

TASCCforce

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE TRADE ASSURANCE SCHEME FOR COMBINABLE CROPS



Welcome

Welcome to TASCCforce. In this edition, we highlight a new non-conformance data report that could help Participants improve audit processes and compliance with the TASCC Standard. We investigate an alert concerning pea bruchid, and new guidance for verifying supplier assurance. There is also an opportunity to join the Testing Working Group as an observer.

As always, we welcome feedback from Members and Participants. If you have any questions or suggestions for topics you would like to see covered, please get in touch. AIC welcomes your views and is here to help make your voice heard.



Gill Barrow
Technical Manager



Non-conformance data report

A new overview is available on the AIC website to assist Participants in improving audit processes and enhancing compliance with the TASCC Standard. Non-conformances are categorised and visually represented, highlighting the 10 most frequent issues.

A detailed table breaks down specific clauses and their frequency, enabling precise identification of areas requiring attention. The data is reviewed by the

TASCC Working Group, which includes Scheme Participants, stakeholders, the Certification Body, and AIC representatives.

Find the latest report on the TASCC page of the AIC website.



Audit hints & tips

Personnel competence must be evaluated and reviewed at least every 12 months following training. As a minimum, a designated individual involved in day-to-day operations should complete the relevant AIC i-Learning module. This is a requirement of clause G 6.2.b.

G6.2.b UPDATED R

Interpretation

Where relevant to food/feed safety, personnel competence must be evaluated after training, and reviewed at least every 12 months, or earlier if changes to the scheme requirements, legislation, business operations, processes or responsibilities occur.

As a minimum, a designated person involved in the day-to-day operations should complete the relevant AIC i-Learning modules or equivalent training package (e.g. Driver CPC training in food/feed safety).



i-Learning is available on AIC's Portal, or by scanning the QR code.



Exclusion and sensitive list material – TASCC trailers

If you are unsure whether a material can be transported, please contact AIC or Kiwa for clarification: uk.feed@kiwa.com or enquiries@agindustries.org.uk.

Please note that anaerobic digestate material is classified as exclusion list material, even if certified to Publicly Available Specification 110 (PAS 110). A Product Specification Sheet detailing the product, its content and source must be obtained. This information is essential to determine whether the material can be safely transported without compromising food or feed safety.

Transporting unsuitable material may result in trailers being removed from the TASCC Scheme.

Unsafe tipping practices

In recent months, there have been several near misses involving unsafe tipping practices, posing serious health and safety risks and potential food or feed safety incidents. These incidents typically involved trailers being raised to a height where loaded grain spilled over the tailgate, contaminating the intake area.

In some cases, the tipping lever was left engaged while the driver was away from the cab or at the rear of the vehicle. To prevent such occurrences, it is imperative that all safe tipping procedures and site rules are strictly followed.

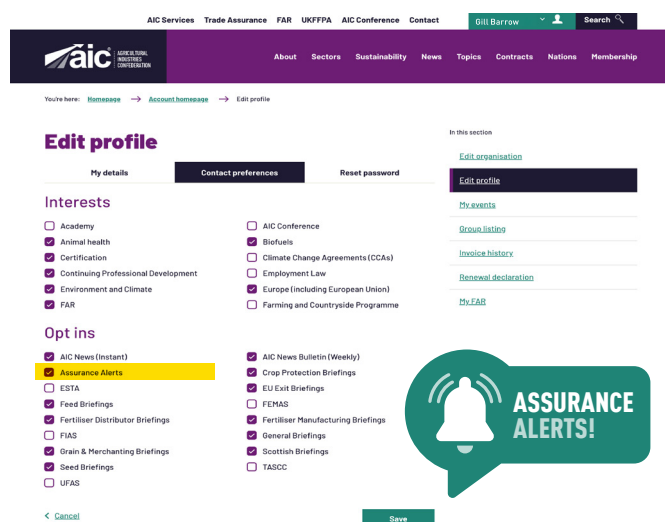
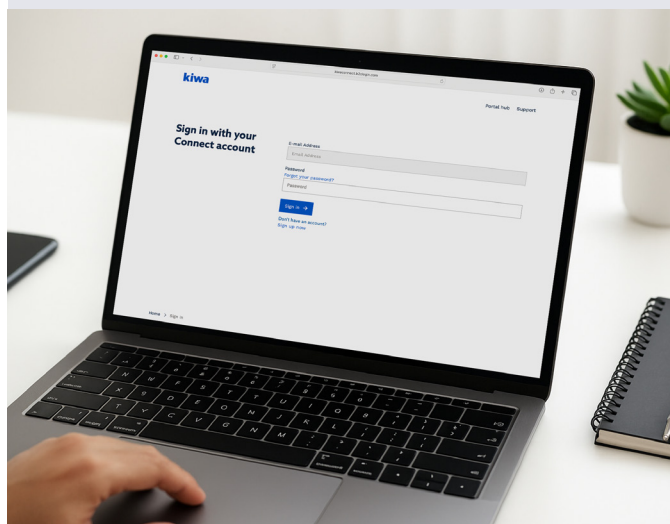
Further guidance is available from the **Road Haulage Association (RHA)**.



