



QUALITÄTSMANAGEMENT<sub>milch</sub>

# FEED AGREEMENT

GOVERNING THE USE  
OF FEED IN MILK PRODUCTION

Stand 01.10.2015

QUALITY MANAGEMENT MILK IS AN INITIATIVE OF



# **Feed agreement**

## **governing the use of feed in milk production**

### **1. Fundamental points**

It is essential, as part of comprehensive quality assurance, including controls on incoming raw materials, that only feed which, in addition to complying with feed-related legal provisions, is subject to a quality management system and is safe for milk production may be used. This feed agreement applies to Milk Quality Management (QM Milk Scheme). You can find further information about QM Milk and the corresponding standard documents at [www.qm-milch.de](http://www.qm-milch.de).

To ensure that dairy products are safe, not just dairies, but milk producers, feed manufacturers and feed traders (including private labels) whose traded goods have a QM Milk delivery authorisation, all also bear responsibility. There is a close link between the safety and quality of feed and the safety and quality of food. The feed chain should therefore be seen as a preliminary stage of food production. For the purpose of this Agreement, feed refers to feed materials and compound feed according to Regulation (EC) 767/2009, which are intended for use as dairy cattle feed.

As part of the joint responsibility for safety of milk and dairy products, it is necessary and makes sense for dairies, milk producers, feed manufacturers and feed traders to inform and help each other. A rapid-functioning information system is also a requisite.

The relevant feed and food-related legal provisions in their current form (annex 1) form part of this agreement.

## **2. Precautionary measures (quality management programmes)**

### **2.1 Feed manufacturers and traders**

#### **Quality management system**

The feed which is subject to the feed agreement must comply with the feed-related legal provisions that are in force as well as the specifications of this agreement. As part of quality management, the feed must comply with the requirements of a certified quality assurance scheme, currently QS Quality and Safety (QS Qualität und Sicherheit GmbH)<sup>1</sup>, GMP+ International<sup>2</sup>, or with a system that is recognised as equivalent (henceforth summarised under the term 'system providers').

#### **Requirements**

Feed must comply with feed-related provisions in force (national and European, in particular the rules on undesired and forbidden substances and feeding bans), the particular requirements of dairy cattle feed (see specification under monitoring), as well as the basic principles of good professional practice. With regard to good professional practice, reference is made to the annexes of Regulation (EC) 1831/2003 (see Annex II).

Only feed material which is

- recorded in the German positive list for feed material or
- permitted under other schemes which are recognised as equivalent by the system providers

may be used.

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.q-s.de/dc\\_futtermittelwirtschaft.html](http://www.q-s.de/dc_futtermittelwirtschaft.html) (documents in their current version)

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.gmpplus.org/pagina/2262/b-documents.aspx> (documents in their current version)

## **Monitoring programme**

Monitoring must include regular examinations carried out on feed. The sampling of the feed and the monitoring take place in accordance with the requirements of the system provider.<sup>3,4</sup>

For milk production, the following parameters are particularly relevant. The values listed herewith must be complied with:

Aflatoxin B<sub>1</sub>: The recommended value of 1 ppb applies to certain types of feed for dairy cattle.

Dioxin: The legal maximum content levels set out in the current version of Annex II to Directive 2002/32/EC apply, namely 0.5 ppb in compound feed.

Dioxin-like PCBs: The legal maximum content levels set out in the current version of Annex II to Directive 2002/32/EC apply, namely 0.5 ppb in compound feed.

Non dioxin-like PCBs: The legal maximum content levels set out in the current version of Annex I to Directive 2002/32/EC apply, namely 10 ppb in compound feed (sum of PCB 28, 52, 101, 138, 153, 180).

## **Information requirements**

When the established guidelines values, action thresholds, or maximum levels are exceeded, it is crucial that this information is swiftly disseminated in order to prevent contamination of the milk. Section 3 of this agreement explains how the warning procedure must be carried out.

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<sup>3</sup> [http://www.q-s.de/dc\\_futtermittelwirtschaft.html](http://www.q-s.de/dc_futtermittelwirtschaft.html) (documents in their current version)

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.gmpplus.org/pagina/2262/b-documents.aspx> (documents in their current version)

For the parameters of dioxins, dioxin-like PCBs, non dioxin-like PCBs and Aflatoxin B<sub>1</sub>, the system providers compile an aggregated, anonymised evaluation of the monitoring results for feed at least once every three months, and make this available to QM Milk.

