

FEED MATERIALS ASSURANCE SCHEME

UK COUNTRY NOTES

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NOTES FOR THE APPLICATION OF FEMAS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

These notes are provided to assist FEMAS Applicants and Assessors in applying the requirements of FEMAS in the United Kingdom and to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Universal Feed Assurance Scheme (UFAS). These Notes are not necessarily exhaustive.

Compliance with and certification to these Notes will preclude the need for FEMAS certificated companies selling feed ingredients direct to farm, to seek additional certification to the Universal Feed Assurance Scheme Merchants Code of Practice.

These Notes are laid out in the same format as the FEMAS International Core Standard. Where additional comment is necessary, the clause reference is to the appropriate section of the FEMAS International Core Standard. It is emphasised that the requirements included in this document apply in addition to those of the FEMAS International Core Standard (and *associated modules*, where relevant) and are not to be considered in isolation. For clauses where no additional comments are provided in this document, the original requirements of the FEMAS International Core Standard (and *associated modules*, where relevant) continue to apply without any additions or exclusions.

Additions and amendments to these Notes since the previous issue are shown in *blue italics*, for ease of reference.

These Notes have been produced in association with the Agricultural Industries Confederation (AIC), with particular assistance from the Universal Feed Assurance Scheme (UFAS) Working Group.

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GENERAL GUIDANCE

It should be noted that combinable crops produced within the UK are covered by separate, complementary assurance schemes; FEMAS is however intended to be applied to all other feed ingredients produced in the UK and to cover the assurance requirements of unprocessed combinable crops sourced from outside of the UK or where non-GM certification is being sought.

Within the UK, FEMAS has been adopted by AIC as a complementary scheme operating under the Universal Feed Assurance Scheme (UFAS) banner. AIC is consequently a key stakeholder in the FEMAS project, wherever it operates.

‘Essential reading’ for UK Applicants to FEMAS is the AIC Universal Feed Assurance Scheme document: ‘**Code of Practice for the Manufacture of Safe Compound Animal Feedingstuffs**’. This document is available from the AIC website www.agindustries.org.uk

Where access to additional documents would be helpful for effective implementation of FEMAS in the UK, the details of these documents have been added in brackets against the relevant sections.

1.10 Definitions

Combinable Crops – Those crops that can be harvested by means of a combine harvester. These include cereals (e.g. wheat, barley, maize, oats, rye, etc), pulses (e.g. peas, beans, etc), oilseeds (e.g. rapeseed, soybeans, etc).

3.4 Storage Facilities

Store assurance schemes acceptable to AIC are detailed in Section D6 of the 'UFAS Code of Practice for the Manufacture of Safe Compound Animal Feedstuffs'.

(AIC Universal Feed Assurance Scheme (UFAS) Code of Practice for the Manufacture of Safe Compound Animal Feedstuffs – available from AIC: www.agindustries.org.uk)

3.15 Process Water & Water Used For Cleaning Purposes

Under the terms of their licensing agreements, water companies in the UK are obliged to supply summaries of water quality analyses free of charge to any customer that requires them. Further information can be obtained from licensed UK water providers.

4. Transport Requirements

4.1.2 FEMAS participants' owned and operated vehicles must comply with the Current AIC TASCC Road Haulage Code of Practice.

Where a bulk haulier is wholly contracted to a single FEMAS participant, they may be included within that FEMAS participant's own procedures and controls in order to ensure that the requirements of the AIC TASCC Code of Practice for Road haulage are met. Where this is the case, further assurance scheme membership is not required.

Outside of the circumstances detailed above, FEMAS participants within the UK supplying UFAS businesses must only utilise contracted hauliers that are:

- i) Certificated and current members of the AIC TASCC Road Haulage Scheme;*
- ii) Certificated and current members of the AIC UFAS Merchant Scheme;*
- iii) Certificated and current members of the AIC UFAS Compound Feeds Scheme;*
- iv) Certificated and current members of the GTAS Road Transport Module.*

OR *carry out annual audits of their contracted hauliers to confirm adherence to the AIC TASCC Code of Practice for Road Haulage.*

Where a contracted haulier sub-contracts work, the sub-contractor must be a current member of the TASSC, UFAS or GTAS schemes, as listed above.

