



FEMAS Sector Note No. 2 – Forage Crops

These Sector Notes apply to businesses processing Forage Crops into animal feed, including: Lucerne / Alfalfa, Sanfoin, Clover, Lupins after flowering, Vetches, Herbage Legumes, Herbage Grasses and Protein Concentrates obtained from Lucerne / Alfalfa juice and from Grasses.

These Notes are not exhaustive, and are intended to assist in the application of the corresponding requirements of the FEMAS Standard and are not to be considered in isolation.

Section 1 of these Sector Notes includes definitions of specific relevance to this sector.

Section 2 of these Sector Notes includes those additional requirements of the FEMAS Scheme specific to this sector and with which Participants **must** comply in order to achieve certification under the FEMAS Scheme.

Section 3 of these Sector Notes includes additional guidance (shown in italics) specific to this sector, which will assist Participants in interpreting the FEMAS Standard for their sector.

NOTE: Revisions introduced in this edition of the Sector Notes are highlighted in Bold Blue

1 Definitions

Forage Crops	Lucerne / alfalfa, sanfoin, clover, lupins after flowering, vetches, herbage legumes, herbage grasses and protein concentrates obtained from lucerne / alfalfa juice and from grasses, which may have been dried prior to supply as animal feed.
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2 Additional Sector-Specific Requirements

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3 Sector-Specific Guidance

B 1.7	HACCP and Feed Safety Risk Assessment	<p><i>Sector-specific potential hazards include but are not limited to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Hazards as a consequence of wildlife activity e.g. animals being caught in mowing machines, feathers from roosting birds and presence of badger latrines.</i> • <i>Undesirable plant species (including from field margins) inadvertently being incorporated into forage crops (e.g. ragwort, hemlock, nightshade species, etc)</i> • <i>The presence of toxic weed seeds (including from field margins) inadvertently incorporated into forage crops</i> • <i>Glass, metal and other hazards entering harvesting machines due to human activity</i> • <i>Hazards introduced by applications of fertilisers, soil improvers etc. e.g. accumulated undesirable substances present in the soil (e.g. cadmium, lead, mercury, arsenic, etc.), manure, slurry or sewage sludge applied on the fields</i> • <i>Presence of pollutants, such as Dioxin and heavy metals dispersed from nearby industrial incineration and other industrial activities</i> • <i>Failure to comply with specified harvest interval periods following the application of agrochemicals or fertilisers</i>
G 2	Personnel	<i>This includes personnel responsible for growing and harvesting crops.</i>
G 7	Handling and Processing Equipment	<i>This includes harvest equipment, farm vehicles and any handling equipment used in the forage drying operation by either the participant or their suppliers and subcontractors.</i>
G 8	Plant Calibration	<i>This includes equipment used during the growing and harvesting of crops.</i>
H 12	Equipment Intended to Control Physical Contamination	<i>This includes equipment used during the growing and harvesting of crops.</i>

H15	<i>Despatch of Packaged Feed</i>	<i>Unwrapped bales should be considered as unsealed packages, and therefore assured transport is not required subject to the Participant carrying out a risk assessment to demonstrate that feed safety is maintained.</i>
H16	<i>Despatch Documentation</i>	<i>Unwrapped bales should be considered as unsealed packaging for the purposes of labelling.</i>