

FEMAS update

THE NEWSLETTER OF AIC'S FEED MATERIALS ASSURANCE SCHEME



Welcome

Welcome to the Spring 2025 FEMAS newsletter. Auditing to the new FEMAS 2024 Standard started on 1 October 2024, and its implementation is now well underway. In this newsletter, we share recent audit insights to help your business.

If you have questions about the FEMAS Standard or have related subjects that you would like to see featured in future newsletters or discussed at our Working Group meetings, please get in touch. We welcome your input into the Scheme to support you with compliance and development of the FEMAS Standards.

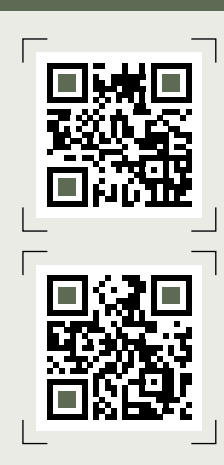
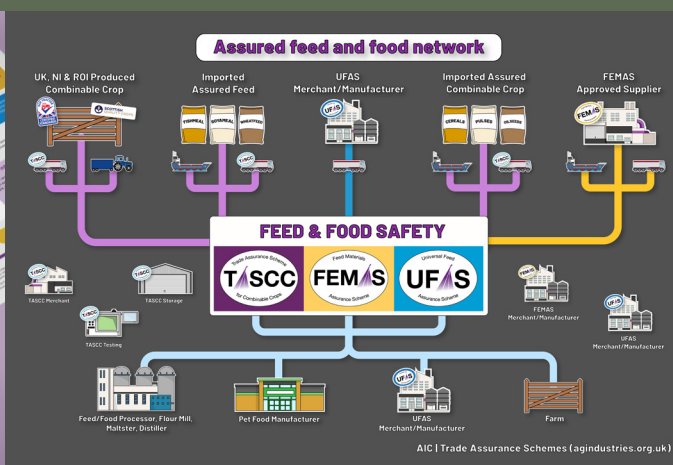


Sarah-Jane Godfrey
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Benefits of an assured supply chain

Many AIC Scheme Participants trade ingredients into the petfood sector. To support these Participants and their customers to understand the role and value of AIC's Feed and Food Assurance Schemes, a leaflet and supporting infographic have been developed to explain how FEMAS, TASCC and UFAS are connected, thereby supporting food, feed and pet food safety.

You can download the **Benefits of an assured supply chain** and the **Assured Feed and Food Network infographic** by scanning the QR codes



AIC launches new Trade Assurance Checker App

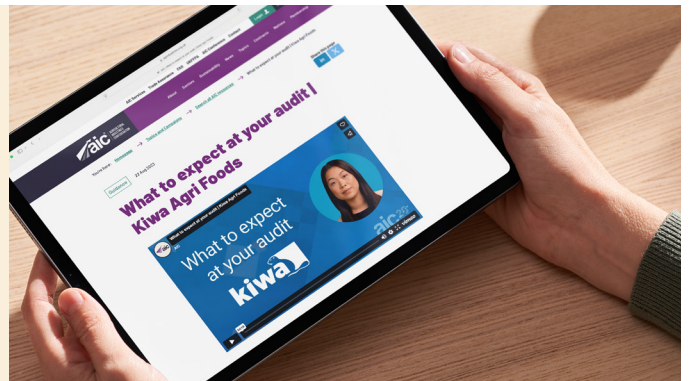
AIC's Trade Assurance Checker app is now available as a free download for iOS and Android devices. Fully synchronised with AIC's existing Trade Assurance Checker on the website, the app brings greater accessibility and convenience, allowing the status of a supplier to be checked anywhere. The app enables searches by trade assurance scheme, FEMAS, TASCC, UFAS, FIAS, RED, and ESTA, and Participant status, including certified, suspended, applied, and withdrawn companies.



What to expect at an audit

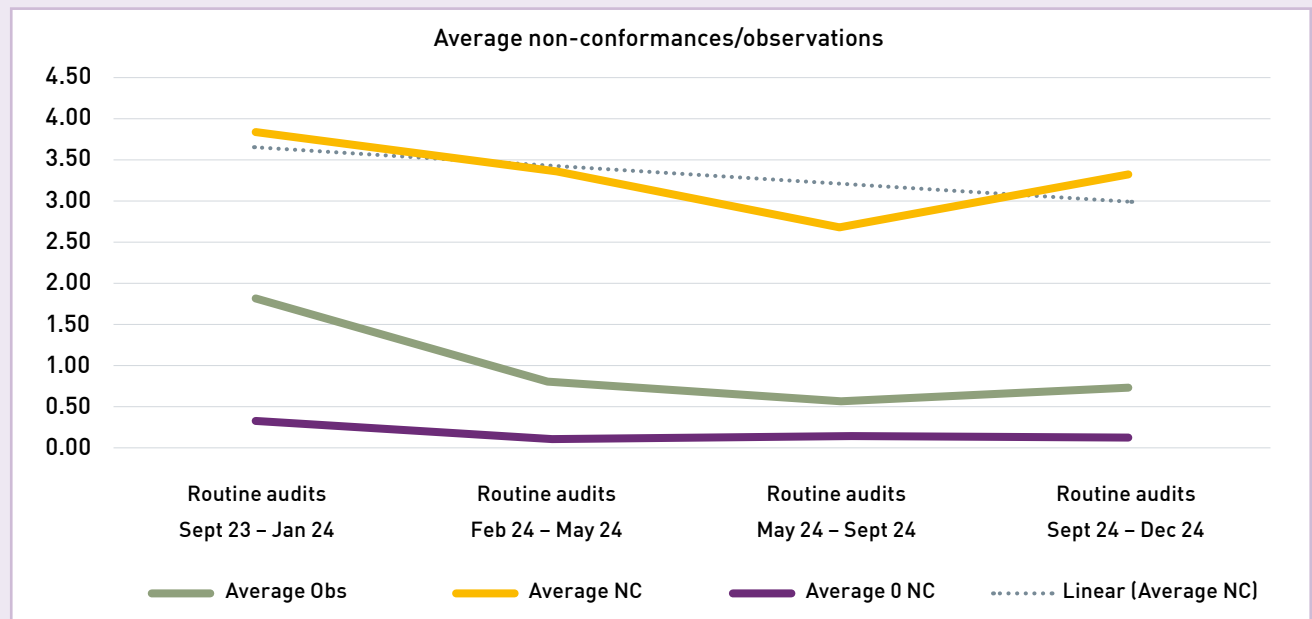
To help you prepare for your audit, Kiwa has produced a video which summarises what to expect at an audit from the opening meeting to the findings report, non-conformances, and technical review.

