



Red Tractor Covid-19 Frequently Asked Questions for Fresh Produce Scheme Members

We understand that the fast-moving Covid-19 situation is creating questions and challenges for Red Tractor Fresh Produce scheme members. With the possibility of staff shortages, issues with transport or supplies and potential changes to contracts, we appreciate you face an extremely challenging few months ahead. This is a short FAQ, which we hope will address some of these issues.

Q. Can I add an additional crop or location to my membership?

A. Please get in touch with your Certification Body in the first instance to discuss this. We anticipate that it will be possible to certify an additional crop or site location through a remote process, and possibly a follow up visit later.

Q. I cannot be compliant with a standard because I am dependent on a third-party service. What should I do?

A. There are various examples, such as external calibrations, where to remain compliant, members are dependent on third-party services. During the course of the assessment should there be a standard or an element of a standard that requires a service from a third-party, and you are unable to provide the evidence that this has been undertaken, then a non-conformance will be raised. However, the period for you to demonstrate compliance (normally 28 days) may be extended by your Certification Body, to allow for the current situation.

It is recognised that non-compliances will be identified that members cannot practically prevent. The non-conformance process allows such instances to be captured and resolved when it becomes possible to do so.

If you have such non-conformances from a recent assessment that you are unable to rectify within the normal 28-day period, please contact your Certification Body immediately to discuss an extension to the time period for supplying the corrective evidence required.

Q. I usually have my LEAF assessment at the same time as my Red Tractor assessment. What happens now?

A. LEAF have introduced their own remote assessments. Several combined, Red Tractor Fresh Produce/LEAF Marque assessments have been completed. If you wish to arrange a combined remote assessment, please talk to your certification body.

Q. If I have a remote assessment, will I be able to access a GLOBALG.A.P. certificate and complete GLOBALG.A.P. bolt-on modules, such as GRASP?

A. GLOBALG.A.P. recognises a Red Tractor remote assessment as a suitable alternative to a physical inspection for existing Red Tractor Fresh Produce scheme members. You will be able to obtain a new GLOBALG.A.P. certificate through successful completion of a remote, Red Tractor assessment.

GLOBALG.A.P. introduced their own procedure for remote assessments on 15th May. Remote completion of the GRASP module is possible in principle, please talk to your Certification Body to discuss how they will manage this and what your options are.

Q. My qualified adviser is not available, what should I do?

A. While the Red Tractor Fresh Produce Standards require that all advisors be BASIS or FACTS trained, the relevant Standards do not mandate that a qualified adviser must be used, so there is a degree of flexibility.

Should an assessor deem that the Standard has not been met, a non-conformance will be raised but, as with third-party services, the period for you to demonstrate compliance (normally 28 days) may be extended by your Certification Body, to allow for the current situation.