The AIC **TASCC** Code of Practice for Road Haulage is usually revised annually in July. Applicants must ensure they comply with the latest published version.

(AIC **TASCC Code of Practice for Road Haulage – available from AIC: www.agindustries.org.uk)**

4.2.3 Inspections Of Land Transport Prior To Loading

Vehicles presented for loading by hauliers not belonging to an assurance scheme listed in 4.1.2 above should be scrutinised in detail before loading is permitted.

5.5 Sales Contracts

Applicants shall make available to purchasers upon request, confirmation of product licences, official authorisation of the manufacturer, or official registration or approval.

5.10 Feed Ingredient Delivery Documents & Labels

The labelling requirements for feed ingredients offered for sale in the UK and Northern Ireland are laid down in the various national Feeding Stuffs Regulations, for example: '**The Feeding Stuffs (England) Regulations 2005**' or '**Feeding Stuffs (Scotland) Regulations 2005**'. **Schedule 3, section 7** covers the labelling requirements for feed materials and reflects **EU Directive 96/25/EC** of 29th April 1996, notably **Article 5**. Amendments to the Regulation may be issued as circumstances dictate and it is consequently important to have a means of ensuring that the most recent requirements are implemented.

The labelling requirements for feed additives are laid down in **Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003**, notably in **Article 16**.

The labelling requirements for genetically modified feeds are laid down in **Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003**.

(Copies of UK Regulations are available from The Stationery Office: www.hmsso.gov.uk. Copies of EU Regulations can be obtained from: www.europa.eu.int/eur-lex)

DELIVERIES DIRECT TO FARM

Where applicants deliver feed ingredients direct to farm, confirmation of the applicant's FEMAS certification must be provided to recipients. The following text must be included on labels or accompanying delivery documents or the contract or the invoice:-

"FEMAS¹ Merchant - FEMAS Certificate End Date dd/mm/yy"

5.13.6 Microbiological Analysis

The UK Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) has published a *Code of Practice for the Control of Salmonella* and in Northern Ireland, DARD has produced a complementary *Code of Practice for the Control of Salmonella*. Applicants in the UK must be aware of, and comply with, the Code applicable to the region in which they are located.

The Code of Practice for the Control of Salmonella allows for sampling frequency to be increased or reduced on the basis of risk assessment. There is however no provision for sampling and testing to be stopped altogether on the basis of very low risk. As pathogens are capable of rapid mutation and

¹ FEMAS may be either the written acronym or the FEMAS logo.

adaptation, monitoring for salmonellae remains a requirement for all Applicants.

(‘Code of Practice for the Control of Salmonella During the Storage, Handling and Transport of Raw Materials intended for Incorporation into, or Direct Use as, Animal Feedingstuffs’, available from DEFRA: www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/diseases/zoonoses/salmonella-cop.htm)

5.13.7 Testing Laboratories

To comply with the Salmonella Code of Practice published by DEFRA, microbiology laboratories used by applicants in the UK must be approved by DEFRA (or the relevant devolved authority) under **The Animal By-Products Order 1999**.

(‘Code of Practice for the Control of Salmonella During the Storage, Handling and Transport of Raw Materials intended for Incorporation into, or Direct Use as, Animal Feedingstuffs’, available from DEFRA: www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/diseases/zoonoses/salmonella-cop.htm)

5.17.2 Notification to Competent Authorities

In the UK the Competent Authorities that must be notified in the event of a feed safety incident are:

Food Standards Agency (Feed Unit) and
Local Trading Standards

In the event of an incident concerning animal protein contamination or animal diseases, the Competent Authorities are:

Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) or
Local State Veterinary Service

Applicants would be well advised to ensure relevant contact details are held on file for these authorities as part of recall procedures.

Applicable Regulations

Within the UK there are a number of regulations with which all suppliers of feed ingredients must comply. These include:

- 1. **Regulation (EC) No 178/2002** General Principles of Food Law*
- 2. **Regulation (EC) No 183/2005** Requirements for Feed Hygiene*
- 3. **Feeding Stuffs Regulations 2005***
- 4. **Commission Directive 2005/87/EC** Amending maximum levels of Lead, Fluorine and Cadmium in feed*

This list is not exhaustive and it remains the obligation of both participants and assessors to ensure they are familiar with any regulations relevant to the supply of feed ingredients.