AIC Portal support

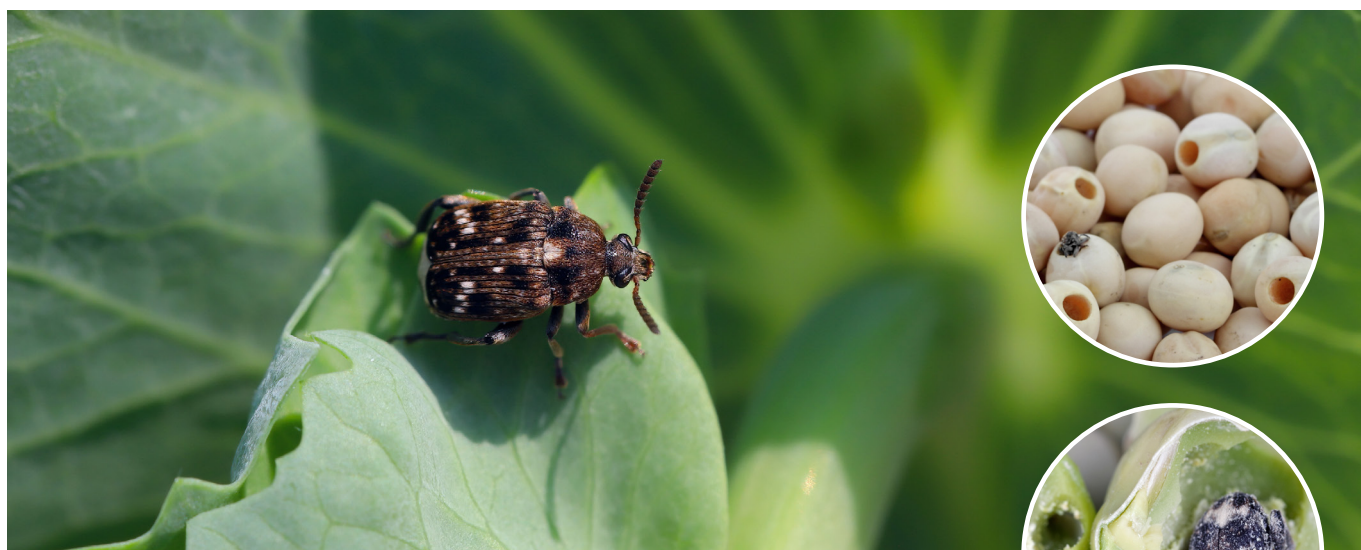
If you experience issues logging into AIC's Portal, please use the 'forgotten password' link on the portal page or contact Kiwa directly on 01423 878873 or email uk.feed@kiwa.com.

A helpful user guide is available to [download](#).



Assurance alerts

To receive AIC Assurance alerts, select the opt-in preference when logging into AIC's website and editing your profile and contact preferences. This ensures you stay informed about the latest assurance status of AIC Scheme Participants.



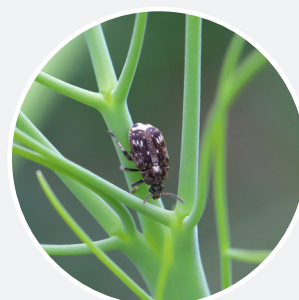
Pea bruchid alert

For the first time, pea bruchid has been confirmed in the United Kingdom (UK) commercial crops, with cases reported in Cambridgeshire. This year's unusually warm and dry spring likely created ideal conditions for the bruchid to complete its life cycle in the UK.

Adults lay eggs on pea pods, and larvae develop inside, leaving exit holes in harvested peas – resulting in significant quality and value loss.

The Processors and Growers Research Organisation (PGRO) is compiling an incidence log to track the spread. Growers and traders should inspect crops and report suspected damage. Reports should include crop location and photographs to aid identification, as images are vital to distinguish pea bruchid damage from pea moth damage.

Further information is available on the [PGRO website](#).

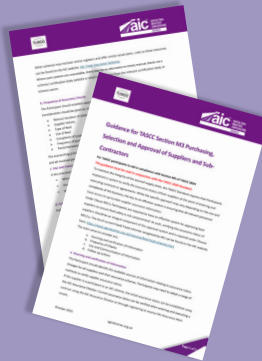


Verifying supplier assurance: Guidance for UFAS, FEMAS and TASCC Participants

Guidance has been developed to support Participants of the Universal Feed Assurance Scheme (UFAS), Feed Materials Assurance Scheme (FEMAS), and Trade Assurance Scheme for Combinable Crops (TASCC) in complying with the new clauses in the 2024 Standards. These Standards require “a system in place to verify the current assurance status of the suppliers when entering and executing a contract or agreement”.

This requirement ensures that food or feed safety is not compromised and mandates an effective system for the approval and verification of supplier's assurance status. Verifying the assurance status of suppliers should be an integral component within a documented system and routine workflow. The specific system and approach businesses take to meet clause requirements may vary depending on the complexity and size of the business.

The guidance document can be found by scanning the QR code.



Join the TASCC Testing Working Group as an observer

Are you new to your role or at the start of your career in a Testing Facility? If you wish to be involved in the wider management of the TASCC Testing Standard, you can join the Testing Working Group as an observer.

The group comprises TASCC Testing certified Participants and meets online twice a year. Joining could lead to membership of the Review Group, which is responsible for reviewing the Standard and ensuring it meets legislative requirements.

For more information, email: gill.barrow@agindustries.org.uk



AHDB Analyst Modules

You can revisit the Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board (AHDB) modules as a reference or information point, not just as training modules. You now have the option to print or receive modules via email.

For further information, contact: gill.barrow@agindustries.org.uk

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) Salmonella Feed Code of Practice

The updated Code of Practice was published in April and includes more detailed guidance on actions following a Salmonella isolation. Some wording has also been simplified for clarity.



You can find the resource by scanning the QR code.

