



SAI Platform European Beef Farm Sustainability Assessment

Version 1.0 (10 January 2017)

Worker filter		Answer	Filter on/off
			Off
			If you do not have permanent workers, temporary workers or voluntary workers at your farm, the filter will be switched on. The questions related to specifically permanent, temporary and voluntary workers are not applicable and appear dark blue. You do not have to answer these questions anymore.
BF1	How many permanent workers are working on the farm (if any)?		Permanent workers include: - Full time and part time employees with contracts for longer than 6 months. - Family members that are paid to work on the farm as their primary profession.
BF2	How many temporary workers are working on the farm in a year?		Temporary workers include: - Seasonal workers; - Full time and part time employees with contracts for shorter than 6 months; - Workers with no contract with the farm, e.g. hired by a farm labour contractor; - Family members or neighbours that are paid to work on the farm occasionally or during a limited period in the year.
BF3	Are there voluntary workers on the farm?		This includes friends, family members or neighbours who occasionally help on the farm. Voluntary workers can be unpaid or may receive a modest compensation if that is in accordance with local legislation.
Irrigation filter			Off
BF4	Do you irrigate pasture, forage or feed crops?		If you do not irrigate pasture, forage or feed crops, the filter will be switched on. The questions related to irrigation of pasture, forage or feed crops are not applicable and appear dark blue. You do not have to answer these questions anymore.

Code	Topic	Applicability	Question	Requirements	Level	FSA Beef Recommended practices and guidance
FSAB1	Legal compliance	All farm	Do you comply with all applicable laws and regulations, and conduct business with integrity, avoiding all forms of bribery, conflicts of business interest and fraudulent practices?	Evidence of compliance may be through: Scheme membership rules; A signed Producer Declaration or equivalent A contract.	Essential	The declaration template has been provided in the "Production Declaration Form" tab in this file.
FSAB2	Financial Stability	All Farm	Do you keep records of yields/output, costs, income and profitability of your farm?	The profitability of each enterprise must be calculated based on records of input costs and outputs.	Basic	These records are important to monitor the economic viability of your farm and provide input to define management plans.
FSAB3	Financial Stability	All Farm	Do you have a business plan to optimize the long-term economic viability of the farm?	Business plans must be documented and articulate on farm priorities to ensure production matches market requirements and identify farm management efficiencies.	Advanced	A business plan is applicable to a single farm or a group of farms under one management. A business plan should have a time horizon of 3-5 years and can include: - An approach to optimize sustainable yields and input efficiency (efficient use of chemicals, soil optimization, optimal irrigation management, crop rotation, etc.). - A risk mitigation strategy to survive shocks such as environmental shocks (e.g. drought), social shocks (e.g. riots) and economic shocks (e.g. price fluctuations). - Market requirements. Point to consider 1. What are the objectives for the business? 2. Have these been considered from an economic, social and environmental perspective 3. Over what time scale would these objectives be met 4. What are the main tasks necessary to get there –and what are the timescales for each and their priority order? 5. Have you undertaken a risk assessment for the proposed plan and considered mitigating actions for any identified obstacles? 6. Who is responsible for the delivery of the whole plan and the sub-tasks?
FSAB4	Market Access	All Farm	Are you aware of market specifications and requirements?	The farmer must be able to describe the market requirements for the animal production enterprise	Basic	Farmers should be able to explain verbally the specification/customer requirements to which they are producing. For beef producers, this may include weight, age, breed, sex of the animal, and other relevant production/labelling characteristics. This applies regardless of who the farm is selling stock to e.g. abattoir, livestock market, other farmer etc.
FSAB5	Farm Management	All farm	Did you assess the suitability of all your land for its current or planned use?	If you are taking on new land (purchased or rented), you must conduct an assessment as to the suitability for your intended use. For your current land, you must be aware of its previous use and how that may affect your farming activities.	Basic	For example this may include: - Production capabilities of the land - Water availability/risk of flooding - Physical hazards e.g. metal scraps. - disease risks from previous/neighbouring stock - Potential off-site contaminants (e.g. pollutants)
FSAB6	Farm Management	All Farm	Do you maintain your equipment and machinery to ensure their proper, efficient functioning?	Farmers must have a routine for checking equipment/machinery to ensure it is functioning properly. This question can only be answered with 'not applicable' if you do not use equipment or machinery on your farm. The farmer must be able to describe the market requirements for the animal production enterprise (lead question)	Basic	
FSAB7	Biodiversity	All Farm	Have you left all primary forest, wetland, peatland, and protected grassland or other native eco-systems (HCV) in its original condition within the last 5 years?	This includes ensuring that no practices were used that could weaken or destroy primary forest, wetland, peatland, grassland or other native eco-systems. This question can only be not applicable if you did not have primary forest, wetlands, peatland, protected grassland or other native eco-systems at your farm.	Essential	Primary forest/wetland/peatland: Area that shows no or minimal disturbance by people and/or demonstrates the diversity, structure and ecological services of a mature forest etc for that region. Natural disturbances like natural fires or windstorms do not convert primary forest etc into secondary forest etc.
FSAB8	Biodiversity	All Farm	If you have deforested secondary forest or converted permanent grassland, did you ensure that you have acted legally and that you have the right permits?	This includes all of the below: 1. Legal land title is available; 2. The land is classified as agricultural and/or approved for agricultural use; 3. Government permits are available (if required by law).	Basic	Secondary forest is any forest that is not primary forest. Primary forest: Forest that shows no or minimal disturbance by people and/or demonstrates the diversity, structure and ecological services of a mature forest for that region. Natural disturbances like natural fires or windstorms do not convert primary forest into secondary forest. Permanent grassland means grassland that has not been ploughed for 5 years or more.
FSAB9	Biodiversity	All Farm	If you work next to or in protected areas, do you work within legal requirements?	In the event that farm activities take place next to or in protected areas then the Producer must be able to describe the legal protections (where present) and demonstrate how the protected areas are being maintained (e.g. through the observation of clearly defined buffer zones that take application equipment characteristics and weather into account).	Basic	Protected areas include national parks, wildlife refuges, biological corridors, forestry reserves, buffer zones or other public or private biological conservation areas. If you are located next to such protected areas it is recommended to establish and maintain buffer zones. These zones should consist of permanent native vegetation with trees, bushes or other types of plants, in order to promote biodiversity, minimize any negative visual impacts and reduce the drift of agrochemicals, dust and other substances coming from agricultural or processing activities.
FSAB10	Biodiversity	Beef	Do you restrict the timing and frequency of field/boundary and watercourse management?	Farmers must know the periods of the year when operations to field boundaries (i.e. hedgerows) can be conducted. Farmers must be able to describe the operations that affect the condition of field margins/boundaries (e.g. cutting, tilling, burning or destruction of the vegetation in the hedgerow) and must have a record of when these operations were conducted. Farmers must be able to describe the measures taken to ensure that operations around all field boundaries and margins are conducted so as to maintain or improve biodiversity.	Basic	

FSAB11	Biodiversity	All Farm	Have you identified the biodiversity (range of flora and fauna) on your farm?	Biodiversity includes birds, wildlife, plants and soil. Farmers or farm managers must be able to identify the major species present, and any rare or endangered (plant and animal) may be present on farm or in the surrounding area.	Basic	Consultation with local interest groups, local authorities, official sources and published guides is recommended to assist with the identification of species present. The assessment should include plants, animals and soil and can be done at an individual, landscape or group level.
FSAB12	Biodiversity	All Farm	Do you take actions on farm to preserve biodiversity?	Farmer should be able to explain verbally what steps they are taking to preserve biodiversity on their farm.	Basic	This may include taking part in a biodiversity plan at landscape level if available and practical. This could include the setting aside of additional area to act as wildlife habitat, hedgerow restoration, tree planting. Farmers should ensure that operations that could affect wildlife are minimised or timed appropriately, e.g. avoid disturbance during bird nesting season or periods, selection of pest control methods and potential impacts on non target species/predators.
FSAB13	Biodiversity	All Farm	Do you have a biodiversity plan for your farm to maintain or and improve biodiversity?	Farmers must have a documented plan for improving the biodiversity on the farm over the next 5 years and be able to demonstrate that this plan is being implemented. Species that are legally protected and endangered must be specifically referred to in the plan. This biodiversity plan is reviewed annually and includes an assessment of the year's progress. If available and practical, the plan is part of a biodiversity plan at landscape level e.g. a national environmental scheme.	Advanced	This plan can be a separate plan or a chapter in an overall farm management plan. The plan could include: - A map of the location of areas or features important to biodiversity on and around the farm. - Details of how provision is made for wildlife habitats and food sources through hedges, field margins, fence lines, farm borders, verges, field margins, walls, ditches, tracks, trees etc. - Measures to avoid degradation and deforestation of High Conservation Value Areas (HCV) areas or other ecologically sensitive areas. - Assessment of possible disruption of biological corridors because of farm activities and if required, based on the assessment mitigation measures. - Management of grazing land to promote biodiversity, e.g. legume and herb rich pasture, consideration of stocking rates, maintenance of permanent pastures This plan can be managed at landscape or group level and the review can be made by public or private bodies. The biodiversity plan could take the form of participation in an environmental protection scheme that requires a set of proposed actions to be undertaken over a period of time.
