

Cross compliance checklist

SMR 13 - Welfare of farmed animals

The aim of SMR 13 rules is to protect the welfare of farmed animals by setting minimum standards for their care and husbandry. This applies to any species kept for farming purposes.

Answer each question below with a yes, no or n/a to help check if you have adhered to the rules. If the rules are applicable to you, and you are compliant, your answers to the questions should be yes.

Staffing and animal husbandry

- Are animals looked after by enough staff who have the correct skills and knowledge?
- If your husbandry system depends on frequent human attention, do you inspect your animals thoroughly at least once a day and in other systems, as often as necessary to avoid suffering?
- Is enough lighting provided so that you can carry out a thorough inspection of the animals at any time of the day?
- Do you attend to ill or injured animals immediately and seek veterinary advice if required?
- Do you isolate sick or injured animals in suitable accommodation with dry comfortable bedding?

Record keeping

- Do you have a record of any medicinal treatment given to your animals?

Note: Records must be kept for at least three years from the date of the treatment.

- Do you maintain a record of the number of animal deaths?

Note: Records must be kept for at least three years from the date the death was found.

Freedom of movement and accommodation

- Have your animals got enough space to avoid causing unnecessary suffering, injury or stress?
- Has your animal accommodation been constructed with materials that can be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected?

- Have you ensured that your animal accommodation does **not** have any sharp edges or protrusions which could injure your animals?
- Is air circulation, dust levels, temperature, relative air humidity and gas concentrations within limits that will not harm your animals?
- If there is not sufficient natural light in the building, has artificial lighting been provided?
- Do your animals that are not kept in buildings have access to a well-drained lying area at all times and, if necessary, protection from adverse weather conditions, predators and other risks to their health?



Picture above: Housed dairy cows feeding on silage

Automatic or mechanical equipment

- Do you check automated and/or mechanical equipment that is essential for the health and well-being of your animals at least once a day and put right any faults immediately (or take appropriate steps to protect the health and well-being of your animals until you can get the fault put right)?
- If your animal's health and well-being depends upon artificial ventilation, do you have an appropriate back-up to the main system and an alarm to warn you if the ventilation system fails?

Note: Inspect and test the systems at least once every seven days.

Feed, water and other substances

- Do your animals have access to feed at intervals appropriate to their needs (and, in any case, at least once a day)?
- Do your animals have access to a suitable water supply and enough fresh drinking water or other fluid?

- Is your feeding and watering equipment designed and located to minimise any contamination of food and water and the harmful effects of competition between animals?

Mutilations

- Do you **only** carry out any permitted mutilation on your animals?
- Are permitted procedures carried out in hygienic conditions, in a manner to minimise pain and suffering, and according to good practice?
- Is castration or tail docking carried out by a person over the age of 18 years, or 17 years if under formal instruction?

Breeding procedures

- Are your breeding procedures, either natural or artificial carried out in such a way that they **do not** cause harm to your animals?
- Do you only keep animals for farming purposes whose genotype or phenotype means that they can be kept without harm to their health and welfare?