



RIDBA/015

Monday, 30 January 2012

## **FARM BUILDING BUYING GUIDE LAUNCHED BY RIDBA**

A buying guide which helps farmers ensure they get a farm building that is properly fabricated, constructed, and safe and appropriate for use, has been launched by RIDBA (the Rural and Industrial Design and Building Association) in partnership with the NFU.

Free copies of the four-page A5 guide will be available at the Agricultural Buildings Show on March 27<sup>th</sup> when RIDBA experts will talk about one of the biggest issues on the farm building calendar – the compulsory introduction next year of CE Marking.

It was the impending CE issue, which could impact on the price of new farm buildings, and the major collapse of several farm buildings in the heavy snowfalls of winter 2010/11, that prompted RIDBA to publish the guide with the help of the NFU.

CE Marking will apply to all steel, concrete and timber frames used in the UK from July 2013 when it will become a criminal offense to supply a frame without a CE Mark. Complying with this legislation will prove costly for manufacturers and fabricators and some may choose to pass that cost onto their client – farmers.

As well as CE Marking, the RIDBA guide provides information on meeting Building Regulations, British Standards and Health and Safety obligations and whether or not planning permission is required for specific farm buildings.

It also advises on design classifications and build considerations, self-builds, insurance, and loadings including renewable energy sources such as solar panels and wind turbines.

RIDBA secretary Tony Hutchinson said: “The guide aims to give farmers the knowledge to ask the right questions when buying a farm building so they get a building that is properly fabricated, constructed, safe and most appropriate for their intended use.

“The CE Marking issue alone demonstrates how important it is for farmers to use contractors which are reputable and competent in health and safety and we can help them find one in their area.”

RIDBA's Farm Building Buying Guide is available to download from [http://www.ridba.org.uk/advicenotes/buying\\_guide.pdf](http://www.ridba.org.uk/advicenotes/buying_guide.pdf).

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## **DISTRIBUTION LIST**

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1. British Farmer and Grower
2. Cumbrian Farming
3. Farm Brief
4. Farm Business
5. Farm Contractor & Large Scale Farmer
6. The Farmer
7. Farmers Club Journal
8. Farmers Guardian
9. Farmers Guide
10. Farmers Weekly
11. Farming Monthly National
12. Farming Today
13. FarmingUK
14. First4Farming
15. National Farmer
16. Northern Farming Gazette
17. South East Farmer
18. South West Farmer
19. Wrights Farming Register
20. [www.roofconsult.co.uk](http://www.roofconsult.co.uk)
21. [www.agricultureindustrytoday.co.uk](http://www.agricultureindustrytoday.co.uk)

### CCs

1. Tony Hutchinson

TOTAL = 22