FSAB14	Soil Management	All Farm	Do you take measures to avoid soil erosion?	Farmers must implement measures to prevent or minimise soil erosion (such as by following natural contours in cultivation, terracing, single pass or minimal tilling, establishing wind breaks).	Basic	Special attention should be paid to sloping fields and areas where the soil is exposed. Measures that minimize erosion: - Following contours with operations for soil preparation - Using terracing - Using cover crops - Minimizing tillage - Permanent pasture is a protective measure in its own right - Placing wind breaks
FSAB15	Soil Management	All Farm	Do you avoid soil compaction by farm machines or livestock?	This can include: 1. Using low pressure tires 2. Avoiding passing of machines under wet conditions 3. Minimizing passes on the field 4. Avoiding using the same trails for machinery 5. Use of well constructed and maintained cow tracks. 6. Sacrificial fields for overwintering livestock This question is only not applicable where there is no land use other than for buildings/roadways etc. This question is applicable for outdoor feedlots.	Advanced	
FSAB16	Nutrient Management	Food and Feed	Do you have a simple nutrient management plan to optimize nutrient efficiency and soil quality and reduce negative impacts?	As a minimum, for manure management: 1. If you have livestock in housing, a calculation of the total area required for Total Area Required which is defined as: Stock x months housed x ha needed by stock unit 2. Maximize the use of manure while ensuring that manure nutrients (e.g. nitrates) applied are not in excess of legal limits. 3. A map of the farm showing areas where manure can/can't be spread – this is usually coloured coded for different parts like watercourse, wells etc	Basic	We strongly recommend to not over apply fertilizer or manure, to avoid pollution of the environment (soil and water).
FSAB17	Nutrient Management	Food and Feed	Do you prevent using untreated sludge and untreated sewage sludge on your field?	Storage and spreading of raw sewage sludge is prohibited on land owned or rented by the farmer. Sewage refers to human waste and does not refer to animal manure.	Basic	
FSAB18	Nutrient Management	Food and Feed	Do you ensure that the composition and application of treated sludges, treated sludge water and/or industrial waste residues are not harmful?	This includes analysis and risk assessment of the following: 1. Pollution of ground and surface water 2. Health risks for the farm workers and surrounding communities, customers and consumers. 3. Heavy metals and other contaminants This question can only be answered with 'not applicable' if you do not use sludges, treated sludge water and/or industrial waste residue on your farm, or if it is applied only to grasslands.	Basic	Sludge should not be applied directly to the crop after flowering. Soil testing should be done to assess the heavy metal levels in soil as there can be significant variation in background levels so that toxic limits are not exceeded by the application of treated sludges.
FSAB19	Nutrient Management	Food and Feed	Do you keep records of fertilizer/manure applications?	Records include: 1. Crop/forage/grassland type 2. Type of fertilizer (organic or inorganic) 3. Amount of each used per area e.g. mass of manure per hectare 4. Date 5. Nutrient composition in the case of inorganic fertilisers This question can only be answered with 'not applicable' if you do not use fertilizer/manure on your farm.	Basic	Organic fertiliser may include farmyard manure, slurry etc. It is recommended that records be kept for 5 years.
FSAB20	Nutrient Management	Food and Feed	Do you store inorganic fertilizer in a safe and secure way for humans and environment?	To protect the environment, inorganic fertilisers must be stored in a secure location, protected from fire and flooding, and in a manner that minimises risks of spillage. Inorganic fertilisers must not be stored together with fuel. This question can only be answered with 'not applicable' if you do not use inorganic fertilizer on your farm.	Basic	This question specifically refers to inorganic fertilizer storage.
FSAB21	Nutrient Management	Food and Feed	Do you have a detailed nutrient management plan based on soil and plant characteristics, and nutrients in manure?	The documented nutrient management plan is updated at least annually and consists of the following, as applicable: 1. Overview of nutritional requirements of all crops (including cultivated crops, grasslands and forage production) on your farm 2. Soil type(s) of the fields 3. Soil sample analysis per field (this does not need to be annual) 4. Nutrient content of manure and/or compost, through nutrient analysis or published values. 5. Application rates and intervals of either mineral or organic fertilisers applied in accordance with national and local legislation and crop need. 6. Maximising value of manure vs. buy in artificial fertiliser 7. Assessment of best available application techniques most appropriate for the land and the fertilizer 8. Planting of catch (or cover) crops to capture nitrates, when applicable. 9. Timing of application v cutting/animals on pasture 10. Time of year to apply –e.g. matching application to crop growth 11. Assessment of the use of leguminous plants to improve soil nitrogen.	Advanced	
FSAB22	Agrochemicals	Beef	Do you ensure the safe and effective use of crop protection products on your grassland and forage crops?	This includes: 1. The product used – Approved & appropriate for the task (officially registered and permitted in the country of use) 2. Quantities of the products used – Ensuring alignment with manufacturers guidelines, including maximum rates 3. Application equipment – Ensure that the equipment is appropriate for the task, calibrated correctly for accurate dosage and cleaned in a manner that avoids the risk of water contamination 4. Safety at all times; using the necessary PPEs and adhering to re-entry times for people and livestock 5. Potential risks (e.g. spray drift to water ways and communities) associated with the use of the product and actions that are to be employed to mitigate these risks.	Essential	Farmers may wish to document their plan (and this is encouraged) to share with their workers, however it is acceptable if farmers or their workers can demonstrate in other ways that they have considered all the above points.
FSAB23	Agrochemicals	All Farm	Do you prevent the use of any of the agrochemicals included in applicable international conventions?	Farmers may only use chemicals (pesticides, biocides and herbicides) officially registered and bear an official registration. All chemicals must be sourced from suppliers that comply with applicable international conventions.	Advanced	Stockholm convention: http://chm.pops.int/TheConvention/ThePOPs/ListingofPOPs/tabid/2509/Default.aspx Additional red-lists are the Dirty Dozen of the Pesticide Action Network (http://www.pesticideinfo.org/Docs/ref_toxicity7.html)
FSAB24	Manure management	Beef	Do you store farmyard manure and slurry to minimize the risk of runoff into nearby watercourses?	Manure must not be stored near watercourses or placed on land at immediate risk of flooding. All slurry and dirty water must be directed into a well designed and maintained store. Slurry stores are built with impermeable walls (e.g. concrete or clay-lined). You must regularly inspect the condition of your slurry stores and carry out any necessary repairs to extend the life of the store and avoid causing pollution. This is N/A if you do not store slurry or manure on your farm for any period.	Essential	Solid manures (i.e. those that are not seeping) can be stored temporarily in the field. Field heaps should be stored at a safe distance from wells and boreholes (at least 50 metres), and from watercourses and land drains (at least 10 metres). Try to make A-shaped heaps to minimise the surface area of the heap and stop rain getting in and washing out your nutrients, or consider covering your heaps. The location of field heaps should be changed each year.
FSAB25	Manure management	Beef	Do you have sufficient facilities to store farmyard manure and slurry?	There must be sufficient capacity to store all manures during the periods when application to land is not permitted legally or not advisable for the protection of the land and waterways. The capacity required must be defined based on the farming activities.	Basic	Having enough storage will give you control over when and where to spread to maximise the fertiliser value of your slurry and to avoid water pollution. Storage for at least 4 months is advisable, though longer may be required. Slurry is excreta produced by livestock (other than poultry) while in a yard or building, (including any bedding, rainwater and washings mixed with it), that has a consistency that allows it to be pumped or discharged by gravity. Dirty water is run-off/wash water from yards or buildings, lightly soiled with dung and urine (for example rainfall run-off from scraped/brushed yards and wash water from a parlour) which is collected separately from other slurry. Note that silage effluent should be collected and dealt with separately from slurry, as putting it in slurry stores can result in release of toxic gas.

