

Red Tractor Compliant Health Plan

	Farm Details		Veterinary Practice Details
Name	S,T and R Langdon		Torch Farm and Equine
Address	Luckworthy farm Molland South Molton Devon EX36 3NQ		Horsepond Meadow South Molton EX 36 4EJ
Telephone	01769551831		01769610000
Mobile	07739318771		07551129546
Herd/Flock Numbers	Sheep 750 ewes Breeding cattle 180 cows		
Plan completed by	Name: Sophia Elworthy		Signature: Date: 13-10-14
Review completed by	Name:		Signature: Date
Next Review Date	October 2015		
Cattle	Sheep	Cattle & Sheep Review required in 2015	<i>(tick as appropriate)</i>

1. **Farm Biosecurity Policy** (additional general guidance in Veterinary Care – Section 6)

Animals:

Policy for selecting incoming stock	The incoming stock should be isolated for 3weeks post purchase and tested/vaccinated according to the details below
Are incoming stock isolated?	Yes
Tests and examinations performed on stock prior to entering the herd	Cattle – BVD test for persistent infection. Johnes test if appropriate (depending on seller history)
Treatment/Vaccines Given to Stock prior to entering the herd	Cattle – Bovidec vaccine, Fasimec flukicide, Bimectin pour on wormer, Sheep – zolvix wormer and dectomax injection to reduce worm resistance and scab control

People:

Essential visitors only?	Yes
Cleaning and disinfection of clothing / boots Power wash / hose?	Biosecurity footbath provided
Dedicated clothing / boots for sole use on farm?	Dedicated overall/boots should be provided for any staff working on other farms
Visitors book / record?	Farm diary
Clean and disinfect after visiting other farms?	Use biosecurity foot bath
Contractors / casual labour?	Use biosecurity foot bath

Buildings:

Clean and disinfect between use?	Clean and disinfect when emptied
Vermin / wildlife proofing?	Vermin control according to farm specific programme (cats)

Equipment

Own use?	Yes
Contractors?	Yes
If shared, cleaned (and disinfected)	Yes,

2. Vaccination Policy

Category of stock	Disease	Vaccine used	Timing
Cattle Bovidec vaccine Blackleg vaccine	BVD (bovine viral diarrhoea)	Bovidec (initial course, 2x 4ml doses under skin 3weeks apart. Booster one 4ml dose under skin	July (pre service) - all breeding stock including bulling heifers and breeding bulls
	Black leg	Black leg (2x 2ml doses 6 weeks apart under skin	Spring (pre turnout) –all youngstock under 2years old
Sheep Footvax Testing to be carried out to assess risk of Enzootic abortion and toxoplasmosis	Foot rot	Footvax – 1ml per sheep under	

3. Parasite Control

Category of stock	Type of parasite	Treatment used	Timing
Adult cattle	Liver fluke	Fasinex 10% drench Meat: 56days Trodox 34%injection Meat:60 days	8-10week intervals from August/September to housing and again at housing At turnout to ensure no fluke at turnout

First season grazing calves	Liver fluke	Fasinex 10% drench Meat: 56 days	8-10week intervals from August/September to housing and again at housing
		Trodax 34%injection Meat: 60 days	At turnout to ensure no fluke at turnout
Adult ewes	Gut worms	Bimectin pour on Meat:31days	Every 4-5weeks from July through to November
	Fluke	Fasinex 5% Meat 56days	Every 8-10weeks from late August/September through to housing
	Gut worms	Cydectin 0.1% drench Meat 14days	Once at lambing/turnout
Lambs	External parasites e.g. ticks and scab	Dipping	
	Gut worms	Rycoben Meat: 3days	Early in the season to protect against nematodirus (early May)
		Fasinex 5% Meat 56 days	Every 8-10weeks from late August/September through to housing

We should test your lambs for resistance to different groups of wormers next spring to allow effective drenches to be used

4. Routine Management Procedures and Veterinary Operations (additional guidance in *Veterinary Care – Section 7*)

Calf Management:

Name of person(s) responsible for attending to newborn calves:

R. Langdon. J. McDermott

The table below outlines specific procedures in detail

Procedure	Specific instructions
General procedure for attending newborn calves	If born indoors, dress naval with 10% iodine
Navel dressing	10% iodine
Colostrum administration	Suckle mother – if doubt over intake (6pints should be consumed within 6 hours) then stomach tube with fresh colostrum or frozen supplied. Artificial colostrum can be used in an emergency.

