

# FEED & FOOD SAFETY



## Benefits of an assured supply chain

AIC (Agricultural Industries Confederation) owns and manages three food and feed safety assurance schemes in the pet food sector: TASCC (Trade Assurance Scheme for Combinable Crops), FEMAS (Feed Materials Assurance Scheme) and UFAS (Universal Feed Assurance Scheme). The three schemes protect human and animal health by ensuring safe practices are implemented, meaning they are an integral part of the feed, pet food and human food supply chain. The schemes verify that certified businesses are meeting feed and food safety legislation and customer requirements.

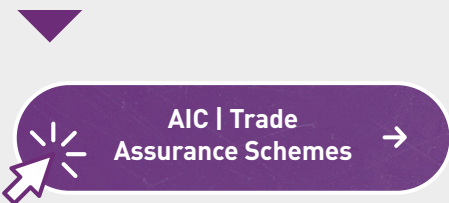
### Independent Scheme Approval

Each scheme is independently approved by UKAS (United Kingdom Accreditation Service) and the certification body accredited to ISO17065. The schemes are mutually recognised by other UK and international food and feed safety schemes which enables the supply and distribution of ingredients/raw materials across borders e.g. Red Tractor, SQC, GMP+ International, EFISC GTP, QS.

As with other certified schemes such as BRCGS the schemes are based on documented Quality Management Systems (QMS) including HACCP Principles. These certified schemes are widely used as part of the supplier/sub-contractor approval processes throughout the feed and food supply chain. A live assurance checker is publicly available on AIC's website listing the assurance status and scope of certification for each business.

### Retailer Recognition and FSA Earned Recognition Status

In the 20+ years the schemes have been in place there has been a significant reduction in the number of food/feed safety scares and incidents and the schemes are recognised by all the major retailers. The schemes also have earned recognition status from the Food Standards Agency (FSA) and equivalent devolved authorities. This means that the frequency of official visits from enforcement officers can be significantly reduced for certified businesses. As a consequence of this established credibility, certified businesses have also seen a substantial reduction in customer food/feed safety audits and the need to complete questionnaires.



# THE TRADE ASSURANCE SCHEMES



**TASCC** covers the merchenting, storage and haulage of domestic and imported combinable crops (cereal crops, oilseeds and pulses) and feed, thereby maintaining a fully traceable assured supply chain to the end user/processor; for example: breakfast cereal manufacturers; wheat, oat and maize millers, maltsters and distillers; oilseed crushers; pet food manufacturers, and animal feed manufacturers. Each load is accompanied by a Combinable Crop Passport detailing the origin of the crop and assurance status, i.e. Red Tractor or SQC certified.



**FEMAS** covers manufacturing, storage and merchenting of all feed ingredients, for example: fishmeal and processed cereals, surplus foods, natural minerals and feed additives intended for direct feeding to animals or for inclusion in compound feeds and blends.



**UFAS** covers manufacturing, merchenting and third-party storage/haulage of premixtures, compound feeds and ingredients for animal feeds. UFAS requires that all participating businesses ensure their suppliers of ingredients and services are also certified under a scheme recognised by AIC.

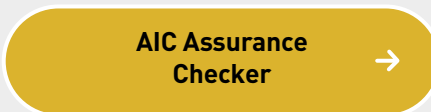
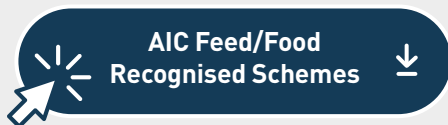
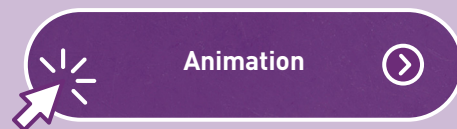
## Industry Involvement

Each scheme is managed by a Working Group consisting of representatives from end users, participating businesses and stakeholders. The Working Groups keep the schemes fit for purpose and representatives from the pet food sector would be most welcome to participate.



## Further information can be found here:

A short animation can be found by clicking the link below which explains how food and feed assurance schemes work in UK agriculture.



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