



**Whole Chain Assurance
From Quality Meat Scotland**

Auction Market Standards

Quality Meat Scotland Assurance Scheme

Issued by Standards Setting Body:

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INTRODUCTION

The **Auction Market Assurance Scheme** is an essential element in the Quality Meat Scotland (QMS) 'whole chain' consumer assurance programme.

To carry the Scottish red meat industry's three premium brands Scotch Beef PGI, Scotch Lamb PGI and Specially Selected Pork, livestock must have been born, reared and slaughtered in Scotland and spent their entire life on QMS Scotch Assured holdings.

This whole of life brand eligibility is delivered by a suite of six assurance schemes: two livestock **Cattle & Sheep** and **Pigs** and four non livestock **Feeds, Haulage, Auction Market** and **Processor**. Whole chain assurance underpins the integrity of these premium brands and provides reassurance to consumers of provenance, highest standards of production, animal welfare and wellbeing, to deliver a quality eating experience.



Approved members of the **Auction Market Assurance Scheme** handle and trade the cattle, sheep and pigs which are destined for the Scotch Beef PGI, Scotch Lamb PGI and Specially Selected Pork brands. Auction markets play a key role in minimising the stress involved to the livestock which are traded through their system. In conjunction with the other QMS whole chain assurance schemes, specific codes of practice for handling and selling of livestock have been developed.

The overall strategy of QMS is to shape a sustainable and prospering Scottish red meat industry and a commitment to animal welfare and wellbeing is a key factor in this strategy and of paramount importance in ensuring the highest product quality. The QMS Animal Welfare and Wellbeing Charter recognises the five freedoms of animal welfare and wellbeing and is a guiding principle for all QMS assurance schemes, which are supported and approved by the Scottish SPCA, Scotland's independent animal welfare charity.

These Standards do not seek to duplicate existing legislation and legal framework for auction markets and reference should be made to these documents as appropriate.

QUALITY MEAT SCOTLAND AUCTION MARKET ASSURANCE SCHEME STANDARDS

The following standards apply to the 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016 assessment year and are effective from 1 August 2015.

1. BIOSECURITY/GENERAL

- 1.1 Auction market operators must have a written cleansing and disinfection policy in place, which outlines arrangements for minimising biosecurity risks.
- 1.2 Auction markets and collection centres must provide cleansing and disinfection points for all stockpersons and visitors entering the livestock area, to comply with current biosecurity legislation.
- 1.3 Biosecurity notices must be displayed in prominent positions.
- 1.4 Auction markets and collection centres must provide adequate washing and disinfection facilities for the cleansing of livestock vehicles. Seasonal markets must have alternative washing and disinfection arrangements in place.
- 1.5 Livestock must be segregated to prevent nose to nose contact between sale and non-sale stock in auction markets.
- 1.6 Livestock should be moved off the auction market's premises as soon as possible, preferably on same day as presented for sale.

2. ASSURANCE STATUS

- 2.1 Auction markets must maintain an accurate and current record of stock which is consigned as whole of life Scotch Assured (SA), Farm Assured (FA) and Non Assured (NA) based on the updates of farm assurance membership which are received on a regular basis from QMS approved sources. See page 11 for an explanation of these different assured statuses.
- 2.2 All Scotch Assured (SA), Farm Assured (FA) and Non Assured (NA) calves, store and prime sale livestock must be clearly and correctly identified, prior to entry into the sales ring, during the bidding process and on sales invoices. This applies to all calves, store and prime sale stock. Scottish animals assured under the Red Tractor Assurance Dairy Farm Scheme are eligible to be sold as Scotch, if they are sold onto a QMS assured farm at under 100 days of age.
- 2.3 All SA livestock should be batched and sold in separate/dedicated lots, from FA and/or NA sale lots.
- 2.4 All auction markets must use the Scotch Potential Eligibility Cattle Checker (for cattle) and use and demonstrate regular updating of the QMS PGI Checker (for sheep).
- 2.5 All purchased compound feeds, blended feeds and feed materials (straights and feed blocks), must be sourced from a merchant/manufacturer who is an approved member of the QMS Feeds Assurance scheme and approved under the AIC's Universal Feed Assurance Scheme or equivalent.
- 2.6 Farm Assured livestock being transported to and/or from the auction market under the instruction of the market, must be transported by an approved member of the QMS Haulage Assurance scheme or an equivalent scheme (such as Red Tractor Haulage Assurance scheme).

- 2.7 All livestock sold for slaughter must be accompanied by Food Chain Information. Auction markets must retain Food Chain Information records for a minimum of 3 months.