Procedures for older calves

Procedures such as disbudding and castration (where applicable) should be performed by suitable trained persons under veterinary direction:

Procedure	Competent Person	Specific Instructions
Disbudding	R. Langdon	Disbud at under 6weeks of age
Castration	R. Langdon	Rubber ring at under 7days old.

Lambs:

Name of person(s) responsible for attending to newborn lambs:

R. Langdon, Tracy Langdon, Steve Langdon, J McDermott

The table below outlines specific procedures in detail

Procedure	Specific instructions
General procedure for attending newborn lambs	Dress naval with 10% iodine. Individual pen and monitor colostrum intakes
Navel dressing	10% iodine
Colostrum administration	Suckle mother and if in doubt, stomach tube with 150mls colostrum

Procedure	Competent Person	Specific Instructions
Tail docking	R. Langdon, J. McDermott	Rubber ring under 7days old
Castration	R. Langdon, J. McDermott	Rubber ring under 7days old

<i>Areas covered may include: footcare, naval dipping, tail-docking, disbudding, de-horning, castration</i>					
Type of stock	Age (if applicable)	Procedure	Method/Product	Anaesthetic (operations only)	Performed by
Calves	Under 7days old	Tail docking Castration	Rubber ring		See above
Lambs	Under 7days old	Tail docking Castration	Rubber ring		See above
IF THIS SECTION IS NOT APPLICABLE TO YOUR FARM PLEASE TICK					<input type="checkbox"/>

5. Medicines

Facilities for the correct storage of veterinary medicines	In locked cabinet in workshop
Person with overall responsibility for veterinary medicines	Mr R. Langdon
Names of all persons competent in administering veterinary medicines to livestock	R. Langdon, J. McDermott, S.Langdon, T. Langdon
Method of sharps disposal	Sharps container
Method of unused medicine and empty medicine container disposal	Doop bottle bin

Medicine Use:

Method of recording treatments with veterinary medicines	Medicine book
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Medicine With-hold:

In order to avoid potential mistakes, a robust system of identifying treated animals must be in place.

Method of identifying treated animals:	
Cows	Ear tag number or spray paint
Calves (less than 6 months old)	Ear tag number or spray paint
Youngstock	Ear tag number or spray paint
Bull	Ear tag number or spray paint
Ewes / Rams / Lambs	Ear tag number or spray paint

In addition to the above, a record must be maintained of all medicine purchases including dates and quantities.

Method of recording medicine purchases	Medicine book
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VETERINARY CARE

1. Veterinary Attention & Preventing Neglect

Core to any livestock production system is good animal welfare.

Protecting the welfare of the livestock under your care will help maintain high levels of productivity.

Welfare should be considered within the framework of the “Five Freedoms” developed by the Farm Animal Welfare Council (FAWC):

1. Freedom from hunger & thirst
2. Freedom from discomfort
3. Freedom from pain injury and disease
4. Freedom to express normal behaviour
5. Freedom from fear & distress

As owner or manager of the livestock, you have the responsibility for their health and welfare. It is illegal to cause or allow unnecessary suffering to any farm animal and this includes neglect of disease or injury.

- **Not only is poor welfare illegal, it will severely compromise productivity.**
- **Any sick, unhealthy, or debilitated animal must receive immediate attention, and if the problem cannot be quickly resolved, then veterinary attention must be summoned.**

For further information please refer to the defra publication *Code of Recommendations for the Welfare of Livestock – Cattle / Sheep*

2. CALF MANAGEMENT

Neonatal Calves

The correct management of newborn calves is essential to ensure their future health and welfare. Failure to manage them correctly at this time can have serious implications for future productivity.

Of particular importance is the administration of colostrum. **Colostrum is the only source of protection against disease that the calf will have for the first several weeks of life.** Calves that fail to consume adequate colostrum are many times more likely to suffer calfhood diseases such as scours or pneumonia.

All calves must receive at least 3 litres (6 pints) of colostrum in the first 6 hours of life.

Wherever possible colostrum should be administered by hand to ensure that it has been taken. It should also wherever possible come from the calf's dam to minimise the risk of transmission of Johnes disease. Only in exceptional circumstances should stored or replacement colostrum be fed.

LAMB MANAGEMENT

Neonatal Lambs:

The correct management of newborn lambs is essential to ensure their future health and welfare. Failure to manage them correctly at this time can have serious implications for future productivity. Of particular importance is the administration of colostrum. **Colostrum is the only source of protection against disease that the calf will have for the first**

several weeks of life. Lambs that fail to consume adequate colostrum are many times more likely to suffer diseases such as scour, joint ill or pneumonia.