FSAB26	Manure management	Beef	Have you taken steps to manage the volume of water in your slurry store?	Measures must be taken to prevent clean water (such as rainwater) being transferred to the manure store. Measures must be taken to prevent clean water (such as rainwater) being transferred to the manure store. This is N/A if you do not store slurry on your farm for any period.	Advanced	Some water is usually needed to make slurry easier to handle, mix and pump. A 60:40 mix of dung/urine to water gives a slurry of about the right 'soup-like' consistency for easy mixing, pumping and spreading and provides a significant fertiliser value. However, if you add too much water: - it is more likely to run off the field; - it will dilute the fertiliser value of each load spread; - it creates a greater volume of slurry, which will be more costly to store and spread. Options to minimise the volume of water entering in your slurry include: - Collecting 'Dirty Water' separately from your slurry store (NB. You must have enough storage to be able to spread it in the right soil and weather conditions). - Covering slurry stores (temporary and permanent) to prevent rainwater entering and reduce valuable nitrogen losses to the air e.g. Slurry stores: a solid cover, a floating cover or a roof; - Installing a slurry separator - Implementing steps to reduce the amount of 'dirty water' produced on your yard areas, such as: Ensuring that roof gutters, down pipes and drinking troughs are in a good state of repair so that clean water/rainfall does not end up on a dirty yard Diverting clean water into a drain, ditch or stored for use on farm Reducing or roofing over dirty yard areas e.g. livestock feeding and collecting areas Diverting rainfall on covered silage clamps before it hits the ground and mixes with effluent Removing as much dung as possible before washing down contaminated areas such as parlours, collecting yards and sheds Using a wash-down method that is economical with water Covering dirty yard areas with well-maintained concrete to better enable diversion of run off into slurry/dirty water tanks
FSAB27	Manure management	Beef	Have you implemented steps to prevent valuable nutrient losses from your stored manure?	Solid manure heaps are stored on an impermeable base (e.g. concrete), with appropriate containment and collection of run-off and/or impermeable covering for the manure heap. This is N/A if you do not store manure on your farm for any period.	Advanced	The golden rule here is to minimise the volume of clean water (i.e. rainfall, drinking water, water that is to be used for washing etc.) that will hit surfaces contaminated with dung, silage, or other contaminants - and therefore become Dirty Water. Dirty water is run-off/wash water from yards or buildings, lightly soiled with dung and urine (for example rainfall run-off from scraped/brushed yards and wash water from a parlour) which is collected separately from other slurry.
FSAB28	Water Management	Irrigation	Do you ensure that water use is in compliance with applicable regulations including food safety, water supply and national legislation?	Irrigation practices where used must meet the requirements of local applicable legislation This question can only be not applicable when you do not use irrigation or treat water on farm.	Essential	This means for example that you should avoid the use of contaminated water to irrigate food crops or pasture.
FSAB29	Water Management	Food and Feed	Do you take steps to prevent run-off of chemicals, mineral and organic substances, including pesticides, fertilizers and manure, as a result of applying these on your land?	This includes the following practices: 1. Not using fertilizers and pesticides on non-target areas and crops/pasture; 2. Not using fertilizers and pesticides on water-logged, steep, cracked, compacted, or frozen ground; 3. Taking into account the weather forecast before application; 4. Minimizing the amount applied.	Basic	Additional ways to avoid run-off include: - Applying techniques such as split applications, incorporation or direct injection - Using slow-release or stabilized fertilizers - Incorporating animal manure in the soil - Preventing application to fallow land Examples of sources of pollution can be: - Agro-chemicals - Waste water - Contaminated soil
FSAB30	Water Management	All Farm	Do you establish buffer zones adjacent to water to control erosion, prevent pollution and protect wildlife habitat?	You must be able to justify the width of the buffer zone for your individual site based on soil type, slope, land use etc. Before you begin spraying near any water courses you must know if the product being applied requires a watercourse buffer zone and also what width it should be.	Basic	You should seek professional advice for your specific location and requirements. Buffer zones adjacent to waterways may be planted, maintained or restored, preferably with native species. Pesticide buffer zones next to watercourses are intended to reduce the risk of chemicals entering water bodies and to protect aquatic life. Buffer zones for pesticides can vary from 3 metres to 20 metres. Riparian buffer zones widths to protect and stabilise watercourse banks should be around 3 metres wide and for wildlife habitats can extend to over 100 metres.
FSAB31	Water Management	Irrigation	Do you have a water use management plan to optimize water usage and to reduce water waste?	Farmers must be able to explain their plan verbally (a written plan is not required but is encouraged). This question can only be not applicable if you do not use irrigation or use water for cattle.	Basic	This can be a separate plan or a chapter in an overall farm management plan. An alternative can be a written farmer group or community plan. Farmers are encouraged to consider optimizing water usage, e.g. rainwater harvesting (via roofs or ground), irrigating at night, irrigation system monitoring to minimize leakage, using pressure hoses, etc.
FSAB32	Water management	Beef	Do you prevent stock access to watercourses to control erosion, prevent pollution and protect wildlife habitat?	Measures must be in place to prevent livestock accessing watercourses to control erosion, prevent pollution and protect wildlife habitats.	Advanced	
FSAB33	Water Management	Irrigation	Do you periodically assess irrigation water quality and properly manage it, based on the analysis results?	Frequency and type of analysis must be determined by a risk assessment. Analysis includes items as identified in the risk assessment. This can refer to chemicals, mineral content and/or microbiological composition. This question can only be not applicable when you do not use irrigation.	Advanced	Such analysis can be done for a group of farms that are using the same water source(s).
FSAB34	Water Management	Irrigation	Do you have a water management plan to optimize water usage, water quality, and water availability and to reduce waste water?	This water management plan is updated at least once a year. It takes into account: 1. The timing and amount of irrigation in relation to crop /pasture requirements. 2. The added value of irrigation in relation to the yield and quality of crops/grass produced or bought-in feed costs avoided. 3. Predicted rainfall and evaporation, using either daily rainfall records or weather forecasts to plan irrigation schedules. 4. An inventory of water resources. This includes at least two of the conditions below: a. Avoiding depletion of water sources, beyond the recharge capacity of the watershed /catchment. b. Cooperate with other water users in the catchment to balance the needs. c. Diversify the sources of water to reduce impact and to ensure water access continuity across seasons. Small-scale farmers in lower income countries are at least able to explain their plan verbally. This question can only be not applicable if you do not use irrigation.	Advanced	This can be a separate plan or a chapter in an overall farm management plan. An alternative can be a written farmer group or community plan.
FSAB35	Water Management	Irrigation	Do you use an optimized irrigation method?	Where water is used for irrigation the method must be based upon a soil assessment and takes into account water use efficiency, water needs of the plants and commercial viability. This question can only be not applicable if you do not use irrigation.	Advanced	Water is re-used and recycled where ever possible.
FSAB36	Water Management	Irrigation	Do you maintain irrigation records?	These records include: 1. Date of irrigation 2. Quantity of water used 3. Location of use 4. Purpose of water 5. Origin of the water (groundwater, rainfall, surface water, etc.) This question can only be not applicable if you do not use irrigation.	Advanced	
FSAB37	Grassland management	Beef	Are grasslands managed to avoid over-grazing and limit damage caused by grazing cattle?	Measures must be in place to prevent overgrazing, poaching, or damage to hedgerows and fences. This applies to all grazing lands.	Essential	
FSAB38	Grassland management	Beef	Do you plan your grazing, using routine grass measurement over the grazing season to improve productivity of the pasture and animal performance?	This applies to all grazing lands. Routine means measurements at least every two weeks during the grazing period. Measurements don't need to be recorded but do need to be taken in a consistent format to allow grass to be utilised as efficiently as possible. Tools for measuring can include a visual assessment, plate meter, sward stick, or other simple, reliable measuring tools. A soil test must be performed on all fields at least once every five years to monitor soil pH levels and corrective actions must be implemented to address the results of tests.	Basic	Tools for measuring grass include visual assessment, sward sticks, plate meters and other measuring devices that enable consistent and comparable assessments to be made.
FSAB39	Grassland management	Beef	Do you measure the pH of your soils under pasture?	This applies to all grazing lands.	Basic	Understanding soil pH (acidity level) is essential for good management of pastures. Correcting the soil's pH status by applying lime is a simple and effective way to increase grassland productivity. Correcting soil pH status can provide the following benefits: - Improves the microbial activity in soil - Improve nutrient uptake by plants - Improves soil structure - Improves nitrogen fixation by legumes - Improves the palatability of forages for livestock How much lime to apply depends on the pH level, soil type and liming material applied, on very acidic soil pH levels may not be fully corrected in one season. Each unit change in the pH scale is a 10-fold difference in acidity or alkalinity. For example, soil with a pH of 8 is ten times more alkaline than soil with a pH of 7.
