

New farm assurance app will transform welfare assessments

RSPCA Assured carried out the first-ever field trial of its brand-new app

Tuesday 11 July 2023

RSPCA Assured has developed an app which will help transform how the farm assurance scheme carries out future assessments.

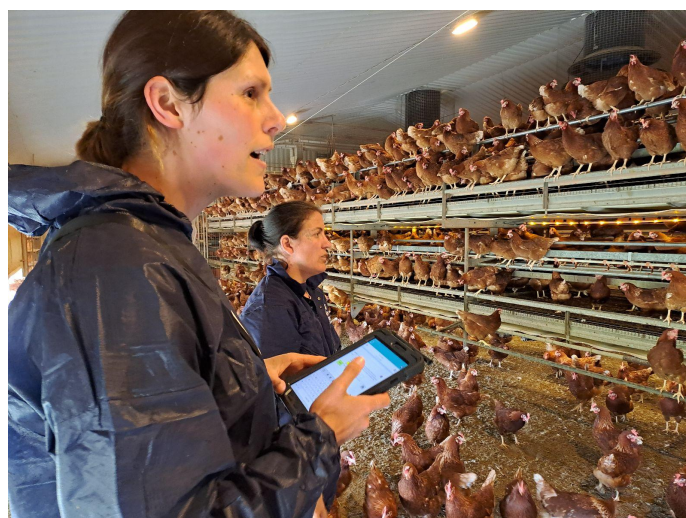
The RSPCA's ethical food label and farm assurance scheme has developed an app which will be used by the 25 full-time assessors who visit RSPCA Assured certified members across the UK to ensure they're meeting higher welfare standards.

The app allows assessors to upload their audit forms directly whilst they're visiting the member which is expected to make the process easier and more streamlined.

Julie Taylor, Field Testing and Implementation Manager at RSPCA Assured, said:

“Previously, assessors would fill out a paper form based on their assessment but the development of this brand new app means assessors can go paper-free and will reduce the amount of time they have to spend on admin. This will mean more time can be spent out in the field, ensuring our robust standards are maintained and therefore will have a significant positive impact on farm animal welfare.”

The assurance scheme trialled the app on Friday 23 June with field assessor Cat Green carrying out a mock assessment of Yorkshire Farmhouse Eggs at Westwick Hall Farm near York.



Emily Stott
Senior Public Relations Manager
01403 289577
emily.stott@rspcaassured.org.uk

Cressida Robinson
Public Relations Manager
01403 915693
cressida.robinson@rspcaassured.org.uk

RSPCA Assured
Wilberforce Way
Southwater, Horsham
West Sussex, RH13 9RS

01403 286170
hello@rspcaassured.org.uk
www.rspcaassured.org.uk

RSPCA press office
0300 123 0244/0288
press@rspca.org.uk

Duty press officer
Evening and weekends
07825 158490

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RSPCA Assured news



Field assessor, Cat Green said: “The app was easy to use and it meant I could upload my assessment there and then and didn’t have to go home and do lots of paperwork. I think it will save us a lot of time and will mean that we can get out to assess more farms much more quickly.”

The app will undergo more field trials before an official roll-out takes place.

Neil Scott, Head of Certification at RSPCA Assured, said: “I’m immensely proud of the innovative minds behind this app and can’t wait to see it launched across the board. As part of our joint strategy with the RSPCA, we have an ambitious aim for more than half of all farmed animals in the UK to be reared to the RSPCA’s higher welfare standards, under the RSPCA Assured scheme, by 2030. The development of this app is just one of the key steps we’re taking to help us achieve that goal.”



For a video on what an RSPCA Assured assessor does, please visit:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XtNRJb3oVE8>

For more information on RSPCA Assured visit: www.rspcaassured.org.uk

Ends

Notes to editors

Images can be downloaded here: <https://we.tl/t-EJsUfljiye>

Emily Stott
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01403 289577
emily.stott@rspcaassured.org.uk

Cressida Robinson
Public Relations Manager
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