THIS IS A TEMPLATE WITH EXAMPLES FOR GUIDANCE – PLEASE AMEND WITH INFORMATION SUITABLE FOR YOUR OWN CIRCUMSTANCES

WATER POLLUTION CONTINGENCY PLAN FOR XXXX FARM

1) Overview:

It is imperative that farming practices protect the environment and ensure that farming businesses are sustainable and have as little damaging environmental effects as possible. To this end this plan is designed to reduce any risks that may occur and be able to deal with any unforeseen incidents or accidents, either major or minor, that may take place.

2) Risk Areas:

A map of the farm and field **maps** should be available that clearly show storage areas and drains and watercourses and these areas must be made known to members of staff

- The stream that runs round the edge of the farm buildings
- The feeder stream that that fills the pond and floods the wet meadow
- There are also wider risks concerning land away from the farm whereby either point source pollution can occur where field border streams, bore holes or other water sources or diffuse pollution can be caused by miss-application of organic or in-organic manures or pesticides.

3) Staff Awareness:

It is vital that all staff are made aware of:

- their need to help prevent any possible pollution
- the measures in place to reduce the risk
- the actions that need to take place should an incident occur
- the need to report a pollution incident

4) Possible Pollutants:

There are a number of sources and types of pollutant on the farm. These include pesticides, fuel oil and oils, slurry and farmyard manure, fertilizers, silage effluent, milk and other crop waste residues. There are other less obvious pollutants that include veterinary medicine, used batteries etc

5) Pesticides

In order to reduce risks from pesticides:

- All staff that handle them must be trained and hold accredited spray operator certificates.
- Pesticides are only used when necessary and their use must be based on the advice from 'BASIS' qualified persons
- All machinery must be inspected annually by an independent licensing authority
- The spray store must be compliant with all regulations and equipment and consumables are readily available to deal with minor spillages.
- There is an underground spray wash collection 'onion' that contains washings etc.

6) Slurry, Farmyard Manure (FYM), Milk and Silage Effluent

- Slurry is stored in a purpose build above ground concrete store that has four months storage capacity. This allows the ability to not spread during the closed period and to hold back spreading in the spring until conditions are right and make best use of the valuable nutrients.
- FYM does not present as higher level risk but any seepage is contained and drained towards the slurry collection channels.
- Slurry and FYM are only spread when conditions allow and care is taken that they do not pollute streams and other water courses.
- The nutrient value of the manures are taken into account and over applications are avoided.
- The silage clamp drains towards the slurry collection channel so any potential effluent from the clamp will not reach the brook.

7) Fertilizers

- Good storage and handling procedures for fertilizers will minimize the risks of causing water pollution.
- Fertilisers are stored in a dry covered area and particular care is taken when receiving deliveries and loading equipment.
- Machinery used for spreading is regularly (at least annually) maintained and calibrated.
- No liquid fertilizers and stored or used on this site.

8) Pollution Incident Management:

- Should a major pollution incident occur it is vital that all attempts are made to contain the pollutant to as close to its source as possible. Any member of staff that notices such an incident must contact a manager immediately.
- As many members of staff that may be of use should be called to help bearing in mind that at no time should staff put themselves or others at risk.
- Should it look likely that the pollutant will reach a surface water drain or stream then a barrier needs to be made using straw, plastic, sand, soil etc using the tractor fore end loader.

Should a major pollution incident happen the following are available:

- Slurry tanker to 'hoover' an area.
- Sawdust, Straw and sandbags available.
- Fore end loader to block streams or spread straw to stop pollutants entering streams.
- Irrigation pumps available both on farm and a variety of equipment available to hire.
- A clay drain cover to prevent a pollutant from entering the drain that leads to the wet meadow.
- A bung to prevent water leaving the yard via a drainage pipe. This will contain the spill whilst remedial action is taken
- Should the pollutant not be prevented from entering the water course then an attempt will be made to block the stream further down.
- It may he possible depending on the pollutant to use the slurry store as a reservoir for the pollutant.

9) Due Diligence

In the event of a pollution incident occurring there is a ‘due diligence defence’ under the

Water Pollution (Jersey) Law, 2000 if you can prove that you did all of the following things:

a) Taken all reasonable precautions and exercised due diligence to avoid committing the offence (a reasonable precaution would be following the Water Code);
b) Took all practical steps to minimize the extent of the water pollution;
c) Gave full details as soon as reasonable practical to the Department of the Environment (The hotline number 709535 can be used for this).

10) Emergency Services numbers

Fire Police Ambulance 999
Jersey Water 707302
Jersey Met office 0905 8077777
Environment Dept Water Pollution hotline 709535