FSAB40	Animal health and welfare	Beef	Do you provide a diet of appropriate nutritional value and composition year-round with adequate access for all classes of stock?	When using restricted feeding, all animals in the group must have sufficient space to feed at the same time.	Essential	

FSAB41	Animal health and welfare	Beef	Do you ensure that all animals have access to an adequate supply of fresh drinking water?	This includes: 1. The water provided must be clean and free from harmful contamination. 2. Water supply must be adequate for peak demand, e.g. in periods of drought, lactation. 3. Where cattle are kept at pasture, access to water sources must not involve travelling excessive distances. 4.) Water provision must continue up until the point of transport. 5. A back up water supply must be available e.g. in periods of drought or in event of freezing conditions	Essential	
FSAB42	Animal health and welfare	Beef	Is there sufficient space for all animals to be able to lie down at the same time in the designated lying areas?	Where animals are housed indoors, there must be sufficient space available for all animals to lie down simultaneously, get up without difficulty, stretch and turn around. Where cubicle housing is used, there must be at least one cubicle for every animal in the group. The cubicle design must be appropriate for animal breed and size.	Essential	
FSAB43	Animal health and welfare	Beef	Do you keep animals in consistent/stable groups of similar type, age or sex?	Animals must be maintained in stable social groups (i.e. similar age, type, sex)	Essential	The maintenance of stable groups is important and careful introduction of new animals is key, particularly when they are young, in order to prevent bullying and fear. Providing cattle with sufficient space in order to maintain herd stability is of high importance, research indicates that social aggressiveness increases under high density husbandry. Type includes considerations such as whether the animals have horns or not, are entire, castrated or female.
FSAB44	Animal health and welfare	Beef	Are tethered animals managed appropriately?	Tethered animals are provided with daily exercise (untethered/move freely for a period of time each day), and can lie down/move naturally and the tether does not cause pain, unless restricted for health/safety/veterinary reasons. It is best if animals are not routinely tethered.	Essential	
FSAB45	Animal health and welfare	Beef	Do all cattle (including stock bulls and young calves) have visual and/or physical contact with other cattle at all times?	Stock bulls must have visual contact. All other classes of stock must have physical contact, unless isolated for poor health/safety/veterinary reasons.	Basic	Cattle are herd animals, which demonstrate a tightly cohesive social structure, and "fusion fission" (merge and divide) societies. Herds have a strong hierarchical structure, where age equals dominance.
FSAB46	Animal health and welfare	Beef	Are housing conditions managed to ensure animals are able to keep dry and clean?	Housing of animals must be managed such that the animals are comfortable and clean. Hide cleanliness must be managed so that it does not compromise the safety of the food during slaughter.	Essential	
FSAB47	Animal health and welfare	Beef	Do all outdoor stock have access to shelter and shade (either natural or artificial) to protect them from discomfort?	Where livestock are maintained outdoors, a sheltered area must be provided to protect against inclement weather.	Essential	We recommend that shelter provisions enable all animals to shelter at the same time. Shelter includes trees, wind breaks, sheds, appropriate for the breed genetics and regional weather patterns
FSAB48	Animal health and welfare	Beef	If animals appear sick or injured, do you take rapid corrective action?	Where animals are sick or injured, they must be given prompt appropriate attention and segregated as required.	Essential	Early treatment and isolation of sick animals is necessary to control disease.
FSAB49	Animal health and welfare	Beef	Do you have a Basic herd health plan to proactively manage and improve health and welfare of livestock?	This must be a written document that is updated at least annually, and include the different categories of stock, e.g. calves, breeding females, stock bulls etc. It must include: 1. Records of the incidence of disease, mortality, injury and reasons for culling. 2. Identification of the key actions taken to improve health and welfare on the farm. The plan must be developed in conjunction with a veterinary surgeon.	Essential	
FSAB50	Animal health and welfare	Beef	Do you ensure that all animals are fit for transport?	Farmers must ensure that the animals are fit for transport on the intended journey and that the animals are being transported in a way that should not cause them injury or suffering during the journey.	Essential	If unsure of fitness for transport, it is recommended that a veterinary surgeon is contacted for advice. Animals with the following conditions are not considered fit for transport if: - they present a severe open wound, or prolapse - they are unable to move independently without pain or to walk unassisted - very young animals, e.g. calves less than ten days old - calves less than 14 days old, for journeys over eight hours - new-born calves where the navel hasn't completely healed - heavily pregnant females - where more than 90 per cent of the expected gestation period has passed - unless they are being transported for veterinary treatment - females who have given birth during the previous seven days - sick or injured animals where moving them would cause additional suffering, unless instructed by a vet However (depending on legislation), it may be possible to transport heavily pregnant animals a short distance (under 50km e.g. between or within farm premises) if the journey is for the purposes of improving conditions of birth. Such journeys must not cause unnecessary pain or suffering.
FSAB51	Animal health and welfare	Beef	Do you avoid routine dehorning?	Dehorning refers to the removal of horns on animals over 8 weeks of age. Routine means a common practice. Options to avoid dehorning include: 1. disbudding (i.e. removal of horn buds on animals under 8 weeks of age) 2. using polled genetics 3. operate a system which allows horns intact If dehorning is required, pain relief must be administered. Pain relief refers to analgesia and/or anaesthetic. Farmers must request pain relief from their veterinary surgeon.	Essential	
FSAB52	Animal health and welfare	Beef	Do you ensure animal transport is fit for purpose and hauliers are competent?	Transport vehicles / containers and their fittings must be designed, constructed, maintained and operated so to - avoid injury and suffering - protect the animals from inclement weather & extreme temperatures - prevent the animals escaping - ensure adequate ventilation - provides an anti-slip floor surface - be able to be cleaned and disinfected These vehicle requirements apply regardless of who is undertaking the transport. If you are employing a third party to undertake the transport, you must ensure that they are approved under the competent authority. Personnel transporting animals must be trained and hold a certificate of competence. Training must cover: - Cattle behaviour - Animal handling & personnel safety - Animal health & welfare – requirements for feed / water / rest / injury - impacts of driving on animal welfare - Emergency care of cattle / calves There is no requirement for a certificate of competency for farmers transporting their animals, in their own vehicles, as long as the journey is less than 50km.	Essential	
FSAB53	Animal health and welfare	Beef	Do you ensure that stock are not routinely tethered?	Routine tethering including headlocks is prohibited except for specific purposes and for short periods (e.g. milking, insemination, dosing, transport or to facilitate veterinary procedures).	Basic	Tethering also includes stock bulls
FSAB54	Animal health and welfare	Beef	Do you prohibit hot branding, spaying of females and tail docking?	Tail docking is prohibited unless undertaken to remove a tail with a chronic injury or infection and can only be carried out by a veterinarian. FSAB55 also applies This includes purchased animals.	Basic	
FSAB55	Animal health and welfare	Beef	Do you provide pain relief for animals of all ages undergoing painful procedures?	Painful procedures includes surgeries, surgical castration, and disbudding. Pain relief refers to analgesia and/or anaesthetic. Farmers must request pain relief from their veterinary surgeon.	Basic	Pain relief may include anaesthetics and analgesia.

FSAB56	Animal health and welfare	Beef	Do you have an Advanced herd health plan that includes setting targets for improvement in relation to key health issues?	In addition to recording herd health issues and identifying actions to be taken, an advanced herd health plan should include improvement targets with progress being monitored on a regular basis and the use of benchmarking performance indicators where relevant data is available.	Advanced	Assessing and recording Health and Welfare 'Outcome Measures', such as those described below, provides objective evidence of current herd health and welfare performance. They can be used to benchmark the health and welfare performance of the herd over time as well as against similar farm enterprises. Outcome Measures that should be considered include: - Body condition scores - Ease of movement - Comfort around resting: • Time needed to lie down • Cleanliness of the animals - Injuries • Lameness, • Skin lesions and swellings - Disease: • Incidence of disease/ signs of disease e.g. coughing, nasal discharge, ocular discharge, hampered respiration, diarrhoea, bloated rumen • Mortality rate – split by class of stock • Culling rate – split by planned culls, unplanned culls/ casualty cows (i.e. died or killed on farm) and enforced culls (e.g. from TB) - Management procedures relating to disbudding/dehorning, tail docking and castration More information on assessing herd welfare through outcome measures can be found here: http://www.welfarequalitynetwork.net/network/45848/7/3/4 Also note the requirements of FSAB49
FSAB57	Animal health and welfare	Beef	Do you provide long term pain relief for animals which have undergone any surgical procedure, and all forms of castration?	Long term pain relief means for several days after the procedure. However, for animals kept outdoors, long acting pain relief may be administered at the time of the procedure/treatment. Farmers must request pain relief from their veterinary surgeon.	Advanced	Pain relief may include anaesthetics and analgesia
FSAB58	Feed	Beef	Do you have a feed plan that is reviewed regularly based on livestock performance and animal health?	The feed plan must be implemented based on documented evidence of the following. It must be reviewed at least twice per year. 1. forage analysis 2. expert advice 3. herd health outcomes 4. assess animal performance (DLWG) and body condition scoring 5. optimize feed conversion rates The review must be linked with the herd health plan.	Advanced	Herd health outcomes related to nutrition include: - General low immunity, ill-health and a failure to reach production targets may indicate problems with trace elements - Loose dung with dirty hindquarters can be a sign of acidosis and a diet that is damaging the rumen lining - Animals that fail to thrive might not be getting access to feed because of bullying and/or lack of feed space. Make sure all animals can gain feed at the same time comfortably. - Increased cases of milk fever and staggers will highlight problems with the major minerals. Milk fever can result in concurrent disease such as retained foetal membranes, uterine prolapse and the development of environmental mastitis (EAWP). These underlying herd health issues should be identified and addressed in conjunction with the herd health plan. Reference: Tried and Tested Feed planning tool: http://www.nutrientmanagement.org/what-we-do/tools/feed-planning-for-sheep-and-cattle/
FSAB59	Feed safety	Beef	Are all feedstuffs (grown and purchased) fit for purpose?	This includes 1. Feed must be suitable for consumption by livestock and be considered wholesome and free from any known contaminants. 2. Only feed materials, additives and medicines permitted by the local and national law can be used.	Essential	A farmer should ask their feed supplier if the company is covered by a feed certification scheme (FEMAS or equivalent scheme).
