

# Integrated Farm Management Policy

## Fairfields Farm

Newent, Gloucestershire, GL18 1LR

At Fairfields Farm, we recognize that caring for the environment and maintaining the rural landscape are integral and fundamental parts of our business. As a progressive farming enterprise, we are committed to fostering environmental responsibility and enhancing wildlife habitats through the adoption of an Integrated Farm Management (IFM) approach.

By embracing membership in LEAF (Linking Environment And Farming) and conducting regular LEAF audits, we prioritize the minimization of environmental risks while conserving, enhancing, and restoring elements of environmental importance. We aim to consistently exceed statutory obligations imposed by national and European legislation, striving for operational and management excellence wherever practicable.

Christopher Baker holds overall responsibility for implementing and developing this policy, while every team member is tasked with minimizing the environmental impact of their activities.

Our mission is to manage all aspects of farming and business operations with the utmost respect for the environment—protecting it, causing no harm, and enhancing it whenever possible. We are committed to innovation, trialing new sustainable practices, and making decisions that prioritize energy efficiency, water recovery, and waste reduction.

Crops grown at Fairfields Farm are destined for supermarket shelves. We are fully committed to continuous auditing and maintaining high standards under the Red Tractor Farm Assurance Scheme and LEAF MARQUE.

### 1. Resource Management and Pollution Minimization

Aim: To reduce resource consumption, eliminate or minimize pollution, and optimize energy and water efficiency.

Actions:

- Assess resource use annually, monitor trends, and implement improvements.
- Prioritize renewable and biodegradable resources over non-renewable alternatives.
- Reduce, reuse, and recycle waste wherever feasible.
- Minimize polluting releases to air, water, and soil by adopting energy-efficient farm practices.
- Dispose of unavoidable waste responsibly to reduce environmental harm.
- Incorporate water recovery and energy-saving designs into new infrastructure.

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

Aim: To preserve and enhance the rural landscape for the benefit of wildlife, flora, and fauna.

Actions:

- Conduct annual risk assessments to identify potential environmental damage and update as necessary.
- Implement management practices aligned with Codes of Good Practice.
- Prioritize sustainable options to protect and sustain the rural environment.

## **3. Environmental Responsibility**

Aim: To ensure a comprehensive understanding of environmental responsibilities across all business operations.

Actions:

- Stay updated on environmental legislation and developments.
- Train staff on environmental awareness, regulatory compliance, and sustainable practices.
- Prevent environmental damage by adhering to established Codes of Good Practice.
- Take all reasonable steps to protect and preserve the environment for future generations.

## **4. Communication and Environmental Awareness**

Aim: To foster a culture of environmental awareness among staff, suppliers, and customers.

Actions:

- Communicate environmental policies to staff, emphasizing their role in achieving sustainability goals.
- Train staff on best practices and provide updates on environmental measures as required.
- Engage with reputable environmental organizations, local communities, and agencies for advice and collaboration.
- Share environmental responsibilities and goals with contractors, suppliers, and customers.

## **5. Land Management**

Aim: To reduce environmental impact through sustainable land management practices.

Actions:

- Implement good husbandry practices to maintain and enhance soil fertility.
- Seek advice from regulatory bodies to optimize nutrient application and reduce waste.
- Follow Codes of Good Practice to mitigate environmental risks.
- Enhance the rural landscape's natural beauty and promote biodiversity by creating and preserving wildlife habitats.

## **6. Continuous Improvement**

Aim: To identify and address operational shortfalls while continually improving environmental performance.

Actions:

- Set annual objectives and targets for sustainable farming practices.
- Enhance wildlife habitats and biodiversity on and around the farm.
- Invest in innovative, sustainable technologies and practices to maximize environmental benefits.

Produced by:

Christopher Baker

Oliver Baker

Jilly Baker

Reviewed Date: 10<sup>th</sup> Jan 2025