All lambs must receive at least 50-100mls of colostrum in the first 6 hours of life.

- Ensure weak lambs receive colostrum: A store of frozen or powdered colostrum is essential. It is essential that newborn lambs receive at least 50-100mls colostrum within 6 hrs of birth .
- All weak or assisted lambs should receive antibiotic treatment
- Ensure weak lambs can be heated: Infra-red lamp or warm box.
- Ring tails and castrate at 48 hrs of age or pre- turn-out.

3. MEDICINES

In dispensing medicines to you, Torch Farm and Equine must satisfy the requirements of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons Guide to Professional Conduct, BVA Guides and Codes of Practice, and current legislation. Only medicines authorised for use in food producing animals in the UK and supplied by authorized distributors or suppliers or those specifically prescribed by a veterinary surgeon under the rules of prescribing provided by legislation or guidance from the Veterinary Medicines Directorate, may be used on the farm.

Medicine Storage

Medicines must be securely stored in the correct conditions (eg refrigerated). Adequate records must be maintained and medicines must only be administered by competent persons who have received appropriate training. Unused medicines, empty containers and sharps must be disposed of appropriately by returning them to Torch Farm and Equine (or another authorised disposal company) in containers specifically intended for that purpose.

Medicine Records & Identification

All medicines licensed for use in food producing animals must have withdrawal periods for milk and meat as appropriate. All treatments must be recorded to include:

- the date of treatment,
- animal identification,
- name of medicine used,
- the batch number of the medicine,
- the date that milk/meat is fit for human consumption and
- the name of the person administering the medicine.

A list of withdrawal periods for all medicines dispensed by Torch Farm and Equine is attached. If a medicine is to be used “off label” under veterinary supervision, Torch Farm and Equine will specify appropriate withdrawal periods that must be adhered to.

4. Broken Needle Policy

In the event that a broken needle is left in an animal during treatment we will take the following action:

- 1 Mark the animal with a distinct and permanent form of identification and record the date, animal identification and injection site in the veterinary medicine record.
- 2 When disposed of, the animal will be consigned direct to slaughter and not sold to another producer. The movement / means of disposal will be recorded in the herd / flock record book.
- 3 If the animal is to be retained as breeding stock or for longer than 7 days we will check its health regularly and when disposed of, follow the procedure at point 5.
- 4 The animal will only be marketed within 7 days if the withdrawal period for the substance being injected allows this. And the animal will be consigned to a slaughterhouse with an emergency slaughter certificate from a veterinary surgeon which provides details of the injection site. The injection site with the broken needle will be marked on the animal before consignment.
- 5 If the animal is marketed after 7 days we will consign it to a slaughterhouse and inform the slaughterhouse in writing of the broken needle, providing details of the injection site and the date on which it occurred. The injection site with the broken needle will be marked on the animal before consignment.
- 6 Otherwise the animal will be kept for home consumption taking care to avoid broken needle. Alternatively it will be euthanased.

IF PRECAUTIONS 1-5 ABOVE ARE TAKEN AND THE SLAUGHTERHOUSE IS FULLY INFORMED IN WRITING, THE BROKEN-NEEDLE ANIMAL MAY BE MARKETED AS FARM ASSURED CATTLE OR SHEEP.

5. Storage & Disposal of Sharps and Pharmaceutical Waste

Below are some guidelines on the safe storage and disposal of sharps and pharmaceutical waste.

DO's

- Prior to disposal, all waste must be stored safely in a secure, rigid container (glass containers are not suitable) marked with appropriate warning symbols.
- 'Sharps boxes' can be obtained from independent companies licensed for the safe disposal of sharps and clinical and pharmaceutical waste. Such companies supply their disposal boxes via Agricultural Suppliers, Veterinary Surgeons, or Local Health Authorities.
- Needles and sharp instruments must be put in the sharps box together with any glass containers that will fit.
- Other glass containers and medicine containers must be kept in a suitable secure container awaiting disposal.
- The licensed waste disposal companies collect full boxes from Veterinary Practices and Agricultural Suppliers periodically. The charge for a box will include the price of collection from these collection points. If your waste is moved in this way, i.e. on a carrier collection round, the licensed carrier will be responsible for all the paper work (a schedule and consignment note).
- Always read the label – many manufacturers provide disposal information on their Health and Safety data sheets.
- All staff should be trained so that they are aware of waste management procedures.
- Try to reduce the quantity of waste generated if possible. This can be achieved by purchasing only the quantity of medicine needed for immediate use thus ensuring that there is no surplus product exceeding its use by date.