FSAB60	Feed Quality	Beef	Do you take steps to maintain the quality of your feed and forage in storage?	Risks to quality such as storage on waterlogged soils, contamination by birds and machinery, and damage by rodents must be identified and managed.	Essential	This relates to feed and forage in storage (post harvest) and not crops growing in the field. FSAB61 requirements also apply
FSAB61	Food safety	Beef	Do you ensure, to the best of your knowledge, that animals sent for slaughter are fit for human consumption?		Essential	If in doubt veterinary advice is sought, it is recognised that in some cases diseases may not be apparent on farm but may be picked up at ante mortem or post mortem inspection at the abattoir.
FSAB62	Land use	Beef	Have you evaluated and optimized land use to maximize home grown nutrition for the beef enterprise?	This means optimising the production output from any home-grown forages and feed e.g. by implementing: 1. improved crop/pasture management 2. techniques to improve forage yield and quality 3. improving forage preservation and storage 4. evaluating what alternative forage/feed can be grown	Advanced	
FSAB63	Planting	Food and Feed	Have you ensured that your seed, new planting material and/or grafting material is of high quality and from trustworthy sources?	This includes certified material or material that can be traced back to its propagation source. This can be from reputable seed producers, neighbors, and cooperatives.	Basic	This includes certified material or material that can be traced back to its propagation source. This can be from reputable seed producers, neighbours, and cooperatives.
FSAB64	Sourcing	Beef	Does your feed supplier comply with the Soy Moratorium?	This question refers to both soybean meal and soy oil. The Soy Moratorium is only relevant to soy sourced from Brazil. This question is only not-applicable if soya is not used in feed, or if your supplier can guarantee that they do not use soy from Brazil.	Basic	To assess your compliance with this question, you should ask your feed supplier/ manufacturer. The Soy Moratorium is a voluntary moratorium on the purchasing of soy from recently deforested areas in the Amazon. It's industry members include Brazil's major traders, together responsible for the majority (more than 90%) of the Brazilian soya trade.
FSAB65	Sourcing	Beef	Does your feed supplier ensure that any palm oil used in feed is responsibly sourced?	Where used in feed, palm oil and it's derivatives is certified according to the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) or equivalent. Palm oil derivatives include palm kernel meal, palm kernel cake, expeller palm kernel meal, solvent-extracted palm kernel meal. This question is only not-applicable where oil palm or it's derivatives is not used in feed.	Advanced	To assess your compliance with this question, you should ask your feed supplier/ manufacturer. Standards other than RSPO will be considered by SAI Platform on an individual basis.
FSAB66	Sourcing	Beef	Does your feed supplier ensure that soya used in feed is responsibly sourced?	Responsibly sourced soy means soy certified under a standard that meets the following requirements: 1. Prohibition of production on land with high conservation value (HCV) and high carbon stock, with a conversion cut-off date not later than 2009. 2. Compliance with all applicable national, local laws, regulations and applicable international conventions 3. Defines good agricultural practices including integrated crop protection and controlling the use of toxic pesticides 4. Respects the right of indigenous and local communities to give or withhold their free, prior and informed consent 5. Protects the rights of all workers, their freedom of association, health and safety 6. Prohibits the use of child labour, forced labour and discrimination 7. Requires effective communication with workers and processes for correction of complaints 8. Is accessible to, or has provisions for, independent farmers and smallholders. To be credible, certification standards shall: a. Be transparent and have been developed through a recognised multi-stakeholder process; b. Require third party audits by independently accredited certification bodies; and c. Only certify inputs that meet equivalent responsible production standards. In practice this means soya that is certified according to the Roundtable on Responsible Soy (RTRS), or Proterra or equivalent. This question refers to both soybean meal and soy oil. This question is only not-applicable if soya is not used in feed.	Advanced	To assess your compliance with this question, you should ask your feed supplier/ manufacturer.
FSAB67	Sourcing	Beef	Do you purchase or source livestock from a farm-assured farm?	Farm assured refers to a national or private scheme that has been benchmarked against the SAI Platform Beef FSA.	Advanced	As a starting point, a benchmark against FSA should be completed by SAI Platform. No particular level of scoring is required at this time.
FSAB68	Training	Beef	Do you ensure that all workers including the farmer have training and/or experience to carry out their duties safely and effectively?	This includes all duties e.g. animal husbandry and handling, spraying, nutrient management etc. Records must be kept for all training activities.	Essential	This should be linked with the health and safety training.
FSAB69	Training	Beef	Do you ensure regular training for workers (including the farmer) on sustainable farming practices?	A training plan must be drawn up for all farm personnel and a record of the training conducted must be maintained. Training in the following areas should be considered: sustainable farming, health and safety, animal welfare, efficient use of resources, reduce / reuse / recycle opportunities	Advanced	Training may include implementation of advanced techniques, efficient use of resources, and an understanding of animal behaviour and welfare. The Beef Farm Sustainability Assessment Questions and farm results can be used as a guide for training.
FSAB70	Hazardous materials	All Farm	Do you ensure that anyone who is in contact with agrochemicals and fertilizers is trained on procedures to deal with accidents and spills	Farmers must ensure that those who handle hazardous materials (including fertilisers, chemicals (as defined above)) are trained in the process.	Basic	Agro-chemicals refer to chemical pesticides, herbicides, fungicides, rodenticides, fertilizers, thinning or crop setting agents.
FSAB71	Traceability	Beef	Are all cattle on the farm individually identified and movement records kept?	All cattle on the farm must be individually identified. A current record must be maintained of all animal movements (births, deaths, purchases, sales) so that the numbers of animals on the farm at any time can be established.	Essential	

FSAB72	Genetics	All Farm	When selecting animal genetics and plant varieties, do you make evidence based decisions for optimized performance?	Farmers must take account of the information available on animal breeding and plant varieties so as to be able to select those animal and plant breeds /varieties most suited to the system of farming. For cattle: Breeding stock is chosen based on available data on health and welfare performance, as well as appropriateness for the production system, environmental conditions and market requirements of the enterprise. This must be linked to the herd health plan. Farmers should be able to explain verbally the process they use to make decisions on breeding/breed selection.	Basic	For cattle farms: Breeding programmes should be focused on specific objectives, and be tailored to the individual farm. Selection of both male and female breeding animals should be based on proven performance data, balanced across the range of desired traits. Things to consider include: -Productivity traits e.g. growth rates, fertility, carcass quality, mothering ability, calving ease, milk production -Suitability for intended production system and climate -Temperament: breeding from animals that are more docile (less aggressive) for human health and safety -Conformation for improved welfare: selecting animals with good muscular-skeletal structures, for example good leg and foot conformation to reduce the likelihood of lameness -Where possible, selection of naturally-polled cattle (i.e. those with no horns) to avoid the need for disbudding or dehorning -Disease status of breeding stock, where there is a risk of transmission to the offspring
FSAB73	Handling and Housing	Beef	Do you have facilities to isolate stock?	Farmers must have access to a facility to isolate stock that are sick, diseased or injured. This applies whether for single animals or groups. Isolation facilities are required for sick, diseased and injured animals.	Basic	Early treatment and isolation of sick animals is necessary to control disease. This does not need to be a permanent or dedicated structure, but there needs to be the ability to segregate an animal when needed. The isolation facility should ideally have a separate air space from areas where other stock are housed. A calf with respiratory disease can shed millions of infectious organisms from its lungs into the atmosphere. (NADIS)
FSAB74	Handling and Housing	Beef	Do you have handling facilities that are fit for purpose, to enable handlers to carry out tasks with the livestock safely and with minimum stress to both livestock and handler?	Farmers must ensure that the animal handling facilities are designed, operated and maintained so as to protect the health and safety of the livestock and the personnel handling them.	Basic	Adequate facilities depend on the system and could range from a few gates to a full, purpose built handling system. The importance is on the stock being managed with minimal stress and risk of injury to both livestock and handler.
