

## Integrated Farm Management Policy

We recognise that concern for the environment and maintenance of the rural landscape is an integral and fundamental part of the company's business. As a progressive farming business we aim to continually develop our strong sense of environmental responsibility and make provision for the improvement and enhancement of wildlife habitats, through adopting an integrated farm management approach. Through our membership of LEAF, and completion of a LEAF audit, our focus is on minimising environmental risks, while conserving, enhancing and recreating that which is of environmental importance.

The company accepts that statutory obligations are placed upon it by National and European legislation and regulations, and are firmly committed to achieving a high operational and management standard above the statutory requirements wherever reasonable and practical.

**Philip Bradley** has overall responsibility for implementation and development of this Environmental Policy. However, it remains the responsibility of every member of staff to minimise the environmental impact of their actions when carrying out their duties.

We aim to manage all aspects of our farming and other business interests with the uppermost regard for the environment; for protecting the environment, for causing no harm to the environment, and for enhancing the environment to the best of our ability.

We are committed to investigating and trialling new working practices that are more environmentally friendly and sustainable. When replacing machinery, equipment, and planning any new building works, we will endeavour to improve efficiency through justified purchase decisions. We will also give consideration to ways to recover or recycle water when new buildings are designed.

Crops grown on the farm are destined for supermarket shelves; we are therefore fully committed in all of our continual auditing processes. At present we are members of **the Red Tractor Farm Assurance Scheme and LEAF**.

### **1. Resource Management / Minimising Pollutants**

**Aim** – To reduce raw material consumption, to eliminate or minimise polluting releases, to optimise energy and water efficiency, to minimise adverse environmental effects.

**How this is to be achieved** – We seek to minimise the use of energy, water, raw materials and natural resources. The scope for selecting renewable resources is regularly assessed and chosen in preference to non-renewable where practical. Similarly, the use of biodegradable products will be encouraged where available.

Wherever possible, we will reduce, reuse or recycle our waste. We will analyse our annual usage of resources and look for trends in consumption. We will aim to eliminate or minimise polluting releases to air, water, and soil. We will always consider energy-efficient ways of working around the farm.

Unavoidable waste will be disposed of in a way which has least impact on the environment. Wherever possible, pollution to the environment will be eliminated or kept to a minimum. Water and energy will be used, wherever possible, in the most effective manner.

## **2 Maintenance of the Rural Landscape**

**Aim** – To preserve the rural landscape for the benefit of wildlife, flora and fauna and for future generations.

**How this is to be achieved** – Areas of potential damage to the environment will be identified through risk assessments, which are to be amended and updated each year or as the business changes and expands. Management is put in place to ensure all Codes of Good Practice are implemented and adhered to. Sustainable options are taken where possible, to ensure the rural landscape is protected to the best of our ability.

## **3 Environmental Responsibility**

**Aim** – To understand all the aspects of our environmental responsibility and ensure these are employed and regulated throughout our entire business.

**How this is to be achieved** – We must be aware of all current environmental issues and legislation and keep abreast of all developments within our business and outside. All managers and staff are to be kept up to date on changing legislation. We must ensure that no damage occurs to the environment, through the implementation of Codes of Good Practice and environmental awareness. All reasonable steps will be taken to ensure that we do as much as possible to protect the environment for future generations.

## **4 Communication and Environmental Awareness**

**Aim** – To ensure our Environmental Policy and goals are communicated to all members of staff and that environmental awareness is at the forefront of any work carried out or duty implemented. It is also our duty to ensure all our suppliers and purchasers are aware of our Environmental Policy and as we are aware of theirs.

**How this is to be achieved** – Management recognises that it must maintain environmental awareness by communication of the important environmental and sustainable issues to staff and advising them on how to modify their work practices for environmental improvement.

The company believes that everyone within the industry should encourage open and truthful discussions with interested bodies and in particular reputable environmental organisations. Additionally, the company is willing to provide information (unless commercially sensitive) and co-operate with these parties, including clients, local community groups and other outside agencies.

Ensure all members of staff are made aware of our Environmental Policy and the importance of their personal environmental awareness. All environmental and sustainable issues are communicated to staff and they are updated as frequently as required. This includes ways in which to modify their working practice for the best possible environmental benefit, any training required, and any environmental protection

measures that are to be implemented. Environmental organisations will be contacted where advice or information is required. The communication of our environmental responsibility and awareness will be made to any contractors, suppliers and customers where possible.

## **5 Land Management**

**Aim** – To reduce environmental impact through good land management practices.

**How this is to be achieved** – We operate a policy of good husbandry practices and seek to maintain and enhance the natural fertility of the soil. Advice on husbandry practices and soil standards are regularly sought from regulating bodies to ensure the most efficient practices are in place and to reduce the amount of nutrients applied where not strictly necessary. All activities are organised to reduce the risk of environmental impact or incident and Codes of Good Practice are followed at all times. All efforts are made to enhance the natural beauty of the rural landscape, while providing important habitats for local wildlife.

## **6 Continuous improvement**

**Aim** – To strive to continually improve on the way we carry out operations on the farm in order to benefit the natural environment. To identify any operational shortfalls, and set objectives and targets to maximise best practice regarding the use of resources and the subsequent effects on the environment.

**How this is to be achieved** – Annual targets will be set by farm management. These will include improvements to wildlife habitats on and around the farm, and looking at more sustainable farming practices.