CONDITIONS FOR HANDLING AND STORAGE PLANTS (FORMER FOODSTUFFS)

GOVERNING EU AND NATIONAL LEGISLATION:


Issued 2nd April 2014
Milk & Meat Hygiene/ABP/TSE Division
CONDITIONS FOR A HANDLING AND STORAGE PLANT INVOLVED IN THE PRODUCTION OF FORMER FOODSTUFFS (ANIMAL BY-PRODUCTS (ABPS))

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GLOSSARY OF TERMS

A

‘Animal By-Products’ (ABP) means entire bodies or parts of animals, products of animal origin or other products obtained from animals, which are not intended for human consumption, including oocytes, embryos and semen.

C

‘Catering Waste’ means all waste food, including used cooking oil originating in restaurants, catering facilities and kitchens, including central kitchens and household kitchens.

‘Competent Authority’ means the central authority of a Member State competent to ensure compliance with the requirements of EU ABP Regulations or any authority to which that competence has been delegated; it also includes, where appropriate, the corresponding authority of a third country;

D

‘DAFM’ means the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine;

‘Derived products’ means products obtained from one or more treatments, transformations or steps of processing of animal by-products;

E

‘Establishment’ or ‘plant’ means any place where any operation involving the handling of animal by-products or derived products is carried out, other than a fishing vessel;

‘EU’ means the European Union.

F

‘Feed Material’ means those feed materials, as defined in Article 3(2)(g) of Regulation (EC) No 767/2009, that are of animal origin, including processed animal proteins, blood products, rendered fats, egg products, fish oil, fat derivatives, collagen, gelatine and hydrolysed proteins, dicalcium phosphate, tricalcium phosphate, milk, milk- based products, milk-derived products, colostrum, colostrum products and centrifuge or separator sludge;

O

‘Operator’ means the natural or legal persons having an animal by-product or derived product under their actual control, including carriers, traders and users.

R

‘Raw petfood’ means petfood containing certain Category 3 material which has not undergone any preserving process other than chilling or freezing.
SECTION 1
GENERAL INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS

1.1 GENERAL INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS

- A plant involved in the production of former foodstuffs (Animal By-Products (ABPs)) must be approved by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) and hold a valid certificate of approval in accordance with (Article 24 (h) of EC Regulation 1069/2009).


- Licenses and authorisations required to operate must be valid from all relevant licensing authorities while the plant is operational.

- The operator must notify DAFM immediately if significant changes are proposed to plant activities.

- The operator must notify DAFM immediately if the plant is no longer to be used for handling ABP. The plant must be decommissioned at this time and prior to use for any other activity. The operator will organise the decommissioning of the plant and clean up of the site and buildings as well as safe disposal of all equipment in a reasonable time period, under the direction of DAFM.

- The operator must provide data and statistics to DAFM as and when required and in whichever format requested.
SECTION 2
BIOSECURITY, PLANT STRUCTURE, HYGIENE AND TRANSPORT

2.1 PERIMETER

- The premises must be located so that it is adequately separated from public highways, slaughterhouses and other appropriate premises sufficient to prevent cross-contamination of food and feed for humans and animals respectively. Animals must not be allowed access to the plant.

2.2 BUILDINGS/STRUCTURAL

- There must be a sufficiently large covered space to receive, handle and store the ABP. All ABP must be under cover.

- All buildings must be maintained, clean and in good condition and any necessary repairs must be made on a regular basis.

- The floors must be smooth and sloped to facilitate the drainage of liquids. The inner walls must be smooth, clean and well maintained.

- The layout of plants must ensure the total separation of Category 3 material from all other materials from reception until dispatch.

- The plant must be designed and personnel must work so as to assure adequate separation of the handling of materials for different end-usage destinations.

- There must be adequate separation between the area of the plant where incoming material for handling is unloaded and the areas set aside for the handling and the storage of products.

- Suitable office facilities where an examination of records can take place must be provided on site.

2.3 PLANT HYGIENE

- The operator must ensure that a hygiene plan has been designed and implemented effectively for all areas of the plant.

