



Red Tractor version 4 standard changes document

Combinable Crops and Sugar Beet

The following document outlines all interim changes which have been made to the version 4 Combinable Crops standards since October 2017. Further guidance and document templates can be found on the Red Tractor website.

Thursday 1st July 2021

As a result of the recast Renewable Energy Directive (RED II) you will be required to undertake a mass balance calculation per site. This requirement is detailed in a new standard which will be audited to from 1 July. The new standard is:

<p>El.b A mass balance must be in place</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the estimated quantity of grain and oilseeds stored, per site, is recorded immediately post-harvest records are kept for quantities of grain and oilseeds which leave each site (e.g. grain passports) carry-over between harvest years is recorded reconciliation of amounts stored vs. out loading records is available per harvest year <p><i>* for initial assessments this information may be requested in advance and the set-up of the mass balance system will be verified by the assessor</i></p>	<p>Mass balance records</p>
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RED II includes a new definition of non-natural highly biodiverse grassland; namely grassland that would cease to be grassland in the absence of human intervention and that is species-rich and not degraded and has been identified as being highly biodiverse by the relevant competent authority, unless evidence is provided that the harvesting of the raw material is necessary to preserve its status as highly biodiverse grassland. The new standard is:

<p>El.c Key Crops and sugar beet that may be used to produce biofuels and bioliquids must not be produced on land that had one of the following</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> further details and definitions are outlined in the Appendix – these are complied with
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statuses on or after Jan 2008:	
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- a high biodiversity value
- land with high carbon stock
- land that was peatland unless evidence is provided that the cultivation and harvesting does not involve drainage of previously undrained soil

Monday 20th July 2020

EC. d – PPP's used must be approved for use in the UK

To bring Red Tractor more in line with the BASIS Store Scheme and to allow you to safely store un-approved product pending collection we are making a small change to this standard with effect from Monday 20th July.

- No unapproved PPP's in store (e.g. when the MAPP number has expired, and its use-up-period has extended)

Will be replaced with:

- Un-approved product is kept in a segregated area of the pesticide store pending collection for disposal at the earliest opportunity; clearly marked with signs / labels stating that it must not be used

October 2019

New standard EC.f.3.1

New standard being implemented in October 2019 on Nematicide stewardship best practice which will apply to all members who use Nematicide. The standard is based the Nematicide best practice protocol and the standard aims to ensure:

- Staff applying granular nematicides have completed relevant training on the Nematicide Stewardship Best Practice Protocol
- The applicator is checked prior to the start of the season and on each working day to ensure all pipework is correctly fitted, the hopper bungs are in place and the hopper

lids are secure. When the applicator is in use granules are monitored to check they are flowing correctly

- Applicators are fitted with a device in the cab which allows the operator to shut off nematicide granule flow at least 3 meters from the end of each row. In sugar beet crops the applicator must be able to turn off the flow of granules before the row end.
- Designated areas for filling hoppers in each field are used which can easily be checked for spillages. Spillages should be dealt with according to manufacturer recommendations and the NSP Protocol to ensure no granules are left on the surface
- Treated fields are checked 24-48 hours after application for any adverse effects to wildlife. If any are found contact the Wildlife Incident Investigation Scheme (WIIS) and the granule manufacturer.

December 2017

These changes below only affect members who have converted land to arable for the production of biofuels in the last 10 years. The changes relate to standard & appendix E1.c and the Renewable Energy Directive.

1. Crops and Sugar Beet for the biofuels market cannot be grown on land was peatland on or after 2008. The exception to this is if evidence can be provided that the cultivation and harvesting does not involve drainage or previously undrained soil. Further details defining the status of land can be found in the Appendix E1.c or link below.

*This is in addition to not being able to grow biofuels crops on land of a high biodiversity value or land with high carbon stock on or after 2008.

2. Members must keep mass balance records which document the following:
 - Timeframe over which the system operates;
 - Total amount of all crops grown on farm;
 - Total amount of crop grown for biofuels; • Total amount of crop sold as biofuels;
 - Details of carry-over stock.
3. Documentation relating to wetlands must reflect seasonal changes within a year.

The changes above are in addition to the existing standards which include:

1. Where applicable, Environmental Impact Assessment records must be kept for 5 years.
2. Members must retain documents of previous land status for 5 years. This could include SFP paperwork, maps or other official records.
3. The producer must sign the related declaration on sustainability on the grain passport.
4. Where crops have been produced on land converted from one of the excluded categories since 1 January 2008, records must be kept detailing volume/ tonnage (s)

and type of crop produced. These crops must not be sold into the biofuel or bioliquid market. For these crops, records must be kept to show other end markets they were sold to ie. contracts/ grain passports or invoices.