

- 1.0 An awareness of the standards within the DEFRA publication 'Protecting our Water, Soil and Air: A Code of Good Agricultural Practice for Farmers, Growers and Land Managers' is a requirement of the scheme as is members' conformance with them. A copy of this publication or of the [Codes of Good Agricultural Practice](#) must be available for inspection by the assessor either electronically or in hard copy. (Revised) (E) A copy can be downloaded from www.assuredcrops.co.uk or from Defra (www.defra.gov.uk/publications) All members must comply with the sections in the codes relevant to combinable crops production.

2.19 CRITICAL FAILURE POINT

All sprayers used on a sprayed area of combinable crops and