DON'Ts

- Bury
- Burn
- Bin

IF IN DOUBT CONSULT YOUR VETERINARY SURGEON

6. BIOSECURITY POLICY

Biosecurity is essential to protect your livestock from disease that could enter your farm. It also serves to protect incoming livestock (if any) from the enzootic diseases already present on your farm. High standards of biosecurity must be practised at all times and not just during times of national disease outbreaks. There is far more risk to your stock from BVD, leptospirosis, in cattle or enzootic abortion and sheep scab in sheep than headline grabbers such as FMD and Schmallenberg.

Better Biosecurity:	Disease spreads by:
Protects your neighbours and the countryside	Movement of animals, people and machinery between and within farms
Keeps new diseases out.	Farm visitors – people and vehicles.
Reduces the spread of disease.	Introduction of new animals.
Keeps more animals healthy.	Contact with neighbours' livestock.
Cuts costs of disease prevention and treatment	Shared farm equipment.
Improves farm efficiency.	Contamination by vermin and wild birds.
	Animals drinking from contaminated rivers and streams.

The following provides examples of points which may be included in your biosecurity policy. Any plan needs to be farm specific related to the health risks facing your farm as required in the Animal Health Plan (see AH.3)

Incoming Stock – New stock or returning your stock to the farm

- Establish a policy for introducing new stock. Ideally source directly from known sources, which have a similar health status.
- If purchasing animals of unknown disease status, take measures to reduce the risk of bringing in health problems to your existing stock. These might include establishing the health status on the source farm, veterinary examination or testing of the animal(s) before introduction to existing stock, and observing a quarantine period.
- Use separate equipment and staff or handle isolated stock last.
- Ensure the isolation facility / quarantine area is fit for purpose so that it does allow animals to be sufficiently separated to avoid the transmission of infectious disease. Ideally facilities will be near the farm entrance and separated from other livestock buildings by at least 3 metres.
- If using a paddock for isolation keep it separated (with double fencing) by at least 3 metres from other animals on the farm.
- All animal transport vehicles bringing stock onto the farm must be fully cleaned and disinfected before and after use and ideally kept away from areas accessed by existing livestock.
- Dispose of bedding so other livestock can't access it.

People

- Control visitors to your farm and use your own staff whenever possible. Visitors should be kept away from livestock as far as possible.
- Visitors' vehicles should ideally be able to access the farm by a route not also used by the livestock. Parking areas should also be away from areas accessed by the livestock.
- Keep a written record, i.e. a visitors book, showing who visited and when, and what they did to which animals.
- Provide visitors with protective clothing, footwear and equipment that doesn't leave the farm if possible
- Have pressure washers, brushes, hoses, water and disinfectant available and make sure visitors use them.
- When you employ a contractor or additional staff, ensure that:
 - they have the appropriate licence if one is required and comply with any licence conditions
 - they wear protective clothing and footwear and disinfect themselves, their vehicles and their equipment on arrival and before departure.
- Try to avoid the use of casual labour and helpers who have:
 - worked with livestock in a higher risk area in the preceding 7 days
 - worked with livestock in the same risk area on the same day
- Minimise visits to other farms.
 - If you or your staff have to make a visit try to avoid any contact with livestock there.
 - If you cannot avoid contact wear protective footwear and clothing which can be cleaned and disinfected, or laundered, before re-use.

Buildings

- Keep buildings as clean as practical and clean and disinfect thoroughly between batches or when stock are moved out to graze.
- Where practical, make buildings secure to prevent access by vermin which may be carrying disease. Keeping the immediate vicinity of buildings tidy will mean vermin are not readily harboured nearby to the stock and feed facilities.

Equipment

- Ensure any equipment used on animals is kept cleaned and disinfected.
- Provide your own equipment to be used only on your own farm. Do not lend it to, or share it with, anyone else.
- Where equipment is brought onto the farm, for example by contractors, ensure it is adequately cleaned and disinfected on arrival, especially if it has been brought from another farm.

Fencing

1. Maintain stock fences to prevent your stock coming into contact with neighbours' livestock.

Stock

1. Keep stock away from freshly spread slurry for six weeks.
2. Dispose of fallen stock properly.
3. Consider the most common biosecurity risks on your farm, their prevention and management.