3. RECORDS AND TRACEABILITY

- 3.1 A record of all personnel working for the auction market must be in place.
- 3.2 The auction market operator must have contingency plans in place, to cover the following events a) disease outbreak, b) escape of animals, c) fire, d) delays in onward transport and e) extreme weather conditions.
- 3.3 Auction markets must maintain records of all animals entering and leaving their premises and must notify the relevant species movement organisation i.e. British Cattle Movement Service (BCMS) and ScotEID of these movements. The auction market must act as a Critical Control Point (CCP) for all sheep moving through their premises.
- 3.4 Each CCP must have a contingency plan in place describing the action to be taken in the event of equipment failure, power failure and other CCP related issues. The contingency plan may be verbal or written and contingency planning requirements can be obtained from IAAS.
- 3.5 Markets must maintain separate records of animals entering and leaving their lairage facility, to be retained for a period of 3 months.
- 3.6 Details of any animals which are delivered “out of hours” should be formally recorded, as stated in 3.3 above.

4. PERSONNEL

- 4.1 An Animal Welfare Officer (AWO) and a Biosecurity Officer (BIOS) must be appointed in every auction market. The named AWO and BIOS must have a nominated replacement for times when they are unavailable.
- 4.2 The names of the AWO and BIOS must be clearly displayed in the principal auction market office.
- 4.3 All relevant personnel must have received training to ensure competence in animal handling and welfare and should demonstrate knowledge of all work tasks and activities they are required to carry out. The auction market must ensure that training is carried out either through in-house courses or external training companies. Staff should attend regular refresher training courses. All training must be recorded.
- 4.4 All auction market personnel, including casual personnel, who handle livestock must be clearly identified.
- 4.5 Where auction market personnel use electric goads, these must only be used by a suitably trained person and only where absolutely necessary as a last resort, to ensure that animal welfare is not compromised. Sticks may be used as an extension of the arm and must not be used to hit animals. The use of alkathene pipe by auction market personnel is prohibited. Where pigs are to be moved, suitable aids (boards) may be used, but these must be used in the appropriate manner.

5. ANIMAL WELFARE

- 5.1 Any animal deemed unfit for sale must be notified by the AWO to the relevant authorities and the appropriate action taken to ensure that all parties concerned are notified. Incidents should be recorded in the animal welfare/medical record book.

- 5.2 Auction markets must have a nominated veterinary surgeon who can attend the market at very short notice, if necessary.
- 5.3 Auction markets must have a written procedure in place which notifies purchasers of stock, sold through store or breeding sales, that it is the responsibility of the buyer to ensure that any animals destined for the food chain are outwith any withdrawal period. This includes the seller's use of antibiotics, anthelmintics or sheep dip, prior to sale.
- 5.4 Any sick or injured animals must be treated appropriately, or placed in an isolation pen, in order to avoid unnecessary pain or distress. Animals that are treated must be accurately identified in order that medicine withdrawal periods can be observed. Such treatments must be recorded in the animal welfare/medical record book.
- 5.5 Any animal unfit for further transport, which cannot be treated, must be humanely destroyed by an appropriately qualified person.
- 5.6 Calved dairy cows and heifers, calves, motherless lambs less than 4 weeks old and pigs must be provided with covered accommodation.
- 5.7 All livestock must be loaded, unloaded and handled with due regard for the animal's welfare.
- 5.8 The auction market operator must promote and operate a clean stock policy, which encourages farmers to ensure their animals are clean, healthy and free from excessive skin contamination.

6. ANIMAL HANDLING

- 6.1 Auction markets must be designed and operated with the aim of moving animals through their system, in order to minimise stress to the animals.
- 6.2 Throughout the auction market, animals must be handled calmly and systematically in an unhurried manner.
- 6.3 The market operator must have a dog handling policy in place. Only working dogs, under proper control, should have access to the penning and loading areas.

7. PENNING

- 7.1 While in the auction market premises, or if held overnight, there must be adequate room for all the animals in a pen to comfortably lie down at one time.
- 7.2 Pens must be of a suitable size for the animals contained in them and must not be overcrowded.
- 7.3 Bulls must be penned appropriately i.e. mature bulls must be penned separately or tied by the head or neck and young non-breeding bulls must be penned separately or together in their own rearing groups.
- 7.4 Horned cattle must be penned separately, or in their own peer groups.

8. FEED AND WATER PROVISION

- 8.1 Livestock arriving in the auction market the day before a sale, or remaining after the sale must be appropriately fed, watered and bedded.
- 8.2 The auction market must ensure that enough water is provided, to prevent animals becoming thirsty.

- 8.3 An arrangement must be in place for an alternative water supply in the event of mains water supply failure.
- 8.4 All feed materials must be stored in accordance with good practice, to prevent contamination by domestic animals, birds or rodents.