- All handling and storage locations and equipment must be emptied and cleaned regularly to the extent necessary to ensure hygienic practice.
2.4 PERSONNEL AND WORKFLOWS

- The operator must implement effective procedures and training plans for all operatives employed or subcontracted, ensuring to focus the procedures and training on:
  - safe handling of ABP and derived products;
  - ensuring the acquisition and correct completion of documentation so as to contribute to safe intake of ABP, safe dispatch of ABP to suitable safe end-usage and safe dispatch of ABP ‘waste’ to suitable, legal disposal;
    Examples of documentation would include:
    - Health certificates and associated ancillary documentation
    - Commercial documentation and proof or arrival at destination for documentation going with outgoing consignments.

- Operatives must use suitable dedicated protective clothing when handling ABP, which must be removed/cleaned/disinfected or discarded before leaving the plant.

- Footbaths must be provided at all entrances and exits to the plant.

- There must be access to adequate facilities for personal hygiene including lavatories, changing rooms and washbasins for staff. The washing facilities must be equipped with hot water, soap and paper towels.

2.5 PESTS AND BIRDS

- The operator must have a documented rodent control program in place which includes the following:
  - a bait map;
  - service schedule for bait points;
  - service records for bait points.

2.6 ABP TRANSPORT AND SIGNAGE

- Operators transporting ABP to the plant or from the plant must be registered ABP hauliers and listed on the DAFM’s Animal By-Products transport register.

- The operator must maintain receptacle registers for each ABP haulier used (each haulier must provide each ABP plant they service with a copy of the receptacle register) which should contain the following information:
  - container number;
  - receptacle chassis number;
  - authorised ABP or derived product category;
  - registered owner;
  - date of listing/commission;
  - date of delisting/decommission;
  - date of cleaning and disinfection as indicated on cleaning certificate at time of delisting.
ABP transport vehicles must be designed so as to prevent any accidental discharge of organic material or liquids to the environment.

The operator must have a system for cleaning and disinfecting the vehicles or re-useable containers or receptacles in which ABP are transported.

Transport vehicles or containers must be dedicated to the carriage of a single Category of ABP or derived product and must be permanently and prominently marked on both sides with:

- Haulier registration code and receptacle number;
- The Category of ABP as well as the applicable ancillary wording
  Example: “CATEGORY 3 MATERIAL Not For Human Consumption”

ABP must not be stored overnight in transport vehicles or transferred between vehicles (this constitutes handling) or stored at premises other than those approved by DAFM.

2.7 PLANT WASTE DISPOSAL

All waste ABP from the plant must be disposed of appropriately in compliance with National and EU legislation and in a way that mitigates risk. Traceability of waste disposal must be ensured.

The operator must ensure to maintain and implement measures to prohibit the disposal of ABP, intermediate or derived products via the waste water stream. This may be achieved by the use of drain traps or screens with apertures with a filter pore or a mesh size of no more than 6 mm. Waste water that has passed through the screen is no longer regarded as ABP. However, the operator has a responsibility to ensure that waste water is treated in accordance with relevant Community environmental legislation. See Trader Notice 02/2011 which can be found on the DAFM website by using the following link:

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1 The haulier must be officially registered with the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.
SECTION 3
INTAKE

3.1 RAW MATERIAL INTAKE PROCEDURES

- The operator must organise for documentary and visual checks on raw material consignments to verify that only raw material allowed in this approval and which are safe will be accepted into the plant.

- Should Category 3 material at any stage become contaminated with Category 1 material or adulterated or contaminated with material that may be hazardous to humans or animals then it should not be accepted into the plant i.e. all of that material must be treated as Category 1 for the purposes disposal.

3.2 DOCUMENTATION

- All Category 3 material delivered to the plant must be accompanied by a commercial document which meets the requirements as laid down in Annex VIII Chapter III of Regulation (EU) No. 142/2011, and, when required by the legislation, a health certificate.

Commercial documents must specify:
- the name and address of the consignor and approval number of the plant (If applicable);
- the name and address of the consignee and plant approval number (if applicable);
- the name and address of the carrier (haulier) and the registration number of the vehicle;
- the quantity/weight of the material;
- the date of dispatch;
- the container number (if applicable);
- the seal number (if applicable);
- a description of the material;
- signature of the consignor;
- signature of carrier (haulier).

Four copies of the commercial document must be produced.

Relevant Trader Notices can be found on the DAFM website by using the following link:
A separate commercial document must be completed for each batch of material collected in the case of mixed loads. The consignor should send the original plus two copies with the ABP and retain the final copy. The carrier retains one copy and hands the original plus a copy to the receiver. The receiver should keep the original, sign and return the copy to the producer as proof of arrival of the consignment.

