



FEMAS Sector Note No. 3 – Natural Minerals

These Sector Notes apply to businesses processing or placing on the market naturally occurring minerals for use as animal feed.

These Notes are not exhaustive, are intended to assist in the application of the corresponding requirements of the FEMAS Standard and are not to be considered in isolation.

Section 1 of these Sector Notes includes definitions of specific relevance to this sector.

Section 2 of these Sector Notes includes additional sector-specific information to assist Participants in complying with **Requirements, Interpretation, Guidance and Further Information** of the FEMAS Scheme. The FEMAS Scheme Rules provide the following definitions:

Requirement – Sets mandatory standards with which Applicants and Participants must comply to achieve and maintain certification.

Interpretation – Provides specific means for Applicants and Participants to achieve the desired outcome of the preceding Requirement. Applicants and Participants are expected to consider Interpretation and apply as relevant to their business. Failure to follow interpretation, resulting in the desired outcome of the Requirement not being achieved will lead to a non-conformance being raised against the requirement.

Guidance – Non-mandatory suggestions of useful tools and techniques for achieving and maintaining compliance or continuous improvement.

Further information – External sources of useful information, typically including references/web links to documents or other sources of information.

NOTE: Revisions introduced in this edition of the Sector Notes are highlighted in Blue.

1 Definitions

Natural Minerals	Naturally occurring minerals which undergo no further processing beyond extraction, crushing, washing, drying and grading. This includes but is not limited to Calcium carbonate (limestone), Sodium chloride (salt), Magnesium oxide (Cal Mag) and Bentonite, Kaolinite and other clays.
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2 Sector-Specific Notes

HACCP and Feed Safety Risk Assessment		
B 1.7	Interpretation	<p><i>Sector-specific potential hazards include but are not limited to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Naturally occurring contaminants, such as: Fluorine, heavy metals (e.g. Cadmium, Lead, Mercury, Arsenic), Dioxins and PCBs (e.g. from volcanic activity)</i> • <i>Hazards introduced by the use of specialist machinery and processes (e.g. hydraulic fluids, vehicle lubricants, drilling lubricants, glass and brittle plastic from vehicles)</i> • <i>Contamination from vehicle exhausts in mines</i> • <i>Blasting equipment and residues from blasting (copper is extremely toxic to certain livestock species, notably certain breeds of sheep and goats).</i>

Pest Management		
G 6.4	Interpretation	<p><i>As minerals are generally unattractive to pests, the level of proofing necessary in stores may be less than for many products.</i></p>



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