

Farming Equipment and Technology Fund (FETF 2025)



Applications for the FETF are now open again and include 3 grants to help you buy equipment or technology to:

- Improve productivity
- Manage slurry
- Improve animal health and welfare

You are allowed to apply for more than one grant for items that suit your business, but you can only submit one application for each theme. The grants are competitive and you may not receive any, or all, of the funding you apply for.

Eligibility is based on if your business is located and registered in England and you're either a farmer, horticulturalist or forestry owner. You may also be eligible to apply, even if you've received money from previous FETF grants or the Countryside Productivity Scheme.

The FETF Animal Health and Welfare grant is only available if you farm any of the following:

- beef cattle
- dairy cattle
- sheep
- pigs
- laying or broiler chickens (including rearing and breeding farms)

Your business must be registered with the Rural Payments service and given a Single Business Identifier (SBI) and there is guidance should you be involved with more than one business. All applications must be submitted under a single SBI and this is the business that will be using the funded equipment.

You can apply for items from the Productivity, Slurry and Animal Health and Welfare specifications lists. These lists can be found online:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/farming-equipment-and-technology-fund-2025>

All items bought must meet the minimum specification but can be of a higher specification if required. You can apply for funding for similar items to those funded through other schemes, but not for the same item. You may apply for an item that you've applied for under previous FETF grants. The Rural Payments Agency (RPA) will ask you to explain why you need the item and then RPA will tell you if this can be included or not. You must keep items that have been funded by FETF grants for 5 years from the date your claim was paid.

If you are applying for items included in the animal health and welfare section you can increase your application score by 20% if you provide evidence that you have discussed your application with a veterinary surgeon. This can be via phone, email or as part of a clinical visit (which could be part of the animal health and welfare pathway). The advice must be documented after 1st January 2025 and prior to submitting your application and you will need to provide our details, the date of discussion and permission to discuss with ourselves.

RPA will pay you a grant amount of 40% or 50% towards either:

- the average cost of the item – if an item costs you the same or more than the expected average cost in the item lists, or
- the actual cost you pay for the item – if an item costs you less than the expected average cost in the item lists

You can check an item's expected average cost and grant amount in the item and specification lists.

If your application is successful, you'll receive a grant of a **minimum of £1,000 and a maximum of £25,000**. The grant contribution does not cover the total cost of each item. It's your responsibility to fund the remaining cost.

For more information please speak to a member of the team on 01889 567200.

SHEEP ABORTION - VACCINATION IS KEY

Lambing percentage is one of the key measures in determining flock health and performance: a small improvement can significantly increase income. Most lowland flocks could achieve a lambing percentage of over 170% but with a national lowland average of just 159% there's room for improvement.

Just two infectious diseases, Enzootic Abortion (EAE) and Toxoplasmosis account for nearly two-thirds of all abortions diagnosed in vet labs. If you recorded a flock barren rate greater than 2% during this lambing season and/or suffered lamb losses then please ask us for advice well before tupping this year. There is still time to benefit from subsidised blood sampling of barren ewes up until 30th June.

Vaccine supply can be variable so early orders are encouraged - we can offer 5% discount on all Toxovax orders that are placed for delivery before the end of July. Please phone the Farm Office for more information.



	Enzootic Abortion (EAE)	Toxoplasmosis
Cause	Bacterial type organism - <i>Chlamydophila abortus</i>	Coccidial type parasite - <i>Toxoplasma gondii</i>
Sources of infection	Aborted placenta / lamb Carrier sheep	Hay, straw, cereal, concentrates, pastures (contaminated with cat faeces)
Appearance of abortion materials	Fresh lambs Thickened placenta	Fresh lambs Mummified lambs Leathery or white spot placenta
Impact on ewes	Ewe not unwell	Ewe not unwell
Treatment	Antibiotics (seek veterinary advice)	In-feed coccidiostat (only prevents abortions whilst on it)
Control	Cull aborted ewes Vaccination Buy in EAE-free or accredited replacements	Keep aborted ewes Vaccination Medicated feed Neuter any farm cats

THANK YOU!

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all our lovely clients who took the time to come and visit us at the Staffordshire County Show held last month.

It was a pleasure seeing you all and we truly appreciate your continued support.

Our next event will be the 119th Brailsford Ploughing Match being held on 1st October at The Grange, Barrow on Trent DE73 1HA - we look forward to seeing you there!