- The operator must keep an up to date intake register, completed appropriately, in chronological order and should include:
  - a description of the material including species of animal(s) and quantities;
  - dates of intake;
  - a batch reference or consignment number if appropriate;
  - a health certificate or commercial document reference number;
  - the name and address and country of the premises of origin (and approval number if applicable);
  - the name and address of the carrier/haulier and the receptacle registration number (if applicable);
  - date of notification of the District Veterinary Officer of intake of material (if relevant).

- The operator must establish a system to notify the Competent Authority (District Veterinary Officer) when imported ABP/derived products are received on site.

- All records must be accessible to DAFM and must be kept for a minimum of 3 years.

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2 Imported products are products received from non-EU countries.
SECTION 4

PROCESSING/HANDLING

4.1 PROCESSING/HANDLING REQUIREMENTS

- Procedures on site should ensure the safe handling and temporary storage of ABP. ABP should be stored in temperature conditions that should be appropriate both in terms of mitigating public and animal health risks and preventing odours.

- All the time during storage the Category 3 material must be handled and stored separately from other goods and in such a way as to prevent the spread of disease. In the case of mixed loads, Category 3 material must be dispatched for lawful disposal within a reasonable timeframe.

- The operator must not engage in activities other than the acceptance, collection, sorting, treatment, temporary storage and dispatching of the Category 3 ABP specified in the plants approval.

4.2 EQUIPMENT

- The operator must ensure that all measuring devices including weighbridges are calibrated and confirmed to be working effectively at least once every 12 months.

- If any significant changes to equipment or buildings are intended, the operator should contact the Milk and Meat Hygiene/ABP/TSE Division to describe the changes. These changes must be sanctioned by an authorised officer prior to taking place.

4.3 CROSS-CONTAMINATION/BY-PASS

- All necessary measures must be taken to prevent contamination and the spreading of diseases communicable to humans or animals, throughout the production chain.
SECTION 5
STORAGE, DISPATCH AND TRACEABILITY/RECALL

5.1 DISPATCH PROCEDURES

- The operator must ensure that ABP or products manufactured or derived from ABP, dispatched from the plant, are traceable and must be disposed of safely and in compliance with National and EU legislation. The prescribed end-usages are set out in the conditions attached to the Approval.

- ABP suspected or discovered not to comply with the legislation or the specific plant approval requirements may not leave the plant unless destined for disposal.

5.2 DOCUMENTATION

- Only the final destinations or usages listed in the conditions attached to the approval may be accepted into the plant. The operator must ensure that ABP consignments, or consignments of products manufactured or derived from ABP, dispatched from the plant are traceable and disposed of safely.

- The operator must keep an up to date dispatch register, completed appropriately, in chronological order and should include:

  - a description of the ABP (including waste), intermediate products or derived products dispatched (including quantities);
  - dates of dispatch;
  - a batch reference or consignment number if appropriate;
  - a health certificate or commercial document reference number;
  - the name and address and country of the premises of dispatch (and approval number if applicable);
  - the name and address of the carrier/haulier and the receptacle registration number (if applicable);
  - date of notification of the District Veterinary Office of dispatch (if relevant, e.g. for exportation).

- A fully completed commercial document must accompany each load of ABP leaving the plant. The commercial document must be assigned a unique identifiable number. The commercial document must be produced in quadruplicate (one original and three copies). The original must remain at the plant of origin, the transporter must retain one copy and the premises of destination the other. The fourth copy is signed by the premises of destination and returned to the plant of origin.

  In the case of ABP being dispatched to other EU countries or third countries, the EU commercial document must be used.

  Operators must keep the copies of commercial documents for all outgoing loads filed and in date order.
• Copies of all health certificates issued must be retained. Health certificates may only be drawn up and signed by DAFM officials.

• The operator must retain proof of destination for all ABP consignments, or consignments of products manufactured or derived from ABP, dispatched from the plant. This proof of destination would typically be the signed or stamped copy of the commercial document returned by the customer (consignee) or notification of arrival on the TRACES system.

• All records must be accessible to DAFM and must be kept for a minimum of 3 years.

CONTACT DETAILS

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