



**Welsh Lamb & Beef Producers Ltd -  
Farm Assured Welsh Livestock Scheme (FAWL), 2022 FAWL Standards –  
the new standards will come into effect from the 1st May 2022  
and assess against from 1st July 2022.**

Ref	Standard	Amendment	Explanation
	General	All references to EU legislation in the standards have been deleted	The UK is no longer part of the EU
1g	Assurance Status	Addition – “If livestock travel via a collection centre, the collection centre must be assured.”	To maintain the integrity of the whole meat supply chain
3g	Stock feed	Addition – “[Feed] must be readily identifiable with different feeds stored separately from each other feed to minimise the risk of cross contamination. It is particularly important that any medicated feed is kept separate and clearly labelled.”	To minimise the risk of error in feeding
4b	Use of paints & preservative	Deleted	No conformances raised against the standard for many years
7b	Condition of livestock	“Livestock must be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• healthy and protected from pain, fear, disease and injury.</li> <li>• Well-fed and watered, free from hunger and thirst with a diet that maintains health and vigour.</li> <li>• showing appropriate body condition.</li> <li>• comfortable and protected from extreme weather.</li> <li>• content in their environment and free from discomfort</li> <li>• able to behave in a natural manner”</li> </ul>	Included to underline the importance of the animal health and welfare to the scheme
7c	Competence of stockmen	All farm personnel with responsibilities for livestock and for farming operations (including any contractor employed) must be competent	The phrase in brackets “(including any contractor employed)” added to note that all personnel dealing with stock and farming operations in general need to be competent in what they do.
7g	Electric goads	Reintroduced – “The use of electric goads is prohibited.”	Standard reintroduced following concerns raised by other assurance schemes elsewhere
8c	Annual livestock health & welfare review	An annual livestock health & welfare review must be undertaken with the farm vet. The vet will be expected to review: Added in bold at point 3: (3) the use of <b>antibiotics, including the Highest Priority Critically Important Antibiotics (HP-CIAs) (if any), estimating average use as mg/kg (as per industry parameters) using WLBP’s AMU Calculator which is on the online Vet Portal to calculate and record the outcome.</b>	This is the most important amendment to the current FAWL standards. Government and consumers are concerned about resistance to antibiotics. We need to demonstrate that farmers are using these medicines responsibly otherwise we may be denied access to some of them. We need data as evidence to prove responsible use. Vets, using our website can calculate average use to agreed industry and government norms. That will strengthen farming’s hand significantly in our argument for continued access to some very important medicines
9i	Water Supply	(a) Deleted in previous standard “that are outside” after “All livestock”. Now reads: All livestock must have a good supply of fresh water available at all times. (b) Added as well: “Private water supplies (such as bore holes) should have an alternative supply available in case of emergency.”	(a) To clarify that all stock must have access to clean water, not just ones that are outside (b) To ensure that alternative sources of water are available should private sources such as wells dry up.
11e	Treatment record	Members are asked to add ‘Reason for treatment’ in Medicine Record Book when noting the use of any relevant medicine	Previously, this had been a recommendation in previous standard.
12d	Birthing facilities	New: “There must be appropriate facilities for livestock to give birth indoors with facilities available to separate ewe/ cow from the rest of the group if necessary; clean, dry bedding provided and replaced regularly; lighting to enable close inspection of livestock; restraining facility (e.g., crush; calving gate) available for use where livestock give birth, if necessary.”	While previous versions of the standards had a provision for lambing or calving outdoors, it was considered appropriate to have standards that referenced indoor birthing as well.
13g	Casualty animals	Added: “Livestock must be able to bear their weight on all four legs and walk onto the vehicle unaided.”	To comply with codes of practice and legislation