Biosecurity Checklist

Risk Factors	Y/N	High	Med	Low	Action (if required)	Comments
ANIMALS						
Incoming Stock	Y		X		Testing according to biosecurity plan above	
Wildlife	Y		X		Vermin control	
Farm Dogs	Y		X		Regular worming of farm dogs	3 monthly worming
Walker's Dogs	N					
Cats	Y		X		Testing for Toxoplasma in sheep is to be carried out	
PEOPLE						
Family/staff	Y		X		Regular cleansing and disinfection	
Vet	Y		X		Appointment only	
Reps	Y		X		Appointment only	
Deliveries	Y		X		Appointment only	
Contractors	Y		X		Appointment only	
Public	N				Appointment only	
BUILDINGS						
Calving/lambing Area	Y		X		Cleanse and disinfect	
General Housing	Y		X		Cleanse and disinfect	
Youngstock	Y		X		Cleanse and disinfect	
Sick Stock	Y		X		Cleanse and disinfect	
Manure	Y		X		Cleanse and disinfect	
EQUIPMENT						
Own Farm Equipment	Y		X		Cleanse and disinfect	
Shared Equipment	Y		X		Cleanse and disinfect	
Hired Equipment	Y		X		Cleanse and disinfect	
Contractors Equipment	Y		X		Cleanse and disinfect	

MISCELLANEAOUS						

7. Summary of Scheme Requirements for Common Veterinary Operations

The table below provides a summary of the legal requirements concerning common veterinary operations. The full legal requirements are stated in Animal Welfare Act 2006 (as amended), the Mutilations (Permitted Procedures) England Regulations 2007 (as amended), the Veterinary Surgeons Act 1966 (as amended) and the Protection of Animals (Anaesthetics Act 1954) (as amended).

Note that the requirements in bold italics below are above the legal requirement. These are based on recommendations by the Farm Animal Welfare Council (FAWC).

CATTLE

Operation	Age	Conditions/ Method	Operator	Anaesthetic
Castration	1st week of life only	Rubber ring/ blood constricting device	Competent stock person	Without
	Up to 2 months	Other than above e.g.Clamp castration	Competent stock person	Without
	Over 2 months	Other than a rubber ring or blood constricting device	Veterinary Surgeon*	With
Dehorning	Up to 5 months of age	Not specified	Competent stock person	With
	Over 5 months of age	Not specified	Veterinary Surgeon*	With
Disbudding	1st week of life only	Chemical cauterisation	Competent stock person	Without
	Up to 2 months of age	Other method than above	Competent stock person	With
Removal of Supernumerary Teats	Over 3 months	Not specified	Veterinary Surgeon*	With

*The Veterinary Surgeons Act 1966 as amended, permits veterinary nurses to carry out the operations marked if the nurse is qualified to carry out that surgery and is acting under the direction of a veterinarian who, for the time being, has care of the animal(s).

SHEEP

Operation	Age	Conditions/ Method	Operator	Anaesthetic
Castration	1st week of life only	Rubber ring/ blood constricting device	Competent stock person	Without
	Up to 3 months	Other than above e.g.Clamp castration	Competent stock person	Without
	Over 3 months	Other than a rubber ring or blood constricting device	Veterinary Surgeon*	With
Tail Docking	1st week of life	Rubber ring/ blood constricting device	Competent stock person	Without
	Any age	Other than above**	Competent stock person	With
Dehorning and Disbudding	Any age	Not specified	Veterinary Surgeon *	With
	Any age	Trimming of the insensitive tip of an in-growing horn	Competent stock person ***	Without****

* The Veterinary Surgeons Act 1966 as amended, permits veterinary nurses to carry out the operations marked if the nurse is qualified to carry out that surgery and is acting under the direction of a veterinarian who, for the time being, has care of the animal(s).

**Sufficient tail to cover the vulva (females) the anus (males) must be left. Any shorter than this must only be in the case of emergency, disease or injury following consultation with a Vet, and carried out with anaesthetic.

***Under the Veterinary Surgeons Act 1966, as amended, only a veterinary surgeon may dehorn or disbud a sheep, apart from trimming the insensitive tip of an in-growing horn which, if left untreated, could cause pain or distress.

**** If there is any doubt about hitting sensitive tissues whilst trimming the insensitive tip of an in-growing horn of a sheep, veterinary advice should be sought.