

Circulation: NFU Members

Date: 8 July 2010

Ref: PS10/059

Contact: Peter Garbutt

Tel: 02476 858526

Red diesel use at agricultural shows

The NFU and NFU Scotland have worked with HMRC to clarify the use of red diesel at agricultural shows.

Agricultural tractors, agricultural engines, agricultural material handlers and light agricultural vehicles (as defined in [HMRC Notice 75](#)) can now also use rebated fuel in the following circumstances:

- When travelling to, from or participating in events which:
 - are inherently linked to an agricultural, horticultural or forestry operation, or
 - educate and develop skills within the agricultural, horticultural and forestry industries, or
 - promote agriculture, horticulture and forestry within the industry or to the general public.
- Neither the travel nor the participation must be for the commercial gain of the owner of the vehicle.

HMRC has stated that it does not expect travel (one way) to exceed 15 miles and the use of machinery must be in accordance with the appropriate DVLA vehicle and driver licensing guidelines.

Examples of the types of activities allowed under these rules include:

- Travel to/from a local agricultural show by a farmer using machinery such as a tractor or telehandler to help set up/dismantle the showground
- Travel to/from a local agricultural show by an agricultural processing vehicle being used in a demonstration at the show
- Travel to/from and participation in a local ploughing contest by an agricultural tractor.

Regular commercial markets, car boot sales, music festivals are examples of activities that do not qualify under these rules.

Full guidance on the use of rebated fuel can be found in NFU Business Guide 101, available to download from www.nfuonline.com or via CallFirst on 0870 845 8458.