FSAB75	Housing	Beef	Have you evaluated housing and facilities in relation to herd health and identified practical steps to improve (where required)?	The evaluation must be linked to the measures recorded as part of the herd health plan.	Basic	The annual review of the health plan should identify any health and welfare challenges to the livestock caused by housing. This may include for example, pneumonia, hock lesions, diarrhoea in calves, reduced time spent lying. Causes linked to housing may include: - Building / Accommodation Maintenance – ensure there are no sharp edges, projections or other hazards which can cause injuries to livestock. - Well Maintained Floors – Floor surfaces must be sound so livestock can walk with ease without slipping. Any slats must be suitable for the type and size of animal and must not cause foot injuries. Non-slatted lying areas must be provided to breeding cows, in-calf heifers and calves - Comfortable Lying Area – ensure lying surfaces are comfortable and well drained, using appropriate clean bedding as required. If bedding is not available, consider alternatives such as rubber covers. Hard and abrasive surfaces can cause lesions, hair loss or swellings (especially on hocks and knees). Cattle need to spend long periods of time lying down in order to ruminate and rest, however cattle will stand rather than lie if the surface is rough and cold. - Good Ventilation – ensure buildings are well ventilated (avoiding high humidity, high temperatures and a build-up of odours), avoid over-crowding and mixing animals of different age groups. Pneumonia in calves can often be avoided if the above measures are implemented. - Cleanliness – good hygiene is important and housing must be regularly cleaned out and disinfected as necessary. Areas used for calving are extremely important to maintain in a clean and hygienic condition; Financial gains from good hygiene in calving pens and calf housing can be significant. All livestock sent to slaughter must meet the abattoir cleanliness specification.
FSAB76	Medicines	Beef	When using animal medicines do you ensure that they are: a) Approved for use b) used in accordance with the withdrawal periods c) not used for growth promotion	The full course of treatment at the correct dosage must always be administered. The appropriate withdrawal period prior to slaughter must be ensured. Hormones and antibiotic medicines must not be used for the purposes of growth promotion. There must be records of the identity of treated animal(s), the batch number, amount and expiry date of the medicine used, the required withdrawal period and the time and date the medication was completed for any specific animal. Medicines must be stored according to the manufacturers' instructions. Unused or unwanted medicines must be disposed of according to manufacturers' instructions or returned to the veterinary surgeon or supplier for safe disposal.	Essential	
FSAB77	Medicines	Beef	Have you developed and implemented a plan, in conjunction with your veterinary surgeon, to minimise the use of medicines that have been identified as Critically Important Antimicrobials (CIAs) for Human medicine by the World Health Organisation?		Basic	
FSAB78	Medicines	Beef	Have you developed and implemented a plan, in conjunction with your veterinary surgeon, to minimise/avoid the preventive (prophylactic) use of antimicrobials?	There must be a written plan which must: 1. Incorporate records to identify the use of preventive (prophylactic) treatments i.e. the type of animal(s) treated (young stock, cows etc.) and the reason for use. Records must ideally be kept for a minimum of 3 years to enable trends to be established. 2. Be demonstrably linked with the Herd Health Plan i.e. the Herd Health Plan must identify the recommended improvements to bio-security and animal husbandry to avoid/minimise the need for such treatments in future groups (e.g. vaccination for major respiratory pathogens where there is a history on the farm of viral pneumonia). The plan must be updated at least annually together with the responsible veterinary surgeon, and be linked with the herd health plan review.	Advanced	We recommend that farmers consult with their vets in order to fulfil this criteria. Curative treatment (also referred to as Therapy) is the treatment of a sick animal or group of animals following the diagnosis of infection and/or clinical disease. Control treatment (sometimes referred to as Metaphylaxis) is the treatment of a group of animals after the diagnosis of infection and/or clinical disease in part of the group, with the aim of preventing the spread of infectious disease to animals in close contact and at considerable risk and which may already be (sub-clinically) infected. Preventative treatment (sometimes referred to as prophylaxis) is defined as the treatment of an animal or a group of animals, BEFORE clinical signs of infectious disease in the group, in order to prevent the occurrence of disease or infection. NB. Dry cow therapy is excluded from this as it is not known to lead to resistance issues.
FSAB79	Waste Management	Beef	Do you store and dispose waste of Animal By-Products (ABPs), in a manner to avoid any risks to humans, other stock and the environment?	Animal by-products (ABPs) such as animal carcasses, parts of carcasses or products of animal origin that are not intended for human consumption must be immediately removed and stored securely away from access by other stock, animals (including wildlife) and away from water courses. They are disposed of properly and promptly, in accordance with legal requirements.	Essential	
FSAB80	Waste Management	All Farm	Do you store and dispose of waste materials to minimise risks to humans, animals and the environment?	Waste storage and disposal must be assessed for risks considering the following, as appropriate: 1. Location of storage (e.g. distance from housing, water channels and conservation areas) 2. Does the storage need to be secured? 3. Capacity of the storage 4. Is the storage appropriately built to contain the waste? 5. Storage of waste is segregated (e.g. hazardous from non-hazardous, waste is not stored with non-waste) 6. Procedures are in place to contain spills 7. Disposal method e.g. licensed collections	Basic	A written assessment is not required.
FSAB81	Waste Management	Beef	Do you reduce, reuse, and recycle waste?	There must be evidence that the Farmer is implementing measures to reduce, reuse or recycle where possible	Basic	
FSAB82	Energy efficiency	All Farm	Do you take measures to optimize energy use and/or do you generate or use renewable energy on the farm?	Farmers must be able to describe the measures being taken to optimise energy use and to use energy from renewable sources This includes use of machinery and equipment, lighting and heating. Farmers should be able to explain verbally what they are doing and why.	Basic	Possible measures include: - Use or generation of renewable energy e.g. wind, solar - Anaerobic digestion of manure with biogas capture for renewable energy Using farming equipment efficiently, e.g. by combining field operations and optimizing haulage distances; avoiding unnecessary operations, and using appropriate and well-maintained machinery and equipment. - Using advanced formulation fertilizers such as slow-release, low-carbon, or fertilizer additives such as nitrification or urease inhibitors where proven to be food safe. - Minimizing the energy used for cropping by using no-till.
FSAB83	Biosecurity and Animal Health	Beef	Do you take preventative measures to minimise the risk of entry of diseases on the farm?	The following must be addressed, as appropriate for your farming system: 1. Awareness of nationally significant endemic diseases (e.g. John's disease) and the subsequent risk of incoming visitors and stock. 2. Any bought in stock are inspected for signs of illness prior to purchase, isolated upon arrival for an appropriate period (preferably as advised by a Veterinarian - usually 13-20 days), and monitored for signs of disease. 3. Disinfectant foot dips or alternative foot wear is available. This question applies to every farm.	Basic	
FSAB84	Biosecurity and Animal Health	Beef	Have you implemented advanced biosecurity precautions to minimise the risk of entry diseases on the farm?	All farms must do the following: 1. The approach to replacement/new stock is focused on the first three options of the risk hierarchy i.e. in order of least risk (see guidance for hierarchy) 2. Measures to prevent nose to nose contact with neighbouring stock are taken, where relevant. 3. Vehicles and (shared) equipment are disinfected prior to entering and leaving the farm 4. All visitors and workers are provided with either: a. Protective clothing that is not removed from the farm OR b. Materials to clean and disinfect waterproof clothing before entry and exit off the farm	Advanced	Risk Hierarchy for New Stock: 1) All stock are bred on the farm (i.e. a closed herd is maintained) 2) Animals are purchased from herds certified free of specific diseases 3) Animals are purchased from herds of known status for specific diseases 4) Animals are purchased from single source herds of known disease status 5) Animals are purchased from multiple sources of known status for specific diseases 6) Animals are purchased from herds of unknown disease status or in which the disease is known to have occurred.

