

FEED MATERIALS ASSURANCE SCHEME

MICRO-INGREDIENTS SECTOR NOTES

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NOTE: Although these Sector Notes may be translated into various languages for the convenience of users, the English version remains the definitive reference document in the event of any dispute.

NOTES ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF FEMAS FOR BUSINESSES PRODUCING MICRO-INGREDIENTS

Sector Notes are provided to assist FEMAS participants and assessors in establishing some background knowledge of specific feed industry supply sectors where issues may exist that are uncommon, or of less relevance, in other sectors. These Notes are not necessarily exhaustive.

These Sector Notes are relevant to businesses involved in the production and supply of micro-ingredients for use in animal feed, including: feed additives, processing aids and other additive-like substances.

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 comments included in this document are intended to assist in the application of the corresponding requirements of the FEMAS International Core Standard 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 continue to apply without any additions or exclusions.

In subsequent issues, additions and amendments to these Notes will be shown in *blue italics*, for ease of reference.

1.10 Definitions

Carrier: A substance used to bulk out an active ingredient but which does not itself make any intended nutritional or other contribution to the product.

Micro-ingredients: *Feed additives, processing aids and other additive-like substances.*

Premixture: Mixture of feed additives or mixture of one or more feed additives with feed materials or water used as carriers, not intended for direct feeding to animals. (Regulation (EC) 1831/2003)

For additional definitions refer to FEMAS International Core Standard

SECTION 4 TRANSPORT REQUIREMENTS

4.2.3 Inspections of Land Transport Prior to Loading

Where the health and safety of quality personnel would be put at risk by climbing onto road tankers to carry out internal inspections, participants must comply with one of the following:

- Allow safe access by provision of safety platforms from which inspections may be done
- Nominate and train drivers to undertake inspections (in which case records of training must be held)
- Utilise risk assessment methodology to put in place alternative controls that will ensure issues of cross-contamination can be avoided (e.g. by use of dedicated tankers). In any such assessment, consideration must be given to the potential effects of inadvertently mixing different grades of the same product.

SECTION 5 PRODUCT SAFETY MANAGEMENT

5.2 Raw Materials

In addition to consideration of the 'active ingredients' used to produce feed ingredients, participants must also undertake risk assessments of any carriers used. Appropriate controls must be implemented wherever risk assessment indicate these are necessary. As examples: where limestone is used as a carrier lead may be a natural contaminant; where maize cob is used the GM status must be known.

5.4.1 Raw Materials Suppliers

Irrespective of whether raw materials have been sourced through a 'middle market', participants must know the processes from which all raw materials are derived and have considered all likely hazards arising from production and subsequent handling/transport.

Where raw materials utilised by participants are produced by non-feed/food suppliers or in developing countries, particular care must be taken to ensure no additional hazards exist. Participants must demonstrate that they have a clear understanding of the processes by which raw materials are produced and that they have considered the potential feed safety hazards that may exist as a result of such processing (e.g. presence of dioxin). Where the supplier of the raw material is unwilling or unable to implement effective food safety controls within their own business, the participant must take on this burden within their business.

As part of the supplier evaluation process, participants must consider the nature and potential hazards associated with ALL products produced by suppliers and ensure that controls are in place either within the suppliers' or their own business to control any potential hazards that may be present in raw materials or micro-ingredients as a result of contact with potential contaminants and through cross-contamination.

5.12 Certificates of Conformity

Where Certificates of Conformity are provided as part of the raw material purchase agreement, certificates must be received by the participant prior to commencing use or sale of the related batch of raw materials.

5.13 Inspection, Sampling and Analysis

Inspection, sampling and analysis regimes must be based on the risk assessments of raw materials. In some instances the nature of the tests required to prove the safety of raw materials will require positive release procedures to be implemented. Participants' procedures must include positive release procedures wherever this is necessary to ensure the safety of products.

5.13.5 Undesirable Substances

The potential presence of both dioxin and heavy metals must be considered for all raw materials. Testing regimes must be established on the basis of findings resulting

from this evaluation and routine testing of these undesirable substances must be undertaken unless it can be demonstrated that they are not likely hazards.

5.13.6 Microbiological Analysis

Some raw materials, for example natural herbs and spices, should be considered high-risk products with regard to microbiological contamination. Wherever this is the case, participants' testing and supplier approval procedures must take this into account and appropriate controls must be introduced.

Applicable Regulations

***N.B.** This section of the Sector Notes is intended to assist participants and assessors in identifying specific regulations that should be considered with regard to this sector. It is not necessarily exhaustive nor does it reduce the obligation of both participants and assessors to ensure they are familiar with any regulations relevant to this sector.*

In addition to those regulations that apply to all feed ingredients, suppliers of Micro-Ingredients based in, or supplying to, the EU must be aware of the following specific regulations:

1. Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003 on additives for use in animal nutrition

NOTE 1: Approved Feed Additives are listed on The Community Register of Feed Additives and can be viewed at:

www.ec.europa.eu/food/food/animalnutrition/feedadditives/index_en.htm

NOTE 2: Participants and assessors working with Feed Additives of Chinese origin must also be aware of the following specific decree issued by the People's Republic of China:

2. Decree No. 1126, of December 11th 2008 Catalogue of Feed Additives.