

Bishop Burton College Farm

Environmental Policy

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The College vision is to be recognised as a national centre of excellence for specialist land-based education and training. Bishop Burton Farm understand that continuous improvement of environmental performance has a significant role to play in demonstrating best practice and striving for excellence
- 1.2 We recognise our responsibility to environmental sustainability at local, regional and global levels and our requirement to comply with all relevant environmental legislation and codes for good practice

2. Policy Statement

- 2.1 Bishop Burton Farm ensures that all activities carried out by the organisation comply with all relevant environmental legislation
- 2.2 We ensure that our activities and record keeping comply with requirements of the following Red Tractor Assurance Schemes: Combinable Crops, Beef and Lamb, Pig and Dairy
- 2.3 We are committed to following the principles of Integrated Farm Management (IFM), and to that end we are members of Linking Environment and Farming (LEAF) and will complete a LEAF self-audit annually to result in an action plan for continual improvement
- 2.4 We are committed to the prevention of pollution and we aim to continually improve our environmental performance through the support and involvement of all employees and any other interested parties. In recognition of this, we aim to do an annual environmental review
- 2.5 We are committed to promoting this policy and the principles of IFM to staff, students, other stakeholders and the wider public

3. Aim

- 3.1 Through this policy, Bishop Burton Farm aims to contribute directly to the principles of environmental protection, sustainability and environmental enhancement while also meeting the economic needs of the farm business and the diverse needs of all people within the Bishop Burton community and the community it serves

4. Objectives

- 4.1 To continually check that all planned activities comply with relevant environmental legislation and best practice guidelines
- 4.2 To conduct an annual environmental review of Bishop Burton Farm and set targets
- 4.3 To monitor and actively reduce the farm's Carbon Footprint
- 4.4 To develop, implement and maintain a set of dynamic and focussed operating procedures relating to the following areas:
 - Utilities (including energy and water use)
 - Waste
 - Procurement
 - Chemical use
 - Livestock management and feeding
 - Crop Protection (including rotation, cultivation, disease control and nutrition planning)
 - Soil, air and water
 - Biodiversity
 - Carbon capture and off-setting
- 4.5 To actively reduce waste through our Resource Efficiency Policy, which describes our principle of preventing, re-using and recycling our waste wherever possible
- 4.6 To continue to operate a purchasing policy to ensure that as much as possible is procured from as locally as possible and, where relevant, from as sustainable a source as possible
- 4.7 To reduce the amount of energy and water consumed by identifying wasteful usage or leaks; by using equipment efficiently; and by operating a 'switch off when not in use' policy
- 4.8 To continue to make best use of waste material/ by-products such as silage effluent, dirty water, farmyard manure and slurry by applying them to land in preference to using artificial fertilisers. By doing so we reduce our carbon footprint, recycle our inputs, and improve the carbon capture capability of our soils by increasing organic matter content
- 4.9 To continue to operate on the principles of IFM, which balance the goals of both commercial and environmental success
- 4.10 To promote IFM through press releases, farmer demonstration events, the attainment of the LEAF Marque and communication with students, staff and stakeholders
- 4.11 To provide appropriate training and staff development in relation to environmental performance, to include awareness raising and communicating good practice
- 4.12 To review our Environmental Policy and publish an Environmental Statement annually

5. Implementation

- 5.1 It is the responsibility of all staff, students and stakeholders to ensure that, in conducting their day to day business, they are contributing directly to the principles and practice of environmental protection, sustainability and environmental enhancement
- 5.2 The Farm Management team, comprising of the Principal, Farm Director and Farm Manager oversees the further development and implementation of this policy and has established a set of clearly identified achievable objectives with measurable targets
- 5.3 Operating procedures relating to areas addressed in this policy, when developed, will be reviewed regularly
- 5.4 Targets, having been developed, should be monitored regularly and reported on at regular intervals to Senior management

6. Method of Monitoring


- 6.1 This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis by the Farm Management team
- 6.2 The Farm Management team will provide continuous monitoring through the review of procedures and the reporting on performance and targets

Authorship: Colin Dennis (Farm Director)

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Reviewing Officers: Farm Director and Farm Manager

Policy Approval

Name	Colin Dennis
Position	Farm Director
Signature	
Date	31/10/13