Scan QR Code to watch the video



FEMAS 2024 – Key Audit Outcomes

Between 1 October and 31 December 2024, more than 80 FEMAS Participants were audited against the new 2024 Standards. Overall, the numbers of non-conformances (NCs) and observations (Obs) raised over that period remained in line with the previous numbers raised at Participants sites audited against the previous Standard version.



FEMAS 2024 new clause requirements

FEMAS 2024 contains several new clauses. A review of audit non-conformances found four of those new clauses would benefit from focus by FEMAS Participants to support a better audit outcome, and help reduce site non-conformances.

Clause	Clause	Times Raised	Comments
B1.6	There must be a schematic of the process equipment, which is visually confirmed by the HACCP team.	4	Evidence that the HACCP team has visually confirmed the schematic of the process equipment is required, and that it represents the physical flow of the process.
C1.6	Where the risk assessment relies upon suppliers of raw materials being assured, there must be a system in place to verify the current assurance status of the suppliers when entering and executing a contract or agreement.	4	To maintain the assured supply chain integrity, Participants are required to have a system in place to check that the assurance status of their assured suppliers is still in place when entering and executing a contract or agreement. A variety of approaches may be required, but the key to a successful and proactive system will be to ensure that all relevant personnel have access to the current assurance status of suppliers when entering and executing contracts.
G1.8	Where this may compromise feed safety, employees, contractors, and visitors (including vehicle drivers) must be advised that entering the site when suffering from a communicable enteric disease is not permitted.	5	This clause is aimed at protecting feed safety by asking people with symptoms to not enter the site. It is not required to collect sensitive personal information about symptoms or illnesses. Example systems may include, though are not limited to staff training, signs and visitor site induction.
I6.2	The Participant must have in place procedures to respond to Salmonella isolations.	3	Evidence of a procedure in line with legislative and customer requirements will help ensure Participants respond to and effectively manage Salmonella isolations. There is additional Interpretation detailed in the standard which must also be considered and applied: <i>If Salmonella is detected, an appropriate laboratory method, taking into account sensitivity, availability and turnaround time should be used for the duration of investigations.</i> <i>The procedure should reference the relevant sections of the Defra Salmonella Code, including circumstances where the competent authorities should be informed and defining corrective actions.</i>

Participant Training

AIC has brought together all its training resources for AIC Members, trade assurance scheme Participants, and feed advisers under **AIC's Academy**. For those who would like to receive further training on the FEMAS Standard, KIWA has now published course dates for the first half of 2025.

Two courses are offered, a half-day FEMAS Update training session and an extended FEMAS Participant training session, which takes place over two morning sessions. Both sessions are remote, but onsite group training can be arranged with KIWA if preferred. All delegates who successfully attend and complete the courses are awarded a Certificate. To book your place contact the training team UK.training@kiwa.com or phone 01423 878875.

Presentations from the 2024 Scheme Participant Training seminars are also available for reference and can be downloaded from **AIC's website** as PDF files.

Training	April 2025	May 2025	June 2025
FEMAS Update training	17		
FEMAS Participant training	15 & 16	7 & 8	17 & 18



GB Register of Feed Materials

The GB Register of Feed Materials is a list of feed materials that are notified by UK feed business operators for placing on the GB market. The GB Register of Feed Materials was published on 9 September 2024.

UK legislation requires that the person “who, for the first time,

places on the market a feed material that is not listed in the Catalogue shall immediately notify its use to the representatives of the UK feed business sectors”.

There is a comprehensive guidance document on the notification process on the website homepage.

www.gbfeedmaterialsregister.org.uk

To place a new feed material on the Northern Ireland or EU market, businesses need to continue to follow EU rules, and use the **EU Feed Materials Register**.

Trade Assurance Consultant Register (TACR)

To support current or potential Participants of AIC’s Trade Assurance Schemes, a list of consultants and advisers is available on AIC’s website, along with the TACR professional conduct standards.

The TACR lists individual consultants, the trade assurance schemes they support, services offered, and ways to contact them for further information.



Consultation on TSEs

Members and Participants are encouraged to respond to a Government consultation on whether England and Wales should change the national Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (TSEs) for livestock feed controls. The consultation closes on 1 April 2025.

Animal by-product regulations would still prohibit intra-species recycling and key protections will remain in place, including the exclusion of PAP of ruminant origin being fed to ruminants.

FEMAS review and working groups are currently considering how these proposed changes and industry developments will be covered by specific sector notes.

Visit **DEFRA’s** website to view the consultation.



AIC Feed and Food Report

A special report demonstrating how the Trade Assurance Schemes - FEMAS, TASCC, and UFAS underpin UK feed and food safety has now been published. It explains how UK feed and food assurance schemes are essential for maintaining high safety standards at the start of the agri-food supply chain, where control is crucial.

The full digital report can be viewed on AIC’s website.



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