FSAB85	Health & Safety	All Farm	Have you identified the health and safety risks posed to all workers (including the farmer) and taken appropriate actions to prevent accidents, injuries or health issues associated with the work?	All identified risks must be covered and this must be documented, although a documented plan is not expected for farms with no workers but it must be able to be explained verbally. Actions taken may include training.	Essential	<p>Risks may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Using / applying of fertilizer or chemicals (agrochemicals or other) - Handling waste - Using machinery - Working circumstances (e.g. working at height) - Design and set up of storage and workshops - Disease risks from livestock - livestock handling - Personal hygiene - slurry stores <p>A health and safety plan helps you to describe the health risks and actions that are taken to prevent accidents. Also emergency activities could be part of the plan. Any health and safety plan should be updated annually.</p> <p>Warning signs should also be clear to illiterate workers.</p>
FSAB86	Health & Safety	All Farm	Do you ensure adequate first aid supplies are available and easily accessible	As a minimum, adequate first aid supplies must be available, easily accessible and their location is known to all workers.	Essential	<p>First aid supplies may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Eye washing stations - First aid kit with sufficient supplies that are up to date and that is regularly checked. - A list of emergency telephone numbers
FSAB87	Crisis Management	All Farm	Do you have a documented plan for the effective management of serious incidents and emergency situations?	<p>Farmers must have a documented emergency plan that is posted on a noticeboard and accessible to all farm personnel and that identifies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the actions to be taken to safeguard personnel and livestock in the event of flood and fire - the actions to be taken in advance of the onset of extreme weather - the people that need to be contacted in the event of an emergency (police, medical / hospital, farm owner, veterinarian) 	Basic	<p>Emergency situations can be those that threaten the welfare of livestock, food safety or the environment. The plan must be documented and be known to all key workers</p> <p>You must consider all risks to your farm and livestock and may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - feed and/or water equipment failure - fire - power failure - extreme weather (drought, flooding, snow) - disease outbreaks - pollution incident <p>The plan should also include relevant contact details e.g. vet, utility supplier etc.</p>
FSAB88	GHGs and economics	Beef	Do you keep records of stock performance, feed quality, fertilizer use (kg/ha) and fuel usage on the farm?	<p>A record must be maintained that identifies the performance of livestock on the farm as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - estimated daily liveweight gain - estimated feed conversion efficiency - average % mortality for each group of animals - age at first calving (breeding herds only) - calves born/total number of cows (breeding herds only) <p>A record must be maintained that identifies the performance of slaughtered livestock as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - carcass weight - kill out % - age at slaughter <p>Feed data must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - estimated forage yield 	Basic	
FSAB89	GHGs and economics	Beef	Do you carry out an economic assessment for your farm enterprise?	The Farmer needs to have gone through a process of economic evaluation of the business that provides an understanding of the profitability of the business. We need farmers to make informed and profitable management decisions and this evaluation will underpin this action. A copy of the assessment needs to be available.	Basic	This review should consider the total income less total input costs. Whilst tax accounts are an important starting point for some farmers, it is the management accounts that are the most useful for informed decision making related to improving the business performance.
FSAB90	GHGs and economics	Beef	Do you evaluate the carbon footprint of your business and seek to reduce key emission areas identified?	Carbon Foot printing of the beef enterprise does not need to be undertaken every year though it is important that informed GHG reduction decisions are made based on a tangible and 'recent' GHG footprint report.	Basic	As a guide 'recent' equates every 3 years. The GHG calculation not only informs you of the inefficiencies of the business (as carbon leaving the business is actually a waste) it will also inform you if your GHG mitigation activities are making a genuine difference or whether further actions are necessary. Much of the data extracted for the economic assessment will also be of value to the GHG Footprinting process and importantly should be consulted when considering any mitigation/reduction strategies.
FSAB91	GHGs and economics	Beef	Have you taken steps to maximize your farm's economic efficiency, based on the results of the efficiency assessment?	Steps taken must be measurable and realistic.	Advanced	
FSAB92	Local community	All farm	Does your farm business contribute actively to the neighbouring communities?	The livestock business operator should play an active role in the local community. The incorporation of this question is to encourage farmers and their business operations to consider sourcing locally prior to seeking the same skills/resources from a wider environment	Advanced	<p>The incorporation of this question is to encourage farmers and their business operations to consider sourcing locally prior to seeking the same skills/resources from a wider environment</p> <p>Many stakeholders do not appreciate the value of the livestock farming business to the local community through the provision of employment and as customers for local businesses. Often farmers themselves do not understand the value they bring to local communities. To allow farmers appreciate their unique situation and to be able to seek a response to this topic some simple and general questions during the audit process are to be asked. These may include questions along the lines of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Is the farm and its employees actively engaged in the community, trying to contribute to its further development where appropriate? - Does the farm try to source labor locally before searching more widely? Does the farm purchase inputs locally where appropriate? - Does the farm and its staff promote farming as an attractive profession to the younger generation of the local community?
FSAB93	Air	All Farm	Have you identified the key sources of air pollution from your farm and taken appropriate measures to mitigate these?	Farmers must be able to identify the key sources of air pollution and verbally describe their action taken to mitigate these sources of pollution. For example - Odours including ammonia from manure arising from animal housing, manure storage; odours and aerosols caused by manure application; dust from tillage operations or uncovered soil; drift from pesticide application; noise and exhaust fumes from machinery operation	Advanced	<p>Potential sources include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ammonia from housed livestock, intensive grazing, manure storage and application - Burning waste - Pesticide application - Dust - Machinery exhaust fumes <p>Potential mitigation measures include slurry injection or manure incorporation into the soil, covering manure stores, avoidance of burning waste (especially plastics), timing of applications in relation to weather conditions etc.</p>
FSAB94	Labor Conditions	All Farm	Do you prohibit the use of any form of forced and bonded labor?	<p>This includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The farm (or its recruiting agency if relevant) does not charge employees recruiting or hiring fees that require the employee to be indebted to the farm (or recruiting agency), or to work for the farm (or recruiting agency) to pay off the debt. 2. The farm does not withhold any part of any employee's salary, benefits, property or documents (e.g. identity cards and travel documents) in order to force such employee to continue working for them. 3. Employees are allowed to leave the farm's premises at the end of their shifts. 4. The farm (or its recruiting agency if relevant) does not participate in or allow human trafficking. [Reference: ILO Conventions C29 and C105] <p>This question can only be 'not applicable' if you do not have permanent or temporary workers.</p>	Essential	Permanent and temporary workers refers to all workers hired directly and through subcontractors.
FSAB95	Labor Conditions	Workers	Do you ensure that wages and benefits of permanent and temporary workers meet or exceed the minimum required under local and national laws and that they are paid on a regular basis?	<p>This includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Payments are done in a timely manner 2. Wages are paid in a legal currency, or in another form acceptable to workers without creating any form of dependency. <p>This question can only be 'not applicable' if you do not have permanent or temporary workers.</p>	Essential	<p>Alternative forms of compensation may include merchandise, vouchers, tokens, etc. In the case of compensation with merchandise, and when applicable a written document should be available that describes the nature of the agreement. In the case of illiteracy, it should be explained to the workers verbally. This is to ensure that the content of such document is clear to both employer and worker.</p> <p>Permanent and temporary workers refers to all workers hired directly and through subcontractors.</p>
FSAB96	Labor Conditions	Workers	Do you prevent discrimination of permanent and temporary workers?	<p>Discrimination is not permitted, on the basis of gender, ethnic background, national origin, religion, disability, sexual orientation, pregnancy, worker organization membership or political affiliation with regard to contracts, compensation, training, promotion, dismissal or retirement.</p> <p>Non-job-related medical testing as a condition of employment (except lawful drug testing) is prohibited.</p> <p>This question can only be 'not applicable' if you do not have permanent or temporary workers.</p>	Essential	<p>Positive discrimination is allowed in countries where the law provides for measures to support positive discrimination for 'previously disadvantaged people' or 'minorities'. Positive discrimination may however never lead to exclusion of certain groups of people.</p> <p>Permanent and temporary workers refers to all workers hired directly and through subcontractors.</p>
FSAB97	Labor Conditions	Workers	Do you ensure that overtime work is voluntary and compensated according to national legislation?	This question can only be 'not applicable' if you do not have permanent or temporary workers.	Essential	Permanent and temporary workers refers to all workers hired directly and through subcontractors.
FSAB98	Labor Conditions	Workers	Do you allow all workers the right to establish, join or actively participate in an association of their choice?	<p>If trade unions are not allowed in the area of operation, or only state authorized organizations are allowed, then the farmer facilitates alternative measures to allow employees to gather independently to discuss work-related matters and a forum to present work-related concerns to management.</p> <p>This question can only be 'not applicable' if you do not have permanent or temporary workers.</p>	Essential	<p>Freedom of association is the right of employees to establish and to join organizations of their own choosing without any prior authorization or interference. [Reference: ILO Conventions C87 and C98].</p> <p>Permanent and temporary workers refers to all workers hired directly and through subcontractors.</p>

FSAB99	Labor Conditions	Workers	Do you ensure that effective functioning of labor organizations is permitted?	<p>This includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Allowing workers on your farm to conduct activities related to the labor organization on the farm. 2. Providing Workers' representatives with access to employees at the workplace and reasonable access to company facilities and documents needed to fulfil their duties. 3. Protecting labor organization's members or representatives that work at the farm from discrimination or dismissal based on their status or activities related to their relation to labor organizations (member or representative). <p>[Reference: ILO Conventions C35].</p> <p>This question can only be 'not applicable' if you do not have permanent or temporary workers.</p>	Essential	Permanent and temporary workers refers to all workers hired directly and through subcontractors.
