

Appendix 23 Guidance for the management of contaminated food/feed

Guidance for Intakes (food/feed) and Suppliers (merchants and product stores) Outlining the Action taken after Contaminated Goods are Identified with Hazardous Impurities

Contamination of hazardous impurities can be identified in food/feed throughout the supply chain. All parties in the supply chain have a legal responsibility to ensure that contaminated food/feed with hazardous impurities do not enter the supply chain.

Hazardous Impurities can take a number of forms but are categorised below in four distinct categories:
Physical, Chemical, Biological and Allergens.

Food/feed containing impurities must not be directed to food/feed destinations, unless customer/recipients terms and conditions, or contract, allow. The supply chain must have evidence that the destinations have been advised accordingly unless receivers terms and conditions, or contract, allow. Information relating to, for example, the cleaning of trailers can be found in TASC Standard section H7, Appendix 2, Sensitive List and Appendix 3, Cleaning Matrix and IDTF . Investigations should be fully documented by a designated and competent person (s) along with the corrective actions taken as evidence of due diligence.

This list is not exhaustive and should be treated as guidance only because other contaminants may occur.

Physical

Type of contamination	Immediate corrective action	Criteria/rules	Follow up action	Verification	Final action/conclusion
All types of metal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stop the delivery/collection • Quarantine potentially contaminated food/feed. • Investigate the source of the contaminant • Inform the supplier/store 	Depending on the type of contaminant the food/feed can be cleaned/conditioned and redelivered for food/feed use	<p>Establish whether the food/feed can be cleaned/conditioned.</p> <p>Quarantine potentially contaminated food/feed.</p> <p>Intake/supplier to establish the root cause of the contamination considering any other food/feed that could be similarly contaminated and action</p>	<p>Sampling to check that contaminant has been removed.</p> <p>A documented assessment must be completed before any further movements take place.</p> <p>Assessment to consider other contaminants with</p>	<p>Following the assessment, unaffected food/feed in quarantine can be released for further movement.</p> <p>Contaminated food/feed that cannot be cleaned is returned to the supplier/store or delivered to end user</p>

			accordingly to prevent re-occurrence.	metal e.g. grease, mercury, oil.	who accepts the contamination.
Glass & hard plastics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stop the delivery/collection • Investigate the source of the contaminant • Inform the supplier/store 	Food/feed cannot be cleaned/conditioned and must not be supplied for food/feed use.	<p>Food/feed returned to supplier/store or delivered for non food/feed use.</p> <p>Quarantine potentially contaminated food/feed.</p> <p>Establish the root cause of the contamination considering any other food/feed that could be similarly contaminated and action accordingly to prevent re-occurrence.</p>	A documented assessment must be completed before any further movements take place.	<p>Following the assessment, unaffected food/feed in quarantine can be released for further movement.</p> <p>Contaminated food/feed must be sent to a non-food/feed use.</p>
Asbestos	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stop the delivery/collection • Investigate the source of the contaminant • Inform the supplier/store • Seek professional advice on the handling of contaminated food/feed. • Quarantine vehicle/trailer/container and keep covered. 	Food/feed cannot be cleaned/conditioned and must not be supplied for food/feed use.	<p>Quarantine potentially contaminated food/feed.</p> <p>Establish the root cause of the contamination considering any other food/feed that could be similarly contaminated and action accordingly to prevent re-occurrence.</p>	A documented assessment must be completed by a suitably qualified specialist before any further movements take place.	<p>There is specific Health and Safety legislation in relation to the control of Asbestos which must be followed.</p> <p>Following the assessment, unaffected food/feed in quarantine can be released for further movement.</p> <p>Depending on the recommendations of the HSE, and the findings by a suitably qualified specialist the contaminated food/feed must be</p>

					disposed of as recommended within the assessment.
Mud balls, wood, stones and flint	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stop the delivery/collection Investigate the source of the contaminant Inform the supplier/store 	Depending on the type of contaminant the food/feed can be cleaned/conditioned and redelivered for food/feed use	<p>Establish whether food/feed can be cleaned/conditioned.</p> <p>Quarantine potentially contaminated food/feed.</p> <p>Establish the root cause of the contamination considering any other food/feed that could be similarly contaminated and action accordingly to prevent re-occurrence.</p>	<p>Sampling to check that contaminant has been removed.</p> <p>A documented assessment must be made before any further movements take place.</p>	Following the assessment, unaffected food/feed in quarantine can be released for further movement. Contaminated food/feed that cannot be cleaned are returned to supplier/store or delivered to end user who accepts the contamination.

