Farming Working Group report for March 2022.

Farm input prices have all gone mad in the last week and if things turn up on time, there are now extra delivery charges or excess charges. Just hope the things we produce start going up at the same rate. Fat lambs have actually gone down in price. The electric company would not quote a price for the farm electric today and red diesel for tractors has gone from 43.36ppl last February 2021 to £1.31ppl quoted 10th March for delivery 1-2 weeks if they can get stocks, but you would pay the rate on the day. If tractors do not have fuel no crops will be planted or silage made. Fertilizer has gone over £1000.00 per tonne.

This passage below was taken from the Government Future Farming blog ;

Some farming and land management activities are regulated to safeguard our environment and to protect the health of animals, plants and people.

We do this through around 150 pieces of legislation, comprising primary legislation (such as the [Agriculture Act 2020](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2020/21/contents/enacted)) and secondary legislation (such as the [Cattle Identification Regulations 2007](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2007/529/contents/made)).

All of this legislation applies to agricultural activity, and collectively constitutes what is known as the ‘regulatory baseline for agriculture’.

This is a complex legislative picture and is not easy to navigate – we intend to improve and evolve this baseline in future as part of our agricultural transition outside of the European Union (EU).

There are around 119 pieces of legislation in the baseline which apply to the keeping of farmed animals, of which a substantial proportion covers disease prevention.

Agriculture and Horticulture 44rules

Animals 119 rules and 32 rules which cover both

Approximate composition of the legislation that forms the regulatory baseline

**The regulatory baseline and cross compliance**

At the moment, farmers who receive [Common Agricultural Payment](https://cap-payments.defra.gov.uk/Default.aspx) (through Basic Payment Scheme or agri-environment schemes) must meet minimum standards to receive those payments. These standards are collectively known as cross compliance.

When payments are delinked in 2024, we will stop using cross compliance as the main way to inspect farms, however the rules that form our regulatory baseline will continue to apply.

Most of the EU cross compliance rules and standards are already part of UK domestic law (the regulatory baseline) and will continue to apply to farmers after delinking in 2024, so farmers will continue to be required to comply with the rules.

While the majority of EU cross compliance rules are replicated in our regulatory baseline, we are aware of some gaps in protections**.**Where there are gaps, we are taking an evidence led approach to decide on the most effective ways to achieve our environmental goals.

Over the next few months, we will continue to work closely with stakeholders to understand the impact of gaps and decide on next steps. We will consult ahead of any regulatory changes that are implemented.

**The future regulatory baseline**

We recognise that the current regulatory baseline, spread across 150 pieces of legislation, isn’t easy to understand and navigate.

As we make improvements to the regulatory baseline, we will:

* **prioritise**addressing areas which are of greatest importance to meeting our commitments on the environment and animal health and welfare, in tandem with the development of our future farming incentive schemes that reward environmental land management approaches
* **use evidence** to underpin our approach and explain why compliance is necessary
* **simplify**regulation to remove duplication and overly burdensome processes
* **be proportionate** so that regulation is fair and relevant to the diverse range of farms and environments across England
* **support and enable**compliance with clear, user-friendly guidance

**Next steps**

We will continue to work with farmers, land managers and stakeholders, so that you can tell us what needs to change in the regulatory baseline and why. Thank you to all those involved to date for your active engagement and support.

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