

- **Country of origin labelling**

Persistent and evidence-based lobbying by the NFU over many years has secured a series of votes in the European Parliament that will lead to mandatory country of origin labels on meat.
- **Why Science Matters for Farming**

The NFU campaign is still resonating as science and research remain embedded in government agri-food policy. Food security and productive British agriculture are the focus of long-term commitments from major research funders. The NFU has ensured that investment in applied science and knowledge exchange now has a much higher priority. The NFU is the principal industry stakeholder in development and implementation of this strategy.
- **Choice and access for British farmers**

The NFU has played a significant role in securing agreement for a feed import threshold for GM material not yet approved in the EU. We will continue to fight for improvements in the regulatory process so that British livestock sectors can access affordable feed; and ensure the NFU's views on choice, new technologies and science-based policy making for GM cultivation are reflected in government policy.
- **Science and common sense on novel food**

The NFU's well-reasoned influence helped to achieve a change in government policy on cloning. The FSA and Defra now agree that offspring of clones do not produce 'novel' foods so do not need to have special approval before sale.
- **EU pesticides proposals**

NFU lobbying on the Sustainable Use Directive resulted in a largely sensible Directive which has allowed the UK Government to use existing measures, both legislative and voluntary, to meet the requirements of the Directive. This has resulted in savings for farmers of £143 million per annum plus one off cost savings of £175.5 million (using the Governments own figures) as compared to the estimated costs if a legislative approach was taken.
- **Antibiotics**

Following intense lobbying by the NFU and other industry groups, the VMD's proposed ban on direct advertising of antibiotics to farmers was not taken forward by the Minister in the annual review of the Veterinary Medicines Regulations for 2011.
- **Sheep drench packaging**

The Sustainable Control of Parasites in Sheep (SCOPS) group, of which the NFU is an active member, has won its fight to get voluntary colour coding introduced on sheep drench packaging. This should help farmers to follow the SCOPS principles by clearly identifying the chemical class of drench they are using.
- **Red diesel for shows**

Following NFU lobbying, HMRC now allows farm machines to use red diesel for local agricultural, horticultural or forestry events such as ploughing matches, to educate and develop skills within the industries and to promote the industries to the general public so long as the use is not for the commercial gain of the owner of the vehicle.
- **Winter concessions**

Working with various departments and agencies, the NFU succeeded in getting temporary derogations in the winter on drivers' hours for deliveries, red diesel usage for gritting, carriage of fuel regulations and supplementary feeding. We also helped to direct priority gritting work in rural areas.
- **Dairy hygiene inspection**

NFU influence on the on-farm inspections steering group and through other channels has succeeded in ensuring FSA proposals to reduce hygiene inspections on assured dairy farms to one in ten years.
- **Environment Agency penalties**

NFU lobbying has ensured that the Environment Agency will not normally apply

monetary penalties under the civil sanctioning regime in instances where a farmer's single payment will be reduced through a failure to comply with the relevant cross compliance requirements.

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