Observe	Record
7.5	There is no damage or destruction of national/local areas of archaeological or historical interest.	N/A where there are no ancient monuments and areas of archaeological or historical interest	a. Measures are taken to avoid damage or destruction caused by sub-soiling, unauthorised excavation, land reclamation, levelling, tipping/in-filling, woodland clearance, tree-planting, excessive damage by livestock etc.	Core			
		N/A where no damage or destruction has occurred to ancient monuments and areas of archaeological or historical interest	b. Where damage or destruction has occurred, records must be kept to identify how it was casued, type of damage and date of occurrence.				
7.6.1	Conversion of natural forests and ecosystems is avoided.	-	a. The business must comply with all local and national regulations regarding conversion of natural forests and ecosystems.	Core			
			b. Natural forests and ecosystems have not been converted into agricultural use since 1st January 2020, nor does the business have any plans to do so.				
			c. Protected areas have not been converted to solely agricultural use by the business since their designation as a protected area, nor does the business have any plans to do so.				
7.6.2	Where conversion of natural ecosystems occurs, the business avoids negative environmental impact.	N/A where conversion activity does not occur	a. Since the business' ownership or management of the land, compliance with criteria that permits conversion of additional natural ecosystems into agricultural use must be achieved prior to conversion or during development stages of existing conversion plans: i. compliance with all local and national regulations regarding conversion of natural forests and ecosystems ii. where required, notification is given to, and approval is gained from relevant authorities	Core			
			b. The business must conduct and implement an impact assessment to ensure the conversion strategy avoids negative environmental impact.				
			c. Records state measures taken to minimise negative environmental impacts of any conversion activity.				

CP No.	LEAF Marque Control Points	*Notes on N/A eligibility	Verification	Control Point Compliance	Guidance (Note: guidance is in development)	Observe	Record
7.7.1	Degradation of peatland is avoided.	N/A where the business is not located on peatland	a. Since the business' ownership or management of the land, peatland has not been converted into agricultural use since 1st January 2024, nor does the business have any plans to do so.	Core	a. If peatland has been converted into agricultural use by the business on or after 1st January 2024, the business cannot be LEAF Marque certified. c. Degradation includes, for example, draining, burning and extraction of peat.		
		-	b. Where peatland has been converted to and used for agricultural production before 1st January 2024, the business takes measures to minimise further degradation of the converted peatland. i. Measures are recorded in the Landscape and Biodiversity Plan.				
		-	c. Degradation of peat is minimised on land that is in production. i. Measures to minimise peat degradation are recorded in soil management plan and cropping plan.				
		-	d. Degradation of peat is avoided on land that is not in production.				
		N/A where livestock do not graze on peatland	e. Where livestock are grazed on peatland, there is no overgrazing.				
7.7.2	Measures are taken to improve or restore degraded peatland.	N/A where the business is not located on peatland	a. Measures are taken to improve or restore on-site degraded peatland that is not in production.	Advanced II			
			b. Measures are reviewed and approved by a peatland specialist.				
7.8.1	In-field trees, and trees in boundaries, are retained.	N/A where there are no trees in-field, or within boundaries	a. Trees are present, as recorded in the Landscape and Biodiversity Assessment.	Core	7.8.1 Refers to non-crop trees in-field and in boundaries. a. Trees in boundaries can also include hedges.		
		N/A where no trees have been removed	b. If trees causing a hazard have been removed, there are records that document the tree removal.				
7.8.2	The business integrates additional trees or shrub/scrub.	N/A where it is not appropriate or possible to integrate additional trees or shrub/scrub.	a. Additional trees or shrub/scrub are integrated into fields, field margins or site boundaries to provide supportive functions on-farm, where appropriate. b. Species chosen must be native or locally appropriate species.	Advanced I	Supportive functions may include, for example: • Wind and weather breaks • Fire breaks • Controlling water flow on-site • Supporting water retention in soils • Shade for crops and livestock • Stablising soils, especially on sloped land • Habitats for fauna and pollinators 7.8.2 can also include integrating additional hedgerows.		

