

Berlin, 26/09/2016

Update on the listing of GMP+ certified feed companies

In brief: The “temporary list of companies” established by GMP+ International for the listing of GMP+ companies (feed manufacturers and traders) on a transitional basis expires at the end of 2016. GMP+ certified companies that wish to supply feed to QM Milk holdings must undergo a successful audit in accordance with the QM Milk Country Note, and be able to prove this with a corresponding certificate. These businesses are listed in the GMP+ database of companies. Ensuring that audits are carried out and a corresponding certificate is issued in accordance with the QM Milk Country Note also applies to GMP+ businesses that are listed in the QS Database under QM Milk.

Listed feed companies are included on two lists: in addition to the GMP+ database of companies, the QS Database exists (QS Software Platform), (see notice dated 30/09/2015). A link to both lists can be found on the QM Milk Homepage.

As part of the cooperation between QM Milk and GMP+ International and with the latter signing up to the feed agreement¹, requirements for GMP+ certified businesses which wish to supply feed to the Germany-wide QM Milk System are defined by GMP+ (GMP+ BCN-DE1: QM Milk) in a country note. This country note includes additional requirements, which go beyond the GMP+ basic standards. GMP+ participants in possession of a regular GMP+ certificate can qualify as authorised manufacturers and traders of dairy cattle feed for QM Milk holdings by obtaining a further certificate in accordance with the QM Milk Country Note.

The following updates have been made to the listing of GMP+ certified businesses, which are authorised to supply to QM Milk holdings:

¹ The feed agreement between the feed and milk industries regulates the use of feed in milk production for the QM Milk scheme. The new feed agreement is the fruit of discussions between QM Milk and the feed industry and came into force on 1st October 2015. The signatories include QM Milk, the German Farmers' Association, the German Dairy Industry Federation, the German Raiffeisen Confederation, QS Quality and Safety, the German Pet Food Association, and GMP+ International.

Specifications for GMP+ certified feed producers and traders:

- A feed company must show it has passed an audit in accordance with the QM Milk Country Note and has a special QM Milk scope. By being certified as complying with this scope, the feed company proves that it is an authorised supplier for the QM Milk System in accordance with the feed agreement and the QM Milk standard. The GMP+ companies that are certified according to the QM Milk Country Note, and which therefore boast the QM Milk delivery authorisation, can be viewed in a public **GMP+ database of companies.**
 - “Temporary list of companies”: When the feed agreement came into force in 2015, GMP+ International provided a transitional solution, establishing a temporary list of companies to make it also possible to provide feed to QM Milk holdings with this provisional registration. **This temporary list expires on 31st December 2016.**
 - Every company that is still on the temporary GMP+ list, as well as GMP+ holdings that are on the QS Platform under QM Milk (see below) must ensure that they have undergone an audit in accordance with the QM Milk Country Note by the end of 2016 and are issued the corresponding certificate. This is the only way to be registered in the official GMP+ database of companies which comply with the scope of QM Milk. From 1st January 2017, this certification and listing in the GMP+ database of companies which comply with the scope of QM Milk is necessary in order to be a GMP+ certified company and to be granted the QM Milk delivery authorisation. Interested feed companies are asked to get in touch with their certification body in order to clarify how and when the audit will be carried out. Together with GMP+ International, the certification body will manage the registration of the company in the GMP+ database of companies.
 - Ensuring that audits are carried out and a corresponding certificate is issued in accordance with the QM Milk Country Note also applies to GMP+ holdings, which are listed in the QS Database under QM Milk. These holdings must be able to prove that an audit has been carried out and a certificate issued in accordance with the QM Milk Country Note by the end of 2016. If these prerequisites are met, GMP+ companies in the QS database can leave the QM Milk box ticked (the list of QM Milk approved suppliers can be found both in the GMP+ database of companies and on the QS plat-
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form). If GMP+ companies fail to provide evidence of an audit/certification in accordance with the QM Milk Country Note by the end of 2016, these GMP+ companies must untick the box on the QS platform.

- GMP+ monitoring database: All relevant analytical data are shared with QM Milk in the GMP+ monitoring database. Feed companies must register with GMP+ International and express their willingness to share the results of their analyses with QM Milk. Feed manufacturing companies must fill out the relevant form in order to confirm this.
- Please find below a link to the GMP+ database of companies, the temporary list that applies until the end of 2016, the form for the GMP+ monitoring database, and an overview of the GMP+ monitoring database:

<https://www.gmpplus.org/pagina/11081/update-about-country-note-gmp-bcn-de1-qm-milch.aspx>

Specifications for milk producers

Feed companies (feed manufacturers and traders) which adhere to the feed-related provisions of the feed agreement may be suppliers under the QM Milk scheme. The feed must comply with the requirements of a certified quality assurance scheme, such as QS, GMP+ or a system that is recognised as equivalent.

Milk producers who take part in the QM Milk scheme may only obtain feed from compound and feed material manufacturers or traders who are recorded in the GMP+ database of companies (or the temporary company list until 31st December 2016), or who are listed in the QS software platform (see below). On a transitional basis, in exceptional cases, feed material manufacturers and traders who do not have any certification may deliver to the QM Milk scheme with a clearance certificate.

QM Milk listed feed companies will be included on two lists: In addition to the GMP+ database of companies, there is also the QS database (QS software platform). A link to both lists can be found on the QM Milk Homepage.

- GMP+ businesses (feed manufacturers and traders) that may supply to the QM Milk scheme can be found on:

<http://cdb.gmpplus.org/index.php?page=gmpplus&publang=4>

- QS businesses (feed manufacturers and traders) that may supply to the QM Milk scheme can be found on: www.qs-plattform.de/QSSoftware/suche.html click on "Futtermittelwirtschaft" (feed industry).

For further information, please contact either GMP+ International directly at info@gmpplus.org, or the offices of QM Milk at l.boerger@bauernverband.net, n.pankow@bauernverband.net.