Chemical

Type of Contamination	Immediate Corrective Action	Criteria/Rules	Follow up action	Verification	Final action/Conclusion
Rodenticide, chemically dressed seed, slug pellets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stop the delivery/collection Investigate the source of the contaminant Inform the supplier/store 	<p>Food/feed cannot be cleaned/conditioned and must not be supplied for food/feed use.</p> <p>Food/feed can be supplied for non-food/feed use.</p>	<p>Food/feed returned to supplier/store or delivered for non food/feed use.</p> <p>Quarantine potentially contaminated food/feed.</p> <p>Establish the root cause of the contamination considering any other food/feed that could be similarly contaminated and</p>	A documented assessment must be completed before any further movements take place.	Following the assessment, unaffected food/feed in quarantine can be released for further movement. Contaminated food/feed must be sent to a non-food/feed use.

			action accordingly to prevent re-occurrence.		
<p>Pesticides/ herbicides/ growth regulators (this does not apply to authorised application of post harvest pesticides applied as per the manufacturer's instructions)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stop the delivery/collection • Investigate the source of the contaminant • Inform the supplier/store <p>Chlorpropham (CIPC) is historically used by potato growers as a growth regulator which can contaminate the store. DO NOT use for other crop storage if any CIPC residues are found and inform the scheme owner or certification body.</p>	<p>Food/feed cannot be cleaned/conditioned and must not be supplied for food/feed use unless agreed in writing by the end user/customer. Food/feed can be supplied for non-food/feed use.</p>	<p>Food/feed are returned to supplier/store or delivered for non food/feed use.</p> <p>Quarantine potentially contaminated food/feed.</p> <p>Establish the root cause of the contamination considering any other food/feed that could be similarly contaminated and action accordingly to prevent re-occurrence.</p>	<p>A documented assessment must be completed before any further movements take place.</p>	<p>Following the assessment, unaffected food/feed in quarantine can be released for further movement. Contaminated food/feed must be sent to a non-food/feed use.</p>
<p>Diesel, oil, bitumen & tarmac</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stop the delivery/collection • Investigate the source of the contaminant • Inform the supplier/store 	<p>Food/feed cannot be cleaned/conditioned and must not be supplied for food/feed use.</p> <p>Food/feed can be supplied for non-food/feed use.</p>	<p>Food/feed returned to supplier/store or delivered for non food/feed use.</p> <p>Quarantine potentially contaminated food/feed.</p> <p>Establish the root cause of the contamination considering any other food/feed that could be similarly contaminated and action accordingly to prevent re-occurrence.</p>	<p>A documented assessment must be completed before any further movements take place.</p>	<p>Following the assessment, unaffected food/feed in quarantine can be released for further movement. Contaminated food/feed must be sent to a non-food/feed use.</p>