14a	Farm Environment	Standard restated: “The farm’s environment, its water, soil or air must not be impaired or polluted by the farm’s management or its farming practices.”.	To underline the scheme’s commitment to work to minimise the risk of environmental pollution from farming practices
14d	Government Regulation	Statement of general policy – “FAWL members must comply with any government regulation that applies to the control of agricultural pollution in Wales, as and when it takes legal effect.”	Environmental regulation (relating to water quality, in particular) is evolving in Wales. While having a general policy of complying with regulation, the FAWL scheme is committed to working sympathetically with members as they are asked to adapt to new rules
16a-c	Storage facilities	A previous standard has been split into three, covering (a) General storage facilities (b) Slurry, dirty water, silage effluent (c) Silage storage	For more clarity and to underline the role of adequate storage in minimising the threat of pollution.
16e	Temporary field heaps	Added to previous requirement: “Manure stored outside in a field should not be in a field liable to flooding, becoming waterlogged, or close to surface water, landrain borehole, spring or well.” And additionally, re-worded from previous standard: “It should not be located in any single position for more than 12 consecutive months or located in the same place as an earlier one used in the last two years.”	Reference to flooding etc. meant to minimise the threat from pollution. The requirement that temporary heaps should not be sited in the same place for more than 12 consecutive months is more practical than to suggest resiting every year as was the case in the previous standard.
16f	Fuel oil	Added: “Fuel oil must be stored safely and securely in robust facilities that meet the current legal requirements and minimise the risk of polluting the environment.”	To underline the importance of adequate storage
17a	Application of slurry, dirty water, silage effluent	“These must be applied to land in accordance with the current legal requirements and COGAP to minimise the risk of water pollution, unacceptable odours, soil compaction or other environmental damage.”	Previous requirement on spreading in proximity to water set out in another standard – 17f
17b	Solid manures	Deleted from previous standard “(in NVZ there are other legal requirements)”	In anticipation of regulatory changes
17d	Nitrogen fertiliser	New – “Before applying any nitrogen fertiliser (from whatever source) a field inspection should be undertaken to assess the risk of polluting surface water, paying particular attention to the prevailing weather conditions. Fertiliser and lime applications must be made at an appropriate time of year taking into account limitations imposed by regulation. All applications should be in accordance with the farm’s nutrient management plan. Application records must be kept.”	To encourage scheme members to minimise the risk of pollution from the use of nitrogen fertilisers
17e	Artificial fertilisers & surface water	New – “When spreading manufactured nitrogen fertiliser, care should be taken to ensure that it is not spread closer than 2 metres to surface water.”	To encourage scheme members to minimise the risk of water pollution from the use of nitrogen fertilisers
17f	Organic manure, effluent & proximity to water	New – “Organic manure and effluent should not be spread within 10 metres of surface water unless using precision spreading equipment (trailing show, dribble bar or injector system) in which case no person may spread organic manure within 6 metres of surface water. No spreading within 50 metres of a borehole, spring or well.”	To encourage scheme members to minimise the risk of water pollution from the use of organic manure and effluent
17g	Organic materials	Underlined added to previous standard – “Organic materials such as digestate or sewage sludge may be applied to land for agricultural benefit if the appropriate legislation <u>and other agreements (e.g., PAS 100; PAS 110; Biosolids Assurance Scheme [BAS])</u> are complied with. “ Underlined added to previous standard – “Organic materials such as digestate or sewage sludge may be applied to land for agricultural benefit if the appropriate legislation <u>and other agreements (e.g., PAS 100; PAS 110; Biosolids Assurance Scheme [BAS])</u> are complied with. “	To reflect development of Biosolids Assurance scheme since last standards review
17j	PPP application equipment including Crop Sprayers	Standard re-written – “Knapsacks, hand-held or pedestrian sprayers need to be checked regularly to ensure accurate and efficient application of pesticide: records of inspection need to be maintained. Boom sprayers 3 metres and under must be tested before the machine is 5 years old and then retested every 6 years. Boom sprayers over 3 metres must be tested before they are 5 years old; over 5 years old, they need to have been tested within the last 3 years and then re-tested every 3 years.”	Requirement for pedestrian sprayers to be regularly checked as well as knapsacks and hand-held included. Testing for boom sprayers explained. Reference to time limit in previous standard removed.