The feed manufacturers and feed traders will intensify their feed examinations and investigate the cause when the thresholds are exceeded. See section 3 for more details.

## **2.2 Milk-producing holdings**

Milk producers are involved in the QM Milk Scheme through their individual contracts or as part of milk supply orders.

Holdings which produce milk must obtain their feed exclusively from such feed manufacturers and traders to whom this contract applies. Feed material from other feed companies may be used on a transitional basis, if the clearance certificate for dairy cattle feed is available (see Annex III). The parties agree to hold talks, after 31/12/2015, about the further need of the clearance certificate, in order to be able to end its use in the medium term. The traceability of the individual purchased components must be guaranteed. To do this, the delivery notes, the clearance certificate (if this has been used) and other documents which correspond to the standard documents of the QM Milk scheme must be kept. The use of own-farm feed must be documented.

Separate storage and separate transportation of feed in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003 in its current form must be ensured.

## **3. Implementing the monitoring and warning system**

The system providers allow recognised feed manufacturers and traders, who produce or market feed in accordance with the set requirements, access to QM Milk. A list of the feed

manufacturers and traders that are recognised by the system providers can be found on [www.qm-milch.de](http://www.qm-milch.de).

Should the feed exceed the maximum levels, action thresholds or guideline values set out in this agreement, the incident and crisis management system immediately sends an electronic notification from the system providers to QM Milk as soon as the anomaly is spotted. The system providers reserve the right to verify the plausibility of the claim. The feed manufacturer or trader in question also receives a copy of the notification at the same time. QM Milk then forwards the notification on to the regional offices, where appropriate. Prior to any further action, QM Milk and the regional offices commit to contacting the feed manufacturer or trader in question in order to ascertain the extent and gravity of the incident, and determine which measures have already, or remain to be taken. Notwithstanding the above, the system providers inform QM Milk about any measures introduced with the businesses in question under the incident and crisis management system, and whether these measures have been successful. In this case, the system providers also immediately give QM Milk the name of a contact person at the feed manufacturer or trader in question (generally speaking, the crisis manager).

In addition, any other in-house controls that detect exceeded thresholds and are reported to the system providers via the incident and crisis management system are also passed on to QM Milk. Conversely, QM Milk relays information concerning milk tests that present anomalies or exceed the parameters cited under section 2.1 of this agreement to the system providers and, if necessary, the feed manufacturer or trader in question.

What's more, in the case of anomalies, QM Milk or the regional offices may carry out on-site inspections on the milk producer, feed manufacturer or feed trader. The feed manufacturers and traders commit to having the necessary documents ready for inspection and are obliged to disclose information to QM Milk and the regional offices.

Feed manufacturers and traders must authorise the system providers to report to QM Milk. Giving consent for notifications to be sent to QM Milk is a prerequisite for a feed manufacturer or trader to be included in the list mentioned in section 3, paragraph 1 of this agreement.

#### **4. Consequences of non-compliance**

Should a feed manufacturer or trader fail to respect the present agreement, and especially if this non-compliance results in the use of an unsuitable or prohibited feed component, QM Milk may revoke the right of feed manufacturer or trader to supply feed to the QM Milk scheme. Should a milk producer fail to respect point 2.2 of this agreement corresponding to the requirements under their respective individual contracts or milk supply orders, the measures set out under the individual contract or milk supply order will apply.

## **5. Validity of the feed agreement**

The agreement will enter into force on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2015. It supersedes and replaces the 2013 agreement. The agreement may be repealed, giving 12 months' notice at the end of the calendar year. Written notice of termination must be given. This is without prejudice to the right to terminate the contract without notice for serious reasons.



**Signatories:**

German Farmers' Association  
(sgd. Mr B. Krüsken)

German Raiffeisen Confederation  
(sgd. Dr H. Ehlers)

German Pet Food Association  
(sgd. Dr H.-J. Baaken)

GMP+ International  
(sgd. Mr J. den Hartog)

German Dairy Industry Federation  
(sgd. Dr G. Runge)

QM Milk  
(sgd. Mr Börger)

QS Quality and Safety  
(sgd. Dr H.-J. Nienhoff)

Additional organisations can also sign this agreement.

