



## **Technical Manager – Combinable Crops & Sugar Beet Job Description**

### **The Company**

Assured Food Standards (AFS) is the organisation that manages and promotes the world-leading Red Tractor food chain assurance scheme.

The Scheme is a fundamental part of the entire food chain, from farmer to shoppers via retail and the food service industry. It reassures shoppers that the £14bn worth of food and drink carrying the Red Tractor logo, is traceable, safe and farmed with care. With a bold ambition of becoming the “Flagship of British Food & Farming” based on world class standards, independent assurance and robust compliance Red Tractor is a progressive and critical body within the food & drink industry.

**Reporting to:** Senior Technical Manager - Sectors

### **The Opportunity**

Red Tractor have an exciting opportunity within the Technical Team for an experienced, enthusiastic and progressive Combinable Crops & Sugar Beet Technical Manager with agriculture / food industry experience to manage the Combinable Crops & Sugar Beet scheme standards ensuring they are fit for purpose and respected by the industry.

Key responsibilities include:

- Manage Red Tractor Combinable Crops & Sugar Beet farm standards, providing technical expertise and recommended direction for standards development
- Manage groups and committees to develop and deliver the sector technical strategy and achieve consensus
- Protect the reputation of Red Tractor in the Combinable Crops & Sugar Beet sector, including liaising with the Compliance Manager on delivery of assessments to promote progressive compliance within the sector
- Lead liaison with sector stakeholders to ensure they are engaged in the development of standards and the operation of the scheme
- Support where necessary to ensure the scheme recognition / benchmarking with other initiatives and regulations e.g Renewable Energy Directive, SAI Platform FSA, Voluntary Initiative
- Contribute to the delivery of the wider RT Technical Strategy as a key member of the Red Tractor Technical team
- Provide technical expertise to the Communications and Marketing teams to support their business activities
- Represent Red Tractor externally – presenting at and attending industry and stakeholder meetings
- Manage serious issues and complaints, acting as the first point of contact along with the Senior Technical Manager - Sectors

Areas of challenge and focus include:

- Working collaboratively with other Technical Managers, Certification Bodies and stakeholders to deliver Combinable Crops & Sugar Beet technical strategy while dovetailing with wider business objectives
- Keeping abreast of industry developments and issues to inform and influence standards development
- Liaising with stakeholders from across the supply chain who may have opposing views on the direction and development of the standards
- Managing issues when they arise, to ensure prompt action and to ensure all relevant parties are kept up to date with progress and information relevant to their interest

### **Knowledge and Skills**

- Degree (preferably agriculture related but not essential)
- Background in agriculture / food production / arable production gained through education and/or work experience
- Understanding of the Combinable Crops & Sugar Beet supply chain, market influences and stakeholder priorities
- Technical / scientific knowledge of the sector including legislation and good practice
- Knowledge and experience of farm assurance schemes and their role in the supply chain
- Ability to confidently and credibly present both internally and externally
- Ability to manage multiple projects at the same time
- Good collaborator and communicator at all levels and able to build good working relationships and influence others
- Computer literate
- Self-motivated, articulate and well organised
- An eye for detail and a commitment to accuracy

### **Working Hours and Benefits**

This position will work a total of 37.5 hours per week. The normal core hours are 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday. It may be necessary on occasion to work outside these hours to meet the demands of the business.

### **Location and Travel**

The position is located in the Red Tractor Head Office in Central London. While colleagues need to be able to attend the office as required for meetings and collaborative working (typically 1-2 days per week), we support hybrid working patterns. Some UK travel is required as part of the role.

Applications to [application@redtractor.org.uk](mailto:application@redtractor.org.uk) by 21<sup>st</sup> October 2022