CP No.	LEAF Marque Control Points	*Notes on N/A eligibility	Verification	Control Point Compliance	Guidance (Note: guidance is in development)	Observe	Record
7.9	Deep cultivation under the canopy of in-field trees is avoided.	N/A for businesses where there are no in-field trees or hedgerows	Deep cultivations are not carried out under in-field trees except where trees are used for the purpose of shade.	Core			
7.10	Permission is required for any removal of trees (if removal is required and appropriate).	N/A for businesses where no trees have been removed	a. Any tree removal must follow local and national regulations. b. Where land is rented, approval for tree removal must be sought from the landlord. c. Approval documents (if required and appropriate) are present where recent tree felling is apparent. d. Recent tree felling is referred to in the Landscape and Biodiversity Plan.	Core	7.10 refers to removal of non-crop trees.		
7.11	Timing and frequency of watercourse management is restricted.	N/A for businesses where there are no watercourses	a. Dikes/ditches/aqueducts are not cleared during bird nesting periods. b. Any other means of sympathetic management are justified by the business. c. There must be records to justify watercourse drainage clearance if more frequent than once per year.	Core			
			Habitats and Species				
7.12.1	5% or more of the farm/site's land is managed as a habitat area.	-	a. Map (8.1.b) shows 5% or more of total farm/site area is managed as a habitat. b. Habitat type and habitat management is justified and informed by the Landscape and Biodiversity Plan. c. Where habitat area is less than 5%: i. Justification and targets to reach 5% must be recorded in the Landscape and Biodiversity Plan. ii. There must be more than 0% habitat area on the farm/site.	Core	Habitat type can include: • Waterbodies • Margins • Woodland and forest • Scrub and shrubland • Wildflower meadows • Grazed areas • Desert • Savanna • Hedges • Ditches and dikes • Habitats within cropped areas (i.e., habitat banks and groups of trees)		
7.12.2	10% or more of the farm/site's land is managed as a habitat area.	-	a. Map (8.1.b) shows 10% or more of total farm/site area is managed as a habitat. b. Habitat type and habitat management is justified and informed by the Landscape and Biodiversity Plan.	Advanced II			
7.13	Measures are taken to improve the connectivity of habitats.	-	Measures improve the connection between habitat areas on-farm and across the landscape that would otherwise be isolated from each other.	Advanced I	Connectivity measures support species to move more easily between habitats.		

CP No.	LEAF Marque Control Points	*Notes on N/A eligibility	Verification	Control Point Compliance	Guidance (Note: guidance is in development)	Observe	Record
7.14	Measures are taken to support protected species.	N/A where no protected species	a. Habitat and food are provided year-round for protected species.	Core	a. Protected species include endangered or threatened species; for example, birds and nesting species.		
			b. Breeding seasons of protected species are identified and recorded.				
			c. Farm management activities are adjusted to avoid distubance according to breeding seasons, including: i. avoiding areas inhabited by protected species on site				
7.15	Native and locally appropriate species are used in field margins and other habitats.	-	a. Where possible seeding of field margins use native species, or local provenance of seed.	Core	c. This can also apply to hedgerows.		
			b. The business must have seeding records, including seed labels.				
			c. Trees are comprised of native and appropriate species.				
			d. The business must justify choice of species used.				
7.16	Field margins and site boundaries are managed to avoid negative impacts on biodiversity and habitats.	-	a. Management practices account for the species and habitats stated in the Landscape and Biodiversity Assessment (see 7.1.1).	Core			
		N/A where cutting is not used for management	b. Where management occurs through cutting, the environmental impact informs decisions: i. timing occurs during the least destructive period for flora and fauna ii. frequency and extent of cutting is minimised iii. grass cuttings are removed where possible iv. if required for access or health and safety and environmental impact is recorded and mitigation strategies are developed				
		N/A where fertiliser and PPPs are not applied	c. Application of fertiliser or plant protection products (PPPs) is minimised and targeted through precision techniques.				
		N/A where the business does not use grazing	d. Where management occurs through grazing, the timing, frequency, and extent are accounted for to avoid damage to soil and grassland.				
		-	e. Travel is minimised on field margins and near site boundaries.				
		N/A for protected and indoor cropping systems	f. Field margins are maintained to be at least two-metres wide, measured from the middle of the permanent boundary feature, unless: i. fields are less than two hectares ii. fields have no boundary feature, and the natural habitat extends from the crop or crop headland				