## **Annex I – List of legal requirements that apply in the current version, i.e. with changes and consequential terms**

### 1. National law

#### **Food and feed code**

#### **Feed regulation**

### 2. EU legislation

#### **Feed and food safety**

Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 laying down the general principles and requirements of food law, establishing the European Food Safety Authority and laying down procedures in matters of food safety

#### **EU feed hygiene regulation**

Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003 laying down requirements for feed hygiene

#### **EU regulation on labelling feed**

Regulation (EC) No 767/2009 on the placing on the market and use of feed

#### **Feed additives**

Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003 on additives for use in animal nutrition

#### **Undesirable substances in animal feed**

EU Directive 2002/32/EC on undesirable substances in animal feed

Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 on maximum residue levels of pesticides in or on food and feed of plant and animal origin and amending Council Directive 91/414/EEC

Commission Recommendation on the presence of deoxynivalenol, zearalenone, ochratoxin A, T-2 and HT-2 and fumonisins in products intended for animal feeding

Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 on the control of salmonella and other specified food-borne zoonotic agents

#### **Feed ban**

Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 laying down rules for the prevention, control and eradication of certain transmissible spongiform encephalopathies

#### **Hygiene regulation for specific animal by-products**

Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009 with health rules concerning animal by-products not intended for human consumption

## **Annex II – Good practices, see the Annexes to Regulation (EC) No 183/2005**

## **Annex III – Clearance certificates**

## **Clearance certificates for feed materials used in dairy cattle feed**

Clearance certificates are only necessary for feed businesses that are not included in the national list of feed businesses and that therefore have no authorisation to deliver goods to the QM Milk scheme. The list can be found on [www.qm-milch.de](http://www.qm-milch.de).

I, the undersigned (vendor) declare that

the feed materials \_\_\_\_\_

delivered on \_\_\_\_\_

or

delivered during the period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

delivered to \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

are safe to be used for milk production and are included in the positive list of feed materials (from the Standards Board of the Central Committee of German Agriculture), in another list from QS Quality and Safety or GMP+ International, or in a different list that is recognised as equivalent by the aforementioned bodies. In particular, the materials respect the following legal provisions and requirements from the feed agreement governing the use of feed in milk production. Controls are carried out to ensure compliance with said provisions. The signatory also agrees that the purchaser of each delivery take a reference sample, which he examines himself.

Legal requirements apply, especially rules on:

- Banned substances

Excluding banned substances listed in Annex III to Regulation (EC) No 767/2009.

- Animal proteins and fats

Excluding protein derived from mammals (Article 7 of Regulation (EC) No 999/2001), and fats from the tissue of warm-blooded land animals and fish (paragraph 18 of the Food and Feed Code).

- Heavy metals

The maximum levels laid down in Annex I to Directive 2002/32/EC must be respected.

- Chlorinated hydrocarbons and pesticide residues

The maximum levels laid down in Annex I to Directive 2002/32/EC must be respected.

- Veterinary medicinal products

Excluding veterinary medicinal products under Regulation (EU) No 37/2010.

- Dioxins

The legal maximum content levels set out in the current version of Annex II to Directive 2002/32/EC apply, namely 0.5 ppb in compound feed.

- dI-PCBs

The legal maximum content levels set out in the current version of Annex II to Directive 2002/32/EC apply, namely 0.5 ppb in compound feed.

- ndl-PCBs

The legal maximum content levels set out in the current version of Annex I to Directive 2002/32/EC apply, namely 10 ppb in compound feed (sum of PCB 28, 52, 101, 138, 153, 180).

The following also apply:

- Aflatoxin B1

The recommended value of 1 ppb (1 µg/kg) applies for feed for milk production.

- Transport and storage

During storage and transport, the aforementioned feed will be kept separate from other feedingstuffs or substances, which are not suitable for milk production. Depending on the previous load, the transportation vehicles will be cleaned prior to each journey. This may involve: Dry cleaning (e.g. with a broom), with compressed air or water. The aforementioned cleaning process may only be forgone if a load comes from the same batch as the previous feed.

- Quality management system

The vendor's company has an established quality management system, which complies with all legal requirements of European and national feed legislation.

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(Place, date)

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(Stamp and signature of the vendor)