<p>Unusual odour, smell or taint (e.g. diesel, fuel oil, fishmeal, chemical, mould, urine, farm yard manure)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stop the delivery/collection • Investigate the source of the contaminant • Inform the supplier/store 	<p>Food/feed cannot be cleaned/conditioned and must not be supplied for food/feed use.</p> <p>Food/feed can be supplied for non-food/feed use.</p>	<p>Food/feed are returned to supplier/store or delivered for Non-food/feed use.</p> <p>Quarantine potentially contaminated food/feed.</p> <p>Establish the root cause of the contamination considering any other food/feed that could be similarly contaminated and action accordingly to prevent re-occurrence.</p>	<p>A documented assessment must be completed before any further movements take place.</p>	<p>Following the assessment, unaffected food/feed in quarantine can be released for further movement.</p> <p>Contaminated food/feed must be sent to a non-food/feed use.</p>
<p>Ergot</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stop the delivery/collection • Determine the level of ergot contamination. • Inform the supplier/store 	<p>Comply with customer contractual terms and conditions and legal limits.</p>	<p>Quarantine potentially contaminated food/feed.</p> <p>Re-direct to a destination with an acceptable ergot tolerance.</p> <p>Re-direct to an end user/store to clean the food/feed.</p> <p>Remove the ergot from the food/feed with colour sorter/gravity separator.</p>	<p>The levels of ergot in the food/feed must be assessed and documented during conditioning and before any further movements take place.</p>	<p>Following the assessment, unaffected food/feed in quarantine can be released for further movement.</p>
<p>Mycotoxins</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stop the delivery/collection • Investigate the source of the contaminant • Inform the supplier/store 	<p>Where a maximum permitted legal limit has been exceeded, food/feed must not be blended.</p> <p>Food that exceed the EU legal limits for food can be</p>	<p>Quarantine potentially contaminated food/feed.</p> <p>Establish the root cause of the contamination considering any other food/feed that could be similarly contaminated and</p>	<p>A documented assessment must be completed before any further movements take place.</p> <p>Analysis of results must be reviewed.</p>	<p>Following the assessment, unaffected goods in quarantine can be released for further movement.</p> <p>Food/feed must not be supplied if</p>

		forwarded for feed use where customer contractual terms and conditions allow.	action accordingly to prevent re-occurrence.		exceeding the legal/customer limit.
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Biological

Type of Contamination	Immediate Corrective Action	Criteria/Rules	Follow up action	Verification	Final action/Conclusion
<i>Salmonellae</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stop any movements • Inform the supplier/store • Resample and retest for salmonella • Investigate the source of the contaminant • Notify the relevant competent authority with the mandatory reporting of a positive <i>salmonella</i> result. 	Depending on contractual customer terms and conditions the food/feed may be treated and delivered.	<p>Comply with competent authority instructions.</p> <p>Establish whether food/feed can be treated to remove <i>salmonella</i>.</p> <p>Quarantine potentially contaminated food/feed.</p> <p>Resample and retest for <i>Salmonella</i> before further movement.</p> <p>Establish the root cause of the contamination including environmental factors considering any other food/feed that could be similarly contaminated and action accordingly to prevent re-occurrence. Contaminated vehicles, equipment and stores must be sanitised to prevent further contamination.</p>	<p>Sampling to check that contaminant has been successfully treated.</p> <p>A documented assessment must be completed before any further movements take place. Analysis of results must be reviewed.</p> <p>Following a positive result of contaminated food/feed or environmental factors the TASC certified store must be sanitised, swabbed and tested negative before further use.</p>	<p>Following the assessment, unaffected food/feed in quarantine can be released for further movement.</p> <p>Food/feed that cannot be treated or has failed the <i>Salmonella</i> test are forwarded for non-food/feed use.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stop any movements • Inform the supplier/store • Resample and retest for salmonella • Investigate the source of the contaminant <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notify the relevant competent authority with the mandatory reporting of a positive salmonella result 	<p>Depending on contractual customer terms and conditions the food/feed may be treated and delivered.</p>	<p>Comply with competent authority instructions.</p> <p>Establish whether food/feed can be treated to remove salmonella.</p> <p>Quarantine potentially contaminated food/feed.</p> <p>Resample and retest for Salmonella before further movement.</p> <p>Establish the root cause of the contamination including environmental factors considering any other food/feed that could be similarly contaminated and action accordingly to prevent re-occurrence. Contaminated vehicles, equipment and stores must be sanitised to prevent further contamination.</p>	<p>Sampling to check that contaminant has been successfully treated.</p> <p>A documented assessment must be completed before any further movements take place. Analysis of results must be reviewed.</p> <p>Following a positive result of contaminated food/feed or environmental factors the TASCC certified store must be sanitised, swabbed and tested negative before further use.</p>	<p>Following the assessment, unaffected food/feed in quarantine can be released for further movement.</p> <p>Food/feed that cannot be treated or has failed the Salmonella test are forwarded for non-food/feed use</p>
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Physical and Biological

Type of Contamination	Immediate Corrective Action	Criteria/Rules	Follow up action	Verification	Final action/Conclusion
Live or dead animals/birds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stop the delivery/collection • Investigate the source of the contaminant 	<p>Depending on the type of contaminant the food/feed can be cleaned/</p>	<p>Quarantine potentially contaminated food/feed.</p> <p>Remove the contaminants.</p>	<p>Sampling to check that contaminant has been removed.</p>	<p>Following the assessment, unaffected food/feed in quarantine can be</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inform the supplier/store 	<p>conditioned and redelivered for food/feed use depending upon contractual terms and conditions.</p>	<p>Sample and test for <i>Salmonella</i> and E-Coli before further movement. If positive result for <i>salmonella</i>, notify the competent authority.</p> <p>Establish the root cause of the contamination considering any other food/feed that could be similarly contaminated and action accordingly to prevent re-occurrence.</p>	<p>A documented assessment must be completed before any further movements take place. Analysis of results must be reviewed.</p>	<p>released for further movement. Food/feed that has failed the <i>Salmonella</i> and E-Coli tests must not be allowed to return to the food/feed supply chain.</p>
Insects and mites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stop the delivery/collection Investigate the source of the contaminant Inform the supplier/store 	<p>Depending on the type of contaminant the food/feed can be cleaned/ conditioned/treated and redelivered for food/feed use depending on end users contractual terms and conditions.</p>	<p>Quarantine potentially contaminated food/feed.</p> <p>Establish whether food/feed can be cleaned/conditioned/treated.</p> <p>Food/feed treated with an approved chemical/post-harvest treatment at the correct rate and with-holding period.</p> <p>Establish the root cause of the contamination considering any other food/feed that could be similarly contaminated and action accordingly to prevent re-occurrence.</p>	<p>Sampling to check that infestation has been removed and compliance with pesticide MRLs..</p> <p>A documented assessment must be completed before any further movements take place.</p>	<p>Following the assessment, unaffected food/feed in quarantine can be released for further movement. Action must be taken and recorded.</p>
Faeces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stop the delivery/collection 	<p>Depending on the type of contaminant the</p>	<p>Quarantine potentially contaminated food/feed.</p>	<p>Sampling to check that contaminant has been removed.</p>	<p>Following the assessment, unaffected food/feed</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate the source of the contaminant Inform the supplier/store 	<p>food/feed can be cleaned/conditioned and redelivered for feed use only.</p>	<p>Establish whether food/feed can be cleaned/conditioned.</p> <p>Sample and test for <i>Salmonella</i>, E-Coli and Listeria before further movement.</p> <p>Establish the root cause of the contamination considering any other food/feed that could be similarly contaminated and action accordingly to prevent re-occurrence.</p>	<p>A documented assessment must be completed before any further movements take place.</p> <p>Analysis of results must be reviewed.</p>	<p>in quarantine can be released for further movement.</p> <p>Food/feed that have failed the <i>Salmonella</i>, E-Coli and Listeria tests are forwarded for non-food/feed use</p>
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Allergens

Type of Contamination	Immediate Corrective Action	Criteria/Rules	Follow up action	Verification	Final action/Conclusion
Allergens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stop the delivery/collection Investigate the source of the contaminant Inform the supplier/store 	<p>Depending on the type of contaminant the food/feed can be redelivered for food/feed use depending on end users terms and conditions.</p>	<p>Quarantine potentially contaminated food/feed.</p> <p>Establish the root cause of the contamination considering any other food/feed that could be similarly contaminated and action accordingly to prevent re-occurrence.</p>	<p>A documented assessment must be completed before any further movements take place.</p> <p>Analysis of results must be reviewed.</p>	<p>Following the assessment, food/feed in quarantine can be released subject to written confirmation from the receiver for further movement.</p>