CP No.	LEAF Marque Control Points	*Notes on N/A eligibility	Verification	Control Point Compliance	Guidance (Note: guidance is in development)	Observe	Record
7.17	Measures are taken to monitor and manage invasive species.	-	a. The business records the potential risks and negative impacts caused by invasive species. b. Measures are taken to manage and control the spread of invasive species. c. The business complies with local or national legislation regarding invasive species management.	Advanced I	a. For example: • Invasive weeds and pests can impact yields and biodiversity. • Risk of invasive species spreading to other farms. b. The aim is to prevent invasive species spreading offsite, by implementing measures such as, for example: • Preventing cross contamination of equipment being used across sites • Control measures to prevent invasive species from spreading during packaging /shipping of products		
			Monitoring				
7.18	At least two species are monitored on-farm.	-	a. Species chosen are identified by a person with relevant knowledge of the local environment. b. Species chosen are justified in terms of their importance to the local environment. c. One species must be a pollinator. d. Monitoring records document the presence of the chosen species. e. Four or more species are monitored on-farm.	Core Advanced I	d. Records could include electronic or written records based on visual inspection or other monitoring methods.		
7.19	At least one habitat is monitored on-farm.	-	a. Habitat chosen is identified by a person with relevant knowledge of the local environment. b. Habitat chosen is justified in terms of its importance to the local environment. c. Monitoring records document the characteristics of the habitat and changes that occur in the habitat.	Advanced I			

CP No.	LEAF Marque Control Points	*Notes on N/A eligibility	Verification	Control Point Compliance	Guidance (Note: guidance is in development)	Observe	Record
			Engaging Society				
8.1	The business engages in knowledge-sharing and learning activities.	-	a. The business actively participates in at least one knowledge sharing and learning activity annually. b. The topic of the activity must be related to sustainable food and farming. c. There is a record of the activity(ies), which must include: i. a description of the activity ii. objective(s) of the activity iv.optional: reflective notes of the activity (i.e., shared learnings and conversations)	Core	a. Participation can be continuous throughout the year, or it can be one single event/activity. b. The business participates in the activity with the aim of learning how to make their business more sustainable or sharing their knowledge/experiences with others about sustainable food and farming. c. Examples of knowledge-sharing could be via: • Forums • Networks • Cluster groups • Research groups • Knowledge exchange • Webinars • Conference talks • Social media • Meetings		
8.2	The business collaborates with others.	-	a. In the last 12 months, the business has partnered with others (formally or informally) by sharing knowledge or resources to address sustainability challenges together. b. Evidence includes at least one of the following: i. Discussion with auditor about the collaboration ii. Photos of the collaborating group iii. Communication records between the business and collaborator(s) about collaboration work that is in progress or has been completed iv. Records of meetings or trainings v. Records/report documenting the outcomes of collaboration	Advanced I	a. Collaboration could be with other growers/farmers, researchers, organisations, authorities, etc. a. Most commonly, collaboration is local, however it can also include engagement with businesses and organisations further away with a common purpose. a. Collaboration can support monitoring, interpretation of data and knowledge exchange. a. Can include landscape level working for biodiversity and/or catchment level working for water and/or across labour and training.		
8.3	The business is part of collective action(s).	-	a. In the last 12 months, the business has worked with others to implement actions to work towards a collective sustainability goal. b. Evidence includes at least one of the following: i. Records or report documenting the outcomes of the collective action work ii. Before and after photos, with supporting evidence (records) of the planning for the implementation of actions	Advanced II	a. Collective action is the intentional delivery of actions which support a common goal across the collaborating group. a. Can include landscape level working for biodiversity and/or catchment level working for water and/or across labour and training.		

CP No.	LEAF Marque Control Points	*Notes on N/A eligibility	Verification	Control Point Compliance	Guidance (Note: guidance is in development)	Observe	Record
8.4	The business engages with local or wider communities to promote food, farming and nature.	-	a. At least one activity is carried out annually. b. During the activity, the business must provide, at a minimum, information about how the business is implementing sustainable farming practices. c. Records of activity must include: i. a description of the activity ii. objective(s) of the activity iii. date(s) of delivery iv. personnel responsible for delivery v. evaluates whether the objective(s) were met vi. consideration to the needs and preferences of the people engaged	Core	a. Examples: • Practical/hands on: volunteer days, in person tour/farm walk • Virtual tour, attend local event (speak or stand) b. Information can include written materials, powerpoint presentation, or verbal discussion/description. b. General information about Integrated Farm Management (IFM) or sustainable farming may also be included.		
Livestock Management							
Note: The Livestock Management section is still under revision. This section will be included in the second public consultation in July 2024.							