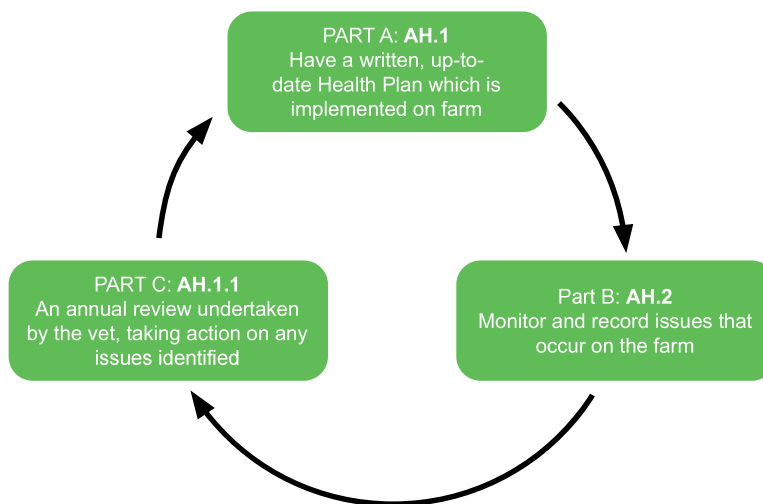


HEALTH PLAN AND REVIEW (DAIRY)

Standards AH.1, AH1.1 and AH.2 requires proactive, farm-specific health planning.



This is demonstrated by:

It is a requirement that the Health Plan is reviewed, signed and dated by the nominated veterinary surgeon or veterinary surgeon from the nominated vet practice annually.

PART A: The Health Plan (AH.1)

Farmers can complete the Health Plan themselves or can develop it with their veterinary surgeon who has knowledge of the farm. However, the vet must review, sign and date the health plan annually.

There are certain key criteria that your health plan must include as a minimum, which is detailed in Table A.

PART B: Monitor the issues that occur on-farm (AH.2)

Health and performance of livestock should be recorded and monitored on an on-going basis, but the scheme requires as a minimum an annual collation of:

- lameness
- mastitis
- mortality records inc. cause of deaths if known
- culling records and reasons for culling
- involuntary culls (excluding TB reactors and planned culls)
- medicine records including reason for treatment
- Calf mortality (split stillborn to 24 hours and 24 hours to 42 days)

The collation can be undertaken by the farmer themselves, or a veterinary surgeon. This information is then used to complete the Annual Health and Performance Review.

HEALTH PLAN AND REVIEW (DAIRY)

PART C: Annual Health and Performance Review (AH.1.1)

It is a requirement that the nominated veterinary surgeon or veterinary surgeon from the nominated vet practice conducts an Annual Health and Performance Review. This entails:

- reviewing records/data taking into account those records maintained throughout the year
- identifying Key issues to focus on e.g. those that have either been most significant in terms of:
 - incidence rate/number of cases
 - impact on productivity/welfare
 - financial impact
- identifying the preventative actions or treatments to be used in the future to prevent or control the issue
- provide recommendations for any updates to the Health Plan as required

TEMPLATES

There are templates available from the Red Tractor website for a Flock/Herd Health Plan and Health and Performance review. The Scheme templates reference the minimum scheme requirements. Other templates and/or computer packages may be used, as long as the criteria outlined in this appendix are included.

TABLE A

MANAGEMENT TOPIC	WHAT THE PLAN MUST DETAIL/EXPLAIN	EXAMPLES TO CONSIDER
Biosecurity policy	Actions taken to reduce biosecurity risks to your farm	e.g. managing incoming stock, people, vehicles
Infectious disease and vaccination	For disease risks relevant to the farm: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ herd status ■ vaccines used and vaccine timing 	e.g. Johne's, Lepto, BVD, IBR, TB
Parasite control	For parasite risks relevant to the farm: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ products used and timing 	e.g. fluke, lungworm, worms, lice, flies
Foot care	For foot problems relevant to the farm: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ details of the person responsible for treating ■ when and how the problem is treated - controls/treatments and products used 	e.g. digital dermatitis, sole ulcers, foul, white line disease
Mastitis	For routine prevention measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ the measures taken and products used For treatment of clinical cases: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ measures taken, products used and withdrawal periods 	
Metabolic disorders	For metabolic disorders relevant to the farm: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ preventative measures ■ how clinical cases are treated including products used 	e.g. staggers, milk fever, ketosis, displaced abomasums
Management of Drying off	The drying off procedure - measures taken; products used and withdrawal periods	
Colostrum Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The measures taken to ensure newborns receive adequate colostrum (including where applicable, timing, quantity and quality) 	

Appendix AH.1, AH1.1 and AH.2 (continued)

HEALTH PLAN AND REVIEW (DAIRY)

TABLE A (continued)

MANAGEMENT TOPIC	WHAT THE PLAN MUST DETAIL/EXPLAIN	EXAMPLES TO CONSIDER
Husbandry procedures	The actions taken to ensure newborns receive adequate colostrum For husbandry procedures relevant to the farm: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ the person responsible■ methods and age of animal■ anaesthetics/analgesics used	e.g. disbudding, dehorning, castration, removal of supernumerary teats
Identifying treated animals	A written policy detailing how livestock are identified to manage withdrawal periods, and their treatment	
Dealing with TB reactors	A written policy for dealing with TB reactors within the herd and their milk, including actions taken to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ isolate and identify reactors■ ensure reactor milk doesn't enter the bulk tank and is not fed to calves	
Downer cows	Actions taken with downer cows	
Euthanasia	A written policy outlining how euthanasia is undertaken on-farm, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ animal type■ methods used■ name of person who undertakes it	

Appendix AH.6

APPROPRIATE METHODS OF HANDLING

The best way to move animals is to understand their natural behaviour and to work with that behaviour.

For cattle and sheep, use your position, voice, flags, and a stick as an extension of the arm

For pigs, use your position, voice, aids and pig boards

Handlers are not permitted to handle animals in such a way as to cause them pain or suffering.

It is not permitted to...

- strike or kick any animal
- apply pressure to any particularly sensitive part of the body in such a way as to cause pain or suffering
- lift or drag in any way that may cause pain or suffering
- use prods or other implements with pointed ends
- twist, crush or break the tails of animals or grasp the eyes of any animal
- throw or drop animals

Poor handling can result in lower meat quality, as well as bruising and injury.