FSAB100	Labor Conditions	Workers	Do you allow all workers the right to collective bargaining?	<p>Collective bargaining is allowed without retribution towards any worker or group of workers and can be used for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Determining working conditions and terms of employment; and/or 2. Regulating relations between employers and workers; and/or 3. Regulating relations between employers or their organizations and a workers' organization. <p>[Reference: ILO Conventions C35].</p> <p>The farm management engages, in good faith, with employee/farm worker/Union representatives in collective bargaining discussions and complies with collective bargaining agreements</p> <p>This question can only be 'not applicable' if you do not have permanent or temporary workers.</p>	Essential	<p>Negotiations between employers and a group of employees about working conditions are considered collective bargaining.</p> <p>Permanent and temporary workers refers to all workers hired directly and through subcontractors.</p>
FSAB101	Labor Conditions	Workers	Do you prohibit employing children under 15 years as permanent and temporary workers?	<p>If local legislation has established a higher minimum age, this higher age applies.</p> <p>If you are a family farm, you can answer 'yes' if the farmer's children only participate in farming practices under all of the following conditions (and only if local laws do not prohibit it):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Only for light work and are not forced or bonded labor; 2. For a limited number of hours (max. 14 hours a week); 3. If the work does not jeopardize their physical and mental well-being; 4. If the work does not interfere with their schooling; 5. Do not work in unhealthy situations, at night, or with dangerous substances or equipment, nor do they carry heavy loads; 6. Are always accompanied by an adult relative. <p>Any children under 15 shall be supported by ensuring that they can attend school. If local legislation has established a higher minimum age, this higher age applies.</p>	Essential	<p>Permanent and temporary workers refers to all workers hired directly and through subcontractors.</p> <p>[Reference: ILO Conventions C138]</p>
FSAB102	Labor Conditions	Workers	Do you ensure that vulnerable workers do not conduct hazardous work or any work that jeopardizes their physical, mental or moral well being, even more so than any other workers?	<p>Vulnerable workers include those under the age of 18, those with physical or mental disabilities, those who are ill, pregnant, inexperienced or elderly workers. This includes activities such as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. working in dangerous locations, in unhealthy situations, at night, alone, or with dangerous substances or equipment, carrying heavy loads, and with appropriate supervision. 2. Tasks should be assigned to them based on their physical and mental capabilities. 	Essential	<p>Dangerous substances include but are not limited to fertilizers and pesticides.</p> <p>It is recommended that workers below 18 years of age are encouraged to engage in some form of education.</p> <p>Permanent and temporary workers refers to all workers hired directly and through subcontractors.</p>
FSAB103	Labor Conditions	All Farm	Do you ensure that all accidents are recorded, that appropriate medical treatment was received and that corrective action is taken to prevent similar accidents in the future?	An accident record book must be kept on farm and must be used to inform the identification of health and safety risks.	Basic	
FSAB104	Labor Conditions	Workers	Do you inform permanent and temporary workers of their legal rights and obligations and establish working contracts or relationships in accordance with national laws?	<p>This includes providing workers with clear information about payment received for their work and their employment conditions.</p> <p>This question can only be 'not applicable' if you do not have permanent or temporary workers.</p>	Basic	<p>This may a written contract, or where necessary, a verbal explanation to the workers.</p> <p>Permanent and temporary workers refers to all workers hired directly and through subcontractors.</p>
FSAB105	Labor Conditions	Workers	Do you ensure that daily working hours for permanent and temporary workers do not exceed the maximum number of hours set by national regulations and ILO Conventions?	<p>This includes that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Working hours are limited to 48 hours (or less) per week. 2. Overtime does not exceed 12 hours per week, unless agreed and overtime is not forced. 3. Employees are given reasonable breaks while working and a sufficient rest periods between shifts. Breaks are strategically scheduled so that no employee is required to work for extended periods of time during a shift without a rest period. 4. Employees can use toilet facilities whenever necessary. 5. Workers are given at least 24 consecutive hours of rest every seven day period. <p>This question can only be 'not applicable' if you do not have permanent or temporary workers.</p>	Basic	<p>Permanent and temporary workers refers to all workers hired directly and through subcontractors.</p> <p>[Reference: ILO Conventions C1, C14, C30 and C106]</p>
FSAB106	Labor Conditions	Workers	Do you follow national law and /or international standards (ILO Conventions) for paid holiday leave, paid sick leave and paid parental leave for your permanent and temporary workers?	<p>This includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Holiday leave is not used as a substitute for sick leave. 2. Permanent employees have at least two weeks of paid leave per year (or equivalent for shorter contracts). <p>You follow the most stringent regulation.</p> <p>This question can only be 'not applicable' if you do not have permanent or temporary workers.</p>	Basic	Permanent and temporary workers refers to all workers hired directly and through subcontractors.
FSAB107	Labor Conditions	Workers	Do permanent and temporary workers receive appropriate payment for their tasks and abilities while having equal work opportunities?	<p>This means that the same skill level, experience, type of work and level of responsibility is awarded in the same way and that workers performing the same tasks have the same possibility to get promoted.</p> <p>This question can only be 'not applicable' if you do not have permanent or temporary workers.</p>	Basic	Permanent and temporary workers refers to all workers hired directly and through subcontractors.
FSAB108	Labor Conditions	Workers	If deductions from wages take place, are they clear to the workers and are they never used for disciplinary purposes?	<p>Permanent and temporary workers are not charged illegal or excessive deductions or fees, including fees for personal protective equipment, deposits for accommodation, tools, etc.</p> <p>This question can only be 'not applicable' if you do not have permanent or temporary workers.</p>	Basic	Permanent and temporary workers refers to all workers hired directly and through subcontractors.
FSAB109	Labor Conditions	Workers	Do permanent and temporary workers have the right to freely practice their religion or fulfill needs relating to cultural background, disability, gender and sexual orientation?	<p>This question can only be 'not applicable' if you do not have permanent or temporary workers.</p>	Basic	Permanent and temporary workers refers to all workers hired directly and through subcontractors.
FSAB110	Labor Conditions	Workers	Do you ensure that behaviour, gestures, language, and physical contact are not sexually abusive, coercive or threatening?	<p>This question can only be 'not applicable' if you do not have permanent or temporary workers.</p>	Basic	Permanent and temporary workers refers to all workers hired directly and through subcontractors.
FSAB111	Labor Conditions	Workers	Do you ensure that permanent and temporary workers can safely and without facing repercussions report complaints and that appropriate action is taken?	<p>This includes complaints about gestures, language and physical contact that are sexually abusive, coercive or threatening as well as complaints about working and living conditions.</p> <p>This question can only be 'not applicable' if you do not have permanent or temporary workers.</p>	Basic	<p>Appropriate action may be investigation, reprimands, dismissal and/or reporting to local authorities. Record keeping of cases is highly recommended.</p> <p>Permanent and temporary workers refers to all workers hired directly and through subcontractors.</p>
FSAB112	Labor Conditions	All Farm	Do you ensure that all children under 15 years living on the farm can go to school or receive schooling at home?	<p>If local legislation has established a higher minimum age than 15 years of age, this higher age applies.</p> <p>Schooling at home is only admissible if it is done according to a recognized program.</p> <p>This question can only be 'not applicable' if you do not have children working or living on the farm.</p>	Basic	It is recommended that workers below 18 years of age are encouraged to engage in some form of education.
FSAB113	Labor Conditions	Workers	Do you compensate permanent and temporary workers that became ill due to work related activities?	<p>Compensation meets or exceeds legal requirements.</p> <p>This question can only be 'not applicable' if you do not have permanent or temporary workers.</p>	Advanced	<p>Compensation may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - continuing paying their wage - compensate the family of the worker in kind <p>Permanent and temporary workers refers to all workers hired directly and through subcontractors.</p>
FSAB114	Labor Conditions	Workers	Do you pay your permanent and temporary workers a living wage?	<p>This question can only be 'not applicable' if you do not have permanent or temporary workers.</p>	Advanced	<p>A living wage (on full time basis) is sufficient to meet basic needs of an average household, such as food, clean water, shelter, clothes, education, healthcare, transport and energy and provide for some discretionary income. Overtime hours are not required to provide a sufficient wage. Piece rate systems are monitored to ensure that the total salary paid meets the requirements of a sufficient wage.</p> <p>Permanent and temporary workers refers to all workers hired directly and through subcontractors.</p>
FSAB115	Labor Conditions	Workers	Do you encourage and support your workers to have health insurance?	<p>This question can only be 'not applicable' if you do not have permanent or temporary workers.</p> <p>This question can only be 'not applicable' when there is a national health system in place for the country.</p>	Advanced	<p>Health insurance can include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - long term compensation in case of disability - Payment of medical costs <p>Support may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Creating awareness about available insurance - Providing information about available insurance <p>Permanent and temporary workers refers to all workers hired directly and through subcontractors.</p>
FSAB116	Labor Conditions	Workers	Do you take into account language in the communication on the farm?	<p>Farmers must ensure that workers' languages are accommodated so that communications on the farmer are clear and understood.</p> <p>Warning signs and safety procedures and other important communications are developed in such way that they are understood by all workers.</p> <p>This question can only be 'not applicable' if you do not have permanent or temporary workers.</p>	Advanced	<p>To promote literacy it is recommended to provide/support training on reading and writing.</p> <p>To improve communication in the local language, it is recommended to organize / support language lessons in the local language.</p> <p>Permanent and temporary workers refers to all workers hired directly and through subcontractors.</p>