Welcome!

We are pleased to bring you the second edition of the FAMI-QS Newsletter.

This second issue features an in depth look at some recent key points brought to our attention.

We are grateful to everyone involved, our articles wouldn’t have been possible without their precious collaboration. We hope that our readers will find the newsletter stimulating as we do and as always, we wish you happy reading! Stay tuned!

FAMI-QS Team.

Latest News

Assessment of your Supplier(s)

With more and more globalisation, the Operator’s supply chain has become extensive and complex. FAMI-QS certified companies need to follow robust safety validated procedures for sourcing raw materials and finished products. The selection and qualification of Suppliers are key aspects of every Operator’s quality and safety management system(s).

The use of raw materials or finished product of inappropriate quality could compromise the quality and safety of the Operator’s entire supply chain.

The FAMI-QS decision tree for sourcing of raw materials and explanation chart (in Version 7 of Rules for Operators, section 9), shall be used to determine what qualification requirements apply and if the Operator shall audit the Supplier (management and realization requirements as described in the FAMI-QS Code and Rules for Operators section 9 – Assessment of suppliers and assured sources: audit of the Supplier guidelines).

The FAMI-QS requirements for Suppliers assessment applies to both Suppliers of raw material and of finished products used by specialty feed companies.

It is recommended to use raw materials or finished products from quality scheme assured sources since they have already been assessed according to a recognized quality standard by competent auditors from authorized certification bodies. When using non quality scheme assured source, the Operator is responsible to set up the appropriate system to ensure the Supplier operates according to the FAMI-QS standard, including on site auditing. The FAMI-QS auditing check list can be used as a tool to help to conduct on site audits (available on http://www.fami-qs.org/code).
However, buying from a quality scheme assured source does not exempt the Operator from the responsibility of applying section 7.4.1 of the FAMI-QS Code. Failure to fulfil those requirements will result in a major non-conformity for the Operator during a FAMI-QS audit.

**EXTRACT FROM FAMI-QS CODE**

7.4.1 - Sourcing of incoming materials  
7.4.1.1 - Management requirements  
   a. Purchasing information  
   b. Selection and approval of all raw materials (origin, transport, storage, and handling)  
   c. Documentation of any potential hazard associated with a raw material  
   d. Each specification of raw material  
   e. Details of any undesirable substance and any other hazards or limitations associated with the raw material  
   f. Requirements for analytical monitoring  
   g. In case the material is imported from outside the European Union, a written confirmation of its compliance with the current EU feed regulations issued by the supplier  
   h. A list of internally approved suppliers and each supplier shall be subject to periodical review  
   i. Criteria for selection, evaluation and re-evaluation of Supplier(s)  
   j. Records of any relevant analytical and monitoring results and of the evaluations on the supplier  

7.4.1.2 - Realization requirements  
   a. Every raw material shall be evaluated to assess any potential hazard associated with it; this shall be carried out according to HACCP principles for all materials falling under the scope of the Regulation (EC) No 183/2005 on Feed Hygiene.  
   b. There shall be a check that these FAMI-QS products are being produced in compliance with the requirements of FAMI-QS Code.

**Key points to help to manage the possible risk linked to Suppliers**

1. Know Your Supplier: it is important to have a thorough understanding and knowledge of your supplying company, even if they are FAMI-QS (or equivalent) certified.  
2. Clearly define and document the agreements between the Operator and the Supplier in contracts or similarly binding documents. This should include notifications when there are any changes that could impact on the safety of the product supplied. The following topics should be addressed: quality system, product quality requirements, product realization (including HACCP), storage and distribution, traceability, complaints handling, crisis management, etc.  
3. Remain Vigilant! Be aware of any signs from your supplier difficulties, or under-performance: Re-evaluate your Supplier periodically and assess issues such as financial difficulties, complaints, non-conformities or any quality defects related to the Supplier.  
4. Have a Contingency Plan: If you are dependent on a single Supplier, consider assessing other Suppliers as early as possible as a back-up.
FAMI-QS ACCREDITATION BY EUROPEAN ACCREDITATION (EA)

Following an extensive evaluation against International Accreditation Standards, EA endorsed FAMI-QS for inclusion into the MultiLateral Agreement (MLA). FAMI-QS Third Party Certification System is the first scheme operating in the feed sector accepted for inclusion under the EA-MLA.

But what is accreditation? And why it is important for any Third Party Certification Scheme?

