

Alternative Bedding for livestock

Is a waste exemption required?

With the price and scarcity of straw this winter, many farmers are looking for alternatives to cereal straw bedding. There have been a number of questions on when waste management regulation is applied.

What alternatives can I consider for animal bedding?

- Other plant material such as pea haulm, rape straw, miscanthus etc.
- Woodchip, sawdust and shavings from timber sawmills
- Woodchip, sawdust and shavings from Grade A recycled wood (for example, only from packing crates and clean white pallets).
- De-inked paper sludge (paper crumb).

Is a waste exemption required?

No waste exemption is required to use the material as bedding or apply the spent bedding and manure to land. You do not need to inform SEPA. Storage and application to land must, however, comply with CAR GBR 18.

General advice:

- Get confirmation from your supplier that the material is safe to use with your livestock.
- Carefully check the material on delivery. If you believe the material isn't suitable or not what you expected, you can and should, reject the material.
- If you are offered payment to take the material – be especially careful - don't let anyone take advantage of you.



There's more information on CAR DP GBRs at www.farmingandwaterscotland.org See the 'Know the Rules' booklet or the 'Mind the Gap' tractor sticker for a reminder on spreading distances.

