

AIC Position Statement – February 2021

UK and imported combinable crops & feedstuffs

AIC manage a number of feed & food assurance schemes* which cover feed & food safety in the UK agri-food supply chain. These schemes have Earned Recognition with the FSA and devolved Governments and also have mutual recognition with EU feed schemes. The schemes have been developed by the industry for the industry, have been in operation since the mid-nineties and were introduced on the back of major incidents including BSE, Foot & Mouth and Salmonella.

Since the introduction of these assurance schemes, and with the support of the industry, no major feed incident has been recorded and the schemes have successfully managed any non-conformances as and when they have occurred. This has provided buyer and consumer confidence in this sector, which in turn has supported the entire agri-food supply chain.

All schemes are voluntary but most markets require assurance to control any potential feed & food incidents as well as providing evidence that feed & food safety laws have been complied with, which forms part of a due diligence defence.

The feed & food processors and suppliers require combinable crops & feedstuff inputs from a range of sources including the UK and imported material. Ensuring feed & food safety is paramount in these areas as this is the start of the supply chain, however, it is recognised that different supply chains have different assurance methods to achieve the same goal.

The AIC feed assurance schemes recognise a number of farm assurance schemes as highlighted in the document [“Feed/Food Supplier schemes recognised by AIC”](#) The Red Tractor Scheme is just one of these recognised schemes and provides the assurance framework that is required. Additional checks are also carried out on these combinable crops to ensure they meet the various feed & food safety requirements.

Imported crops & feedstuffs meet feed & food safety requirements by being subject to a range of checks and balances that are carried out in the supply chain as highlighted in the document [“Grains and Feedstuffs in the UK – Checks and Controls”](#) The Red Tractor Scheme is not referred to with imported crops because Red Tractor only operates within the UK and not overseas.

In summary, AIC schemes help ensure safe feed & food and this is achieved by a range of assurance depending on the source of the material. In this way the whole of the UK agri-food supply chain is supported to achieve safe feed and food for the nation.

*AIC feed & food assurance schemes

FEMAS	Feed Materials Assurance Scheme
TASCC	Trade Assurance Scheme for Combinable Crops
UFAS	Universal Feed Assurance Scheme

