

# LANAgM8(SQA Unit Code-H721 04)

## Produce, implement and monitor a farm environmental management plan



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### Overview

This standard covers the producing, implementing and monitoring a farm environmental management plan, to comply with management frameworks within the natural environment.

The standard is applicable to the management of all types of activities, both within the farm and the wider environment.

The standard adopts the premise that good environmental management is fully integrated into the overall management practices of the farm and is continuous and ongoing. It aims to exploit the natural balance between commercial and environmental management.

This standard is suitable for anyone with responsibility for farm management.

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#### Performance criteria

- You must be able to:*
- P1 identify environmental designations and directives that relate to a given farm and incorporate their requirements in to the farm planning process
  - P2 maximise the benefits of designations to the farm as a whole in terms of the agri-environmental mix
  - P3 research relevant environmental grant schemes so as to ensure optimum use of the funding and support offered
  - P4 research options for schemes relating to status e.g. organic, integrated management etc. and their potential application and benefit to a particular farming situation
  - P5 evaluate the development of new technologies and ideas and make decisions as to their use and appropriateness to a given farming situation
  - P6 carry out an environmental audit for the farm ensuring compliance with relevant farm assurance schemes
  - P7 seek specialist advice where appropriate
  - P8 using the farm audit, produce an environmental management plan that demonstrates a good balance between farming and environmental management
  - P9 identify the priorities of the plan and likely timescales
  - P10 select appropriate environmental management methods to achieve the planned objectives
  - P11 produce work plans and specifications for the implementation of the farm environmental management plan
  - P12 make available the necessary resources to implement the farm environmental management plan in an effective and safe way
  - P13 manage those who will be implementing the plan
  - P14 communicate appropriately with contractors, work teams and other interested parties to ensure effective implementation of the plan
  - P15 monitor the implementation of the farm environmental management plan and review timescales
  - P16 ensure appropriate records are maintained as required by relevant legislation and the organisation
  - P17 evaluate the outcomes of the work on completion
  - P18 plan and implement additional work to rectify any problems or failures to achieve original management objectives
  - P19 ensure working methods promote health and safety and are consistent with relevant legislation and codes of practice

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#### Knowledge and understanding

*You need to know and understand:*

- K1 how to carry out an environmental farm audit
- K2 the need for well planned and integrated environmental management and how to produce a farm environmental management plan
- K3 the objectives of the required farm environmental management plan
- K4 how to recognise the environmental value of sites
- K5 how the environmental value of sites affects the planning work
- K6 the details of relevant designations, directives, schemes and programmes
- K7 the types of work and site where permission is required
- K8 how the environmental management plan meets the farm environmental objectives, local and national biodiversity action plans and/or agri-environmental schemes
- K9 where to obtain specialist advice
- K10 how to produce efficient work plans and specifications that deliver the required standards for farm environmental management
- K11 the required type and quantity of resources needed to implement the farm environmental management plan
- K12 the need for and the process of contingency planning
- K13 how to effectively oversee the implementation of the farm environmental management plan
- K14 methods of communicating with contractors, work teams and other interested parties
- K15 the specific recording and monitoring requirements in relation to specific directives, designations, frameworks, schemes and programmes
- K16 how to evaluate the success of the farm environmental management plan at completion of practical activities
- K17 the importance of longer term monitoring to determine whether the farm environmental management plan has been effective
- K18 how to determine the length of time over which monitoring should take place
- K19 how to use the outcomes of monitoring to improve future plans
- K20 your responsibilities under relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, codes of practice and company policies

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### Glossary

Designations and directives could include:

- National Park; Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
- Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AoNB)
- World Heritage Site
- Archaeological sites
- National Trust
- Nitrogen Vulnerable Zone (NVZ)

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**Suite** Agricultural Management

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