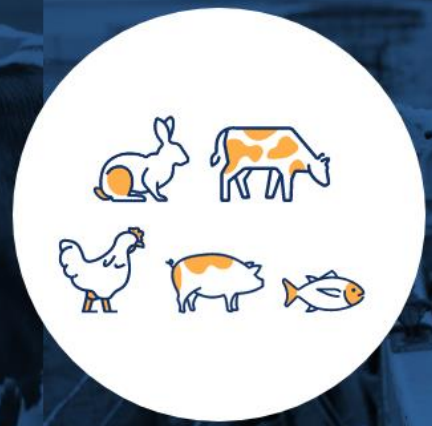


Feed Safety Assurance Schemes (feed safety)



Last update: 2 June 2023

- **Type of challenge:** Animal Health.
- **Challenges:** Feed safety; reduction of the need for veterinary treatment; antimicrobial resistance.
- **Action:** Control of hazards in feed along the chain to limit exposure of animals.
- **Animal categories:** All animals.
- **Technique:** Feed assurance schemes are meant to secure that at each step of the feed chain, operators implement feed safety management programmes in accordance with a minimum set of requirements and principles established in technical standards.
- **Mode of action:** The feed safety management systems, including monitoring programmes, are implemented by feed business operators to include all relevant levels of the chain and are audited by certification bodies; this allows identifying and managing incidents at the earliest stage possible (“top-of-the-pyramid” principle), ideally before the feed is delivered.
- **Mode of implementation:** National or International Feed Safety schemes are developed by private organisations usually in accordance with Feed Hygiene Regulation (EC) No 183/2005 and technical specifications are based on the EU Feed Manufacturers Guide to Good Hygiene Practice (EFMC); mutual recognition procedures are established across many schemes, as well as early warning procedures in case of incident.
- **Requirements/limitations:** Feed Safety Assurance Schemes are not meant to replace official controls but Control authorities are expected to take into account adherence of a feed business operator to a scheme when ranking the risk of individual operators (article 9(1)(d) of Regulation (EU) 2017/625 on official controls).
- **Economic consequences:** Purchasing feed from an assured feed suppliers reduces potentially (but does not replace) the monitoring costs.
- **Other considerations:** The schemes do not only allow minimizing risks for animal health but secures also the safety of products of animal origin for final consumers.
- **References:**
 - [Regulation \(EU\) 2017/625](#) on official controls and other official activities performed to ensure the application of food and feed law, rules on animal health and welfare, plant health and plant protection products.
 - FEFAC (2016). [Vision on feed safety management 2030](#).
 - FEFAC (2014). [European Feed Manufacturers Guide](#)
 - Non exhaustive [list](#) of national feed safety assurance schemes for compound feed and premixtures production based on EFMC
 - Feed Safety Assurance schemes covering operations other or beyond compound feed and premixtures manufacturing

- [GMP+ International](#)
- [FAMI-QS](#)
- [OVOCOM](#)
- [QS](#)
- [UFAS/FEMAS](#)
- [EFISC - GTP](#)
- FEFAC, COCERAL, FEDIOL (2010). [A common set of principles for the management of the Salmonella risk in the feed chain](#)

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