

Summary of October 2017 Standards

We have outlined below some of the key areas strengthened. Not every change is listed here, however there is a checklist detailing all the changes available online at: <http://assurance.redtractor.org.uk/tools-and-library>.

The full version of the standards can be found [here](#).

POULTRY

Antibiotics

Broiler producers must only use antibiotics to treat a problem and total antibiotic use should now be recorded in mg/pcu*. The use of third and fourth generation Cephalosporins, Glycopeptides and Colistin are not permitted, but Macrolides and Fluoroquinolones are allowed if backed up by a vet and with written permission from the company purchasing the birds.

Chick records

Red Tractor assured hatcheries must now only handle assured eggs to reduce any reputational risk to the scheme of non-assured eggs being supplied to producers. The requirement for producers to keep robust traceability records has also been beefed up.

Home-grown feed

Records of how and when farmers treated home-grown grains for salmonella before feeding must be kept.

Rodenticide use

Permanent baiting must not be routinely undertaken and baits can only be sited where evidence shows they are being continuously effective. A site survey and risk assessment of watercourses and populations of non-target species should also be carried out and recorded before treatment.

Biosecurity

A biosecurity plan or policy must exist for each assured poultry farm, and it is being recommended that there is a defined boundary around each site to control the entry and exit of vehicles and people. Vehicles should be disinfected on exit as well as entry.

Environmental protection

Inorganic fertilisers should be stored on hard, dry surfaces away from flammable materials, and all application machinery should be checked annually.

*mg of active per population correction unit is the measure used by the European Medicines Agency