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By Ed Leahy

Wednesday 4th April 2018, 15:47 GMT

## **LEAF appoints new assurance manager**



Sue Whittington arrives at the green benchmarking group from NSF Certification having previously worked in the horticulture industry

**L** EAF (Linking Environment And Farming) has announced the appointment of Sue Whittington as LEAF Marque Certification and Assurance Manager.

Whittington comes from a farming background, with a degree in Crop Science and Crop Production from the University of Reading and is BASIS and FACTS qualified. She previously worked for NSF Certification, as well as for fruit and veg growers.

Speaking on her new position at LEAF, Whittington commented: "I am hugely excited to have joined the LEAF team at this time of change within the agriculture industry, and relish the

opportunity to play a role in the continued development of LEAF Marque. It is a great privilege to be part of such a robust, credible, and increasingly global, assurance system, which I have seen evolve during the time I was with NSF Certification."

Caroline Drummond, LEAF Chief Executive added: "We are delighted to welcome Sue as our new Certification and Assurance Manager. We have worked with Sue for many years in her previous role at NSF Certification, so not only is she familiar with LEAF Marque and our work, but also she brings a wealth of expertise and understanding around farm assurance, its governance, training and processes.

LEAF works with farmers, the food industry, scientists and consumers to enable sustainable farming that is prosperous, enriches the environment and engages local communities.

They recently released a report showing increased green farming practices worldwide, with the number British producers adopting their sustainable benchmark rising to 36 per cent, up from 25 per cent three years ago.