9. FLOORING AND BEDDING

- 9.1 All flooring must be non-slip and provide a stable surface.
- 9.2 Where bedding is required, it must be maintained to ensure it remains clean, dry and replenished as necessary, with no concrete showing.
- 9.3 A dry bedded area must be provided for animals which require covered overnight accommodation.

10. FACILITIES

- 10.1 All buildings must be maintained and be in a good state of repair and weatherproof, to allow adequate cleansing and disinfection between sales.
- 10.2 All equipment must be properly installed, regularly maintained and in good working order.
- 10.3 All handling facilities, pens and passageways must be free from sharp edges or projections, to prevent injury to livestock.
- 10.4 Loading bays must be designed to prevent injury to livestock, allow ease of movement of stock and have non-slip ramps with side protection where appropriate.
- 10.5 The auction market must have adequate dedicated accommodation for unfit animals (an isolation pen), which should be clearly marked and identified.

11. ASSESSMENT PROCEDURE

Auction market assessments have been contracted by QMS to Acoura (formerly known as SFQC), an independently accredited inspection and certification company. QMS has agreed procedures for these assessments with Acoura and scheme members will be assessed once every assessment year.

12. COMPLAINTS REGISTER

Under ISO/IEC 17065 certification (formerly EN 45011), where a complaint has been made against the auction market operator, a complaints register must be completed and auction market personnel should be made aware of this requirement, as part of their training. Please refer to Acoura Scheme Regulations 2.6 and 12.1, using the following link:
<http://knowledge.acoura.com/sites/default/files/SFQC%20Scheme%20Regulations%20Rev%207.pdf>.

13. ACOURA SCHEME REGULATIONS

Members should refer to the Acoura Scheme Regulations for operational details of the Certification Scheme (i.e. conditions of membership, obligations, assessment process, certification decisions, appeals procedures etc.). These can be accessed on the Acoura website www.acoura.com or by calling Acoura on 0131 335 6602.

STANDARDS SETTING BODY

QMS annually reviews the Auction Market Assurance Scheme Standards and the following Standards Setting Body committee was responsible for the development of these Standards:

John Gregor (Chair)	IAAS
Robin Anderson	IAAS
John Bell	Chair QMS Cattle & Sheep TAC, Farmer
Ronald Davidson	Haulier
Tom Gatherer	Scottish SPCA
Pat Gray	Acoura
Willie McCulloch	IAAS
Billy Neilson	Acoura
Hamish Waugh	Farmer
Steven Wilson	IAAS
Andrew Wright	IAAS
Suzanne Woodman	QMS

APPENDIX 1

GUIDE TO CURRENT LEGISLATION AND CODES OF PRACTICE

Applicable to auction marts operating in Scotland:

- The Markets, Sales and Lairs Order 1925 (as amended)
<http://adlib.everysite.co.uk/adlib/defra/content.aspx?id=000IL3890W.184SZDS7RTA5OM>
- The Markets, Sales and Lairs (Amendment) Order 1996
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/1996/3265/introduction/made>
- The Welfare of Animals at Markets Order 1990 (as amended)
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/1990/2628/contents/made>
- The Welfare of Animals at Markets (Amendment) Order 1993
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/1993/3085/contents/made>
- The Welfare of Animals (Transport) (Scotland) Regulations 2006
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2006/606/contents/made>
- The Welfare of Animals (Transport) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2009
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2009/339/contents/made>
- Animal Health and Welfare (Scotland) Act 2006 Part 2
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2006/11/contents>
- The Disease Control (Interim Measures) (Scotland) Order 2002 (as amended)
www.opsi.gov.uk/legislation/scotland/ssi2002/20020034.htm
- The Transport of Animals (Cleansing and Disinfection) (Scotland) Regulations 2005
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2005/653/contents/made>
- Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 on the protection of animals during transport.
<http://faolex.fao.org/docs/pdf/eur69655.pdf>
- The Cattle Identification (Scotland) Regulations 2007
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2007/174/made>
- The Cattle Identification (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2007
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2007/312/contents/made>
- The Cattle Identification (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2011
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2011/412/contents/made>
- The Pigs (Records, Identification and Movement) (Scotland) Order 2011
www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2011/327/contents/made
- The Pigs (Records, Identification and Movement) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2011
www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2011/351/introduction/made
- The Sheep and Goats (Records, Identification and Movement) (Scotland) Order 2009
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2009/414/contents/made>
- Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 laying down specific hygiene rules for food of animal origin
<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2004:226:0022:0082:EN:PDF>
- The Sheep Scab (Scotland) Order 2010
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2010/419/contents/made>
- The Sheep Scab (Scotland) Amendment Order 2011
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2011/77/made/data.pdf>
- Codes of Recommendations for the Welfare of Livestock: Animal Health and Biosecurity
www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/47007/0017624.pdf
- Code of Practice: The Welfare of Animals in Livestock Markets
<http://adlib.everysite.co.uk/adlib/defra/content.aspx?doc=20028&id=20029>
- Guidance on Best Practice for Livestock Markets Located in Scotland

Applicable to auction marts operating in England:

- The Transport of Animals (Cleansing and Disinfection) (England) (No.3) (Amendment) Order 2007
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2007/1020/contents/made>
- Animal Gatherings (England) Order 2010
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2010/460/contents/made>
- The Sheep and Goats (Records, Identification and Movement) (England) Order 2009

- <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/wsi/2009/3364/contents/made>
- The Cattle Identification Regulations 2007
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2007/529/contents/made>
 - The Cattle Identification (Amendment) Regulations 2007
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/wsi/2007/3004/contents/made>
 - The Cattle Identification (Amendments) Regulations 2013
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2013/517/contents/made>
 - Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 on the protection of animals during transport.
<http://faolex.fao.org/docs/pdf/eur69655.pdf>
 - Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 laying down specific hygiene rules for food of animal origin
<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2004:226:0022:0082:EN:PDF>
 - The Welfare of Animals at Markets Order 1990 (as amended)
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/1990/2628/contents/made>
 - The Welfare of Animals at Markets (Amendment) Order 1993
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/1993/3085/contents/made>
 - The Welfare of Animals (Transport) (England) Order 2006
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2006/3260/contents/made>
 - Advice and guidance on protecting animal welfare on farms, in transport, at markets and at slaughter
<http://www.defra.gov.uk/food-farm/animals/welfare/transport/competence-cert/>
 - The Pigs (Records, Identification and Movement) Order 2011
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2011/2154/contents/made>

APPENDIX 2

BRAND ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR SCOTCH BEEF AND SCOTCH LAMB

Since 1996 the Scotch Beef and Scotch Lamb brands have held the coveted European Protected Geographical Indication (PGI) status which legally protects the brand names from imitation by meat from outwith Scotland or from products claiming Scotch status.

To carry the Scotch Beef PGI and Scotch Lamb PGI brands, cattle and sheep must have been born, reared and slaughtered in Scotland and Scotch assured from birth.

In addition, for meat from the animal to be eligible to carry Scotch Beef PGI branding, at slaughter the animal must be:

- over 12 months of age
- under 16 months if a young bull
- under 48 months if a steer or a heifer
- not have had a calf or be in calf

Scottish animals assured under the Red Tractor Assurance Dairy Farm Scheme are eligible to be sold as Scotch if they are sold onto a QMS assured farm at under 100 days of age.

It is illegal to transport heavily pregnant females where more than 90% of the expected gestation period has passed and at slaughter such animals are ineligible for Scotch branding.

MAXIMISE YOUR RETURNS WITH SCOTCH WHOLE CHAIN ASSURANCE

Do you know the Assured Status of **ALL** your cattle and sheep?

SCOTCH ASSURED (SA) The **ONLY** animal that **CAN** be sold as Scotch PGI

To qualify for the Scotch brand and carry the Scotch label the animal must:

- Be born, reared and slaughtered in Scotland
- Spend the entirety of its life in Scotland
- Be QMS Scotch Assured throughout its life
i.e. spend the entirety of its life on QMS Scotch Assured holdings in compliance with all QMS Assurance Scheme standards



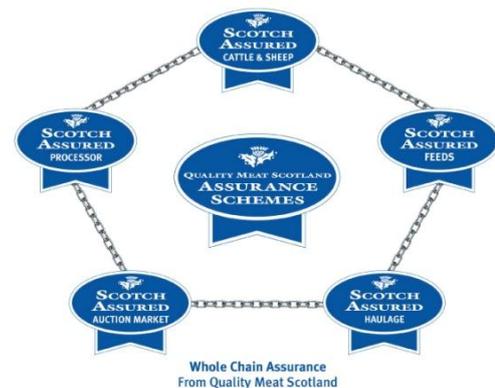
FARM ASSURED (FA) This animal **CANNOT** be sold as Scotch PGI

This designation describes an animal which may have spent some of its life on a Farm Assured holding, but does not comply with whole of life assurance as described above.

NON ASSURED (NA) This animal **CANNOT** be sold as Scotch PGI

This designation relates to an animal which does not meet the standards of any Farm Assurance scheme or has spent its life on Non Assured holdings.

To apply for membership of the QMS **Cattle & Sheep Assurance Scheme**, please call **0131 335 6602** or email **info@sfqc.co.uk**.



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