

Responsible Animal Fiber Transition Policy

This policy defines the transitional measures for standards, assurance and certification with the publication of *RAF-101a-V2.0 Responsible Wool Standard (RWS)* and *RAF-101b-V1.0 Responsible Mohair Standard (RMS)*, collectively “the new standards”). This policy is applicable to all certification bodies and accreditation bodies which work with the RWS, even if they do not intend to work with the RMS and/or RMS products.

Section A - Accreditation

A1. Accreditation Scope

- A1.1 The accreditation scope formerly identified as Responsible Wool Standard (RWS) or as RWS Farm will become known as Responsible Animal Fiber (RAF).
- A1.2 A certification body who hold RWS accreditation at the time of publication of the new standards will be considered to hold RAF accreditation from that date.
- A1.3 The accreditation body may limit the scope of the certification body’s accreditation based on animal species or products (e.g. to allow for RWS but not RMS).

A2. Grace Periods

- A2.1 A certification body who is within a grace period for RWS at the time of publication of the new standards will be considered to have an RAF grace period from that date.
- A2.2 Certification of a single farm for both RWS and RMS will be considered to be the certification of one site towards the grace period limit.

Section B - Certification

B1. Farm Certification

- B1.1 A single farm may be certified to either or both of the new standards. Separate scope certificates shall be issued to farms and farm groups for RWS and RMS.
- B1.2 For farms and farm groups certified to both the RWS and the RMS, only one fee applies. See *ASR-107-V2020 Certification Fee Schedule* for details.
- B1.3 If a farm or farm group holds RWS certification, the certification body may conduct a remote audit to issue an initial RMS scope certificate, subject to the following conditions:
 - 1. Both the RWS and RMS scope certificates shall be issued by the same certification body;



2. The certification body shall be satisfied that practices evaluated at the farm(s) during the previous RWS audit are representative of the practices to be evaluated during the remote audit;
3. The remote audit shall be conducted after the publication of the new standards and before December 31, 2020;
4. An on-site RMS audit shall be conducted no later than the next regularly scheduled RWS audit.

B1.4 Previously shorn mohair may be eligible to be sold as RMS retroactively, provided that RMS G1.2.2 is met.

B2. Supply Chain Certification

B2.1 Supply chain scope certificates shall be issued for Responsible Animal Fiber (RAF) rather than RWS effective January 1, 2021, and may be issued for RAF effective January 1, 2020.

B2.2 Scope certificates shall include the RWS logo if RWS products are included in the scope, and shall include the RMS logo if RMS products are included in the scope. Logos which do not apply to the scope shall not be included.

B2.3 An RAF scope certificate may include RWS and/or RMS products.

1. An RWS product may contain non-RMS mohair and other non-wool animal fibers. It shall not contain non-RWS wool.
2. An RMS product may contain non-RWS wool and other non-mohair animal fibers. It shall not contain non-RMS mohair.
3. A product may be both RWS and RMS.

B2.4 RMS products may be added to an RWS supply chain scope certificate without re-issuing the scope certificate for RAF. No audit is required unless the certification body determines that there is significant risk to adding the new products without an audit.

B2.5 Existing logo releases may be updated to cover RMS as well as RWS. In this case, the certification body shall ensure that the RMS usage is correct and that text claims are accurate and relevant. (e.g. It is not allowed to make claims about RMS products being non-mulesed.)

B3. Transaction Certificates

B3.1 Transaction certificates shall be issued for Responsible Animal Fiber (RAF), and may include both RWS and RMS products on the same transaction certificate.



- B3.2 Transaction certificates shall include the RWS logo if RWS products are included in the scope, and shall include the RMS logo if RMS products are included in the scope. Logos which do not apply to the scope shall not be included.
- B3.3 If a product is both RMS and RWS, it shall be clearly identified as such on the TC.

Section C - Documentation

C1. Textile Exchange Documents

- C1.1 Textile Exchange assurance documents which reference the RWS may be read as referencing RAF effective upon publication of the new standards.
- C1.2 Textile Exchange will update documents to reflect the change from RWS to RAF as resources allow, with a goal to complete updates by the end of 2020. Some documents may be updated to include this reference before publication of the new standards.
- C1.3 Textile Exchange document codes will be updated to use RAF instead of RWS.

C2. Certification Body and Accreditation Body Documents

- C2.1 All accreditation and scope certificates issued after January 1, 2021 shall reflect the update to RAF.
- C2.2 The accreditation body shall update all applicable documentation to reflect RAF within one year of publication of the new standards, and should do so by January 1, 2021.
- C2.3 The certification body shall update all applicable documentation to reflect RAF within one year of publication of the new standards, and should do so by January 1, 2021.
1. The accreditation body is not required to assess this update until the subsequent regularly scheduled office assessment.