21 November 2019

**Deadline approaches for new rules for Red Tractor Combinable Crops and Sugar Beet Members**

By 1 December 2019 all Red Tractor Combinable Crops and Sugar Beet members will need to be compliant with new rules affecting businesses who have contract farming arrangements or run the risk of facing issues with grain collections and not getting paid.

Red Tractor has worked closely with its Certification Bodies to ensure a smooth transitional period, offering full transparency to both the industry and its members. There is detailed guidance outlining the rules, providing example scenarios and including a flow diagram to help members identify which rule applies to them on the Red Tractor Assurance website [here](#), plus there is a FAQ document [here](#).

Particular attention should be drawn to the fact that the Red Tractor Assurance membership must be in the same trading name as the business receiving payment for the grain. If this is not the case, members must take immediate action by contacting their Certification Body.

Phased in over the past 12 months, the new rules are designed to ensure:

- all assessments are credible and robust focussing on all aspects of the day to day management of the crop production
- assessments are carried out efficiently and without duplication whilst maintaining the integrity of the Red Tractor scheme
- transparent identification of all RT certified businesses for the whole supply chain

Red Tractor understands that combinable crops and sugar beet farming businesses and trading arrangements can be complex. And contract farming is widespread, with agreements ranging from contractors doing some, to all of the day to day management on behalf of another landowner or business.

The new rules only apply to contract farmers who do the day to day farm management on behalf of a landowner, not businesses who are simply providing services to arable farms e.g. contract spraying.

For more information members can contact their Certification Body directly or Red Tractor at [memberhelp@redtractor.org.uk](mailto:memberhelp@redtractor.org.uk) or 020 7630 3320.