

## 7.1.1 & 7.1.2 Written Raw Material Quality Control Program

### Standard

7.1.1. Does the site have a written raw material quality control program?

7.1.2. Does this program call for raw materials to be sampled and tested to ensure they comply with purchase contract and standard specifications?

*The HACCP Risk Assessment Plan should define the risks and raw materials requiring sampling and testing.*

### Purpose

To ensure raw materials are processed in accordance with a quality control program that allows for sampling and testing based on standard specifications.

### Reason

A raw material quality control program is important in ensuring:

1. Consistent and quality raw materials.
2. Feed Safety i.e. early identification of unsafe material.
3. Compliance with purchasing standards.
4. Traceability and accountability.

A combination of raw material risk assessments and quality control activities such as sampling and testing, ensures the operator is conducted a thorough assessment of process, reducing feed safety risks further down the production line.

### What is Acceptable?

This fact sheet should be viewed in conjunction with Fact Sheet 6.1.1 to 6.1.5. The quality assurance program shall include a provision for sampling (Fact Sheet 7.2.1, 7.2.2) and testing. Results should be assessed according to Fact Sheet 7.1.5.

#### HACCP Risk Assessment

All raw materials shall be risk assessed to determine if sampling and testing is required, as per HACCP risk assessment (Fact Sheet 5.2.1 to 5.2.4). With reference to the process flow diagram - a purchasing step shall address the source or nature of raw material. The assessment will consider risks of biological, chemical and physical in nature. If a bulk raw material is prone to seasonal variation (physical), this is an inherent low risk that can be managed by sampling and testing. Alternatively, grain is sampled and tested with every delivery to ensure it meets purchasing standards (GTA Guidelines).

If the risk assessment has determined no sampling or testing is required, a justification shall be provided. For all others, a minimum 3-month retention period shall be set for low to medium risk materials, with 6 months for high-risk material (See Fact Sheet 7.2.1 & 7.2.2).

#### Supply Chain Quality Assurance vs Quality Control

Supply chain quality assurance is the process and procedures that are designed to improve quality and reduce risks along the production process. Quality control is product focused and based on the outcome of the quality assurance program. It typically involves testing to ensure a material meets the required quality standards. Quality control is imbedded within an organisations quality assurance.

### Handling Samples

The collection of samples should be conducted by trained personnel and considerations given for packaged and bulk raw material (Fact Sheet 7.2.1 & 7.2.2). The operator shall consider:

- Equipment used for collection – is it sanitised and free from contaminants?
- Sample size, quantity, representative samples.
- Labelling – Material ID, date, retention period.
- Storage inventory & requirements.
- RAM and medicated Status.

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