



# East Midlands Policy Update

**EAST MIDLANDS NFU Policy Update No 902 26 May.**

## **CROSS COMPLIANCE AND MANAGING HEDGES, TREES, AND FIELD BOUNDARIES**

August Hedge Cutting Derogation. The NFU's guide for members wanting to trim certain hedges where oilseed rape or temporary grass is being sown in the month of August (non-cutting period ends 31 August) Please refer to the [NFU guidance here](#). If you want a derogation to cut a hedge in these circumstances apply now so you can get the go ahead before 1 August. It can take three weeks to be granted. Don't forget that tree cutting is also covered by cross compliance rules (GEAC 7c), and finally, trimming grass margins. The issues that need to be considered when doing that in the period 1 March to 31 August. Please refer to the [NFU guidance here](#).

## **GREENING 2018 BPS**

We have a briefing in this week following a visit to Brussels last week by NFU BPS expert, Richard Wordsworth. The proposed rules on a ban on the use of plant protection products on EFA areas is still not agreed. NFU messages around this are on page 39 June edition British Farmer and Grower. We will be raising the profile of this in the coming weeks as members start to finalise their 2018 harvest cropping. Keep an eye on more details in NFU Bulletin

## **NFU ADVICE ON ANIMAL TRANSPORT AUTHORISATIONS**

The NFU recently reminded members to check animal transport authorisations and to allow plenty of time for renewal, if required. APHA have recently clarified that if a farmer operates across two or more different legal entities which he or she is engaged in animal transport operations (i.e. sole trader in one business and as a limited company for another) then authorisations for each separate business entity will also be required in the name of the business entity concerned. Members can obtain additional help and advice on animal transport and welfare from CallFirst on 0370 845 8458 and from APHA on 03000 200 301. A member's briefing on the welfare of animals during transport is available [here](#).

## **THE NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT GUIDE 2017 (RB209)**

The revised version of RB209 has just been published. It is called the Nutrient Management Guide 2017 and is in the form of 7 separate documents that can be downloaded from the AHDB website at: <http://www.ahdb.org.uk/projects/RB209.aspx> Apple and Android apps are also available.

## **NOTTINGHAMSHIRE FARM ENVIRONMENT AWARDS 2017**

These awards are as successful as ever in seeking out excellent farm conservation practices from around the county. Entries for the awards will close on Monday 19 June, with on-farm judging taking place in early July. Application forms can be obtained from Lesley Sharpe, Notts FWAG on 07707 220121. [Read more](#)

## **COUNTRYSIDE STEWARDSHIP**

Countryside Stewardship (CS) is open for applications for multi annual agreements, mid and higher tier applications, and capital grants including water capital grants. The deadline is 30 September for agreements to start on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018. Mid-Tier application packs must be requested by 31 July 2017. One to one advice is available to talk through option choices with a follow up session available to check the completed application form before it is submitted. The contacts for your area can be found [here](#). This briefing [here](#) provides some key tips for mid-tier applicants.

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The voice of British farming

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## EVENTS

### **CONTAGIOUS OVINE DIGITAL DERMATITIS (CODD) IN SHEEP – WHAT DO WE KNOW? AHDB WEBINAR**

Join AHDB Beef & Lamb and Dr Joseph Angell to find out about the latest knowledge on CODD, including how to diagnose, prevent and treat the disease. 30 May, 7-8pm. [Join here.](#)

[Please click here](#) to view our events page.

- Farming Fit For Food Nuffield Conference – Nottingham – **8 JUNE**
- Beeswax Dyson Farm Walk – Lincoln – **8 JUNE**
- Open Farm Sunday – **11 June**
- Cereals 2017 – Lincolnshire – **14/15 JUNE**
- CSF Soil Quality & Crop Production Workshop – Walgrave - **19 JUNE**
- DerwentWISE Landowner Networking event – Matlock - **20 JUNE**
- RABI Garden Party – Coalville – **1 July**

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