Accreditation is a 'third-party attestation related to a conformity assessment body conveying formal demonstration of its competence to carry out specific conformity assessment tasks' [ISO 17000:2004]. In other words, accreditation is a formal recognition that an organisation is competent to carry out specific tasks. Accreditation is also a means of assessing a scheme owner's technical competence and integrity for the public interest.

The advantages of accreditation are outlined below and show its importance:
  • Assuring the credibility of the certification process
  • Reinforcing the communication with the authorities
  • Reinforcing the recognition of the FAMI-QS certification at EU/Global Level
  • Recognition of compliance with international accreditation standards
  • Ensuring transparency

A WORD ABOUT COMPETITION LAW...

Certification schemes, by their very nature, raise important competition law questions. FAMI-QS is committed to follow the Antitrust Law and will publish an Operational procedure to look at how the legal framework governing certification schemes operates and sets out some of the key provisions that apply.

EU competition law has the following main elements:
  • prohibiting agreements or practices that restrict free trading and competition between businesses;
  • prohibiting abusive behaviour by a company/association dominating a particular market;
  • supervising mergers and acquisitions of large corporations, including some joint ventures in order to protect effective competition; and
  • regulating certain forms of State involvement, namely State funding within the meaning of Article 107 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU (TFEU).

Food/Feed Quality Certification Schemes (FQCS) provide a mechanism through which assurances can be given that a particular aspect of a product or its production method, as set out in its specification, has been observed. FQCS follow the same principles all over the world. The system adds value by allowing products to be differentiated; they also reinforce official feed/food safety and hygiene standards, thereby fulfilling liability requirements and protecting the reputation of the vendor.

Please stay tuned!
THINGS YOU MIGHT’VE MISSED!

• FAMI-QS third party certification system endorsed by European Co-operation for Accreditation [Link]

• FAMI-QS and GMP+ International move ahead with a Memorandum of Understanding [Link]

• New Version of FAMI-QS documents out! [Link]

• Countdown to the 4th Global Feed & Food Congress / South Africa’s Agricultural Minister to open congress on 10 April 2013 [Link]

• Market withdrawal of certain ‘sensory additives’ by Commission implementing Regulation (EU) No 230/2013 is now applicable. [Link]

• Launch of FAMI-QS Auditors Training & Info Sessions in Europe! [Limited places! if you are interested, please contact us quickly.]

CHECK OUT OUR LATEST "NEWS" ON THE OFFICIAL FAMI-QS WEBSITE! [Link]

EUROPEAN COMMISSION CORNER

Here is the link pointing to the latest version of the Community Register of Feed Additives pursuant to Reg. (EC) 1831/2003 and released on 2013-05-21 (Appendixes 3 and 4, Annex: List of additives - Rev. 160):

Community Register of Feed Additives [Rev. 160]

Feed additives

• Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 230/2013 of 14 March 2013 on the withdrawal from the market of certain feed additives belonging to the group of flavouring and appetising substances (OJ L 80, 2013-03-21)


• Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 308/2013 of 3 April 2013 concerning the authorisation of a preparation of Lactobacillus plantarum NCIMB 30083 and of a preparation of Lactobacillus plantarum NCIMB 30084 as feed additives for all animal species (OJ L 94, 2013-04-04)


FVO - Food and Veterinary Office

• Overview report of a series of audits carried out in Member States from 2006 to 2011 in order to evaluate the implementation of measures concerning official controls on feed legislation ➤ link

• Denmark - Nov 2012 - 2012-6521 - evaluates the monitoring and control of dioxins, furans and PCBS in fish from the Baltic region ➤ link

• Denmark - Oct 2012 - 2012-6276 - evaluates control of contaminants in food of plant origin ➤ link

• Poland - Sep 2012 - 2012-6569 - organic production and labelling ➤ link

Organic production


REACH


Court case on Toyocerin - Suspension of the authorisations


Check out our latest "European Commission Corners" news on the official FAMI-QS website! ➤ link
SPECIAL THANKS TO

Catherine Desautels, FAMI-QS Expert
Quality Manager - Lallemand Animal Nutrition

Eliza Petritsi, Partner, Holman Fenwick Willan

WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT FAMI-QS?
WOULD YOU LIKE TO BRING A TOPIC TO OUR ATTENTION? WOULD YOU LIKE TO PARTICIPATE?

PLEASE CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION. OUR TEAM WILL BE PLEASED TO HELP YOU.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE EDITOR:

Laetitia Cirilli, PhD
FAMI-QS Process & Communication Manager
Avenue Louise 130 A - BOX 1
1050 Brussels - Belgium
Tel.: + 32 2 639 66 69
Fax: + 32 2 640 41 11
E-mail us at: laetitia@fami-qs.org