

TASCCforce

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE TRADE ASSURANCE SCHEME FOR COMBINABLE CROPS



Welcome

Welcome to TASCCforce. In this edition, we highlight the essential need for industry representation in our Working Groups and Review Groups, ensuring TASCC is fit for purpose and maintains food and feed safety.

We also share a reminder of the guidance on TASCC vehicle identification, purchasing of second-hand vehicles/trailers and the minimum requirements for TASCC certification, and much more.

As ever, we welcome all feedback from Members and Participants. If you have any questions or suggestions of 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

Get involved

If you are a TASCC Participant and interested in joining our Working Groups and Review Groups, please contact gill.barrow@agindustries.org.uk. The TASCC and Transport Working Groups each meet three times a year, one meeting is in person and the Testing Working Group meets twice a year virtually.

The purpose of the Working Groups is ensuring the robustness of the scheme, ensuring it is up to date, and includes stakeholders within the supply chain. Anyone involved in the day-to-day compliance with TASCC who would like to be involved in the scheme's development can join one of the Review Groups. TASCC is continually reviewed, and it is essential to have industry representation ensuring it is fit for purpose and maintains food and feed safety.

Do you have what it takes to be an auditor?



If you have working knowledge of the scheme, feed/food safety requirements and are HACCP trained, becoming an auditor could be your next role. Certification Body Kiwa would like to hear from anyone with industry experience, excellent planning and organisational skills, as well as exceptional communication and the ability to conduct thorough and technical assessments of a company's compliance to the TASCC scheme. Contact Kiwa at uk.careers@kiwa.com



AIC website – set up personal preferences on login

Did you know that you can update your personal preferences and opt in options of your profile on AIC's website? When logging in by clicking the icon in the top right corner, click on 'Edit profile' and 'Contact Preferences' to select the topics of interest to you. You can also choose how you wish to be contacted and tailor your opt-in preferences for Member briefings.



TASCC certified hire trailer companies

In April 2022 it became a requirement for trailer hire companies to be TASCC certified.

The certified companies and their TASCC reference number are listed below. Trailers which are hired from a non-certified business will result in a non-conformance being raised during your audit.

Payne Brothers (East Anglia) Ltd	YY1318
Newton Trailers Limited	YY3254
H & S Roe & Sons Farms Ltd	YY3260
R W Adams & Son	YY3327
Thomas of Flecknoe	YY3310
STAS Trailers UK Ltd	YY3377
MV Commercial	YY3383
Woodbine Plant and Commercial Ltd	YY3413

TASCC vehicle identification tip

Section H7 in the Haulage Code of Practice details how and where vehicles must be identified and, H7.2.f specifies that the size of identification must be no smaller than the size of lettering on number plates.

Non-conformances are being raised where the identification is not meeting the requirement.



Purchasing of second-hand vehicles/trailers

When purchasing a second-hand vehicle/trailer you must gain approval from the Certification Body.

In order for approval to be given, as a minimum the following is required:

- a signed declaration confirming the trailer has not carried any forbidden/exclusion list material
- details of the past three loads
- the cleaning and sanitising records
- VIN/chassis number
- date of acquisition

The above are requirements of clause H8.1.d. Without this information, approval cannot be given and therefore the vehicle/trailer will not be allowed into the TASCC Scheme.

Kiwa maintains records of all vehicles that are, or have been, TASCC certified vehicles/trailers.



Earned recognition – what does it mean?

TASCC has 'earned recognition' with UK Government which means TASCC-compliant businesses have a lower risk rating.

Earned recognition with the Food Standards Agency (FSA) in England and Wales, Food Standards Scotland (FSS), and DAERA/FSA Northern Ireland means that AIC has a close working relationship with the authorities and a legal basis on which to share information relating to industry compliance and potential food/feed safety issues.

Recognition of the scheme is maintained by monthly, quarterly, and annual submission of scheme data, working closely with the Certification Body and ensuring the scheme meets legislative requirements.

For TASCC Participants, the key benefit is being certified to a recognised scheme and maintaining a consistent level of compliance which reduces the frequency of official visits to your business from enforcement officers.

Mutual recognition refers to schemes that recognise one another, and therefore any certified Participants to that scheme are suppliers of safe food/feed.

A list of recognised schemes can be found on AIC's website: <https://www.agindustries.org.uk/resource/feed-food-schemes.html>

TASCC audit advice

It is a requirement of TASCC clause G9.1.b to review all relevant food/feed legislation at least every 12 months and document the review.

It is recommended to include this when carrying out your annual management review to ensure the business remains up to date with regulatory requirements.



Kiwa videos – what to expect at an audit and using the portal

Kiwa has produced videos to assist Participants with understanding what to expect at an audit and how to log into the assurance portal to upload audit related documents.

Log in to AIC's website to find these videos on the trade assurance page or by following the links below:

AIC Portal Guide <https://vimeo.com/856809821>

What to expect at your audit <https://vimeo.com/856773713>



AHDB Analyst Training Modules

There are a range of Modules available on the AHDB website which have been written by industry experts. They are an invaluable resource for training personnel and for complying with the TASCC Testing Code of Practice.

The newly introduced Weighbridge module can be found in the General Section Gp011.0. Go to the AHDB website to register and access the modules. All courses can be viewed prior to registration <https://ahdb.talentlms.com/catalog>

There is now an option to print or receive modules via email. For further information, contact gill.barrow@agindustries.org.uk

Top non-conformances

Scope	Clause Ref	Clause	Times Raised
General	G9.1b.Mi	All relevant food/feed legislation must be reviewed annually.	42
	G21.1.Mi	Internal Audit must be carried out ensuring all relevant activities are covered.	33
	G6.4.Mi	As a minimum, a designated person must complete the relevant AIC i-learning modules or equivalent training package.	29
	G6.3a.Mi	Training records must be maintained for all relevant personnel.	27
	G15.1.Mi	Records of registration under feed must be kept to show that applications have been made and/or responses received from the local council or competent authority.	24
Haulage	H7.1.Mi	Hauliers must enter TASCC vehicles on AIC's Vehicle Inventory.	24
	H2.4a.Mi	All vehicles, their load carrying areas and equipment, must be cleaned routinely and sanitised at least every six weeks.	21
	H2.1.Mi	It is a requirement at audit for Hauliers to make available an unloaded TASCC registered vehicle for inspection.	20
	H11.1c.Mi	Generic terms must not be used and descriptions must be as detailed as is necessary to accurately identify the goods.	17
	H8.1a.Mi	When a new, hired/leased or second-hand vehicle has been added to the Haulier's fleet, the Haulier must inform CB and gain approval in writing.	13
Storage	S18.5a.Mi	Waste and scrap materials, old pallets or other materials which can encourage and harbour rodents must be removed from the proximity of the store.	16
	S18.5c.Mi	When the Storekeeper has achieved adequate control, on-site evidence of proofing measures, absence of food spillages and reduced rodent harbourages.	16
	S18.3c.Mi	All bait stations must be fixed securely.	14
	S7.1e.Mi	The Storekeeper must place signs easily seen prior to entry to each store that inform personnel and visitors of the site hygiene rules.	14
	S18.3d.Mi	Details of frequency of checks, with records of findings and actions.	13
Testing	T12.1a.Mi	An internal quality control (IQC) system must cover each commodity and parameter tested.	8
	T5.2.Mi	All personnel (permanent and temporary) carrying out testing must complete the relevant AHDB on-line training modules for those tests undertaken.	8
	T12.1b.Mi	Where contractual testing takes place, checks must be performed daily on the equipment being used.	7
Merchant	M22.2.Mi	Product Recall must be tested at least annually. Records of tests must be kept and any effective corrective actions that arise must be implemented and recorded.	2
	M4.1.Mi	Source assured crops where Combinable Crops are not purchased direct from the producer, the Merchant must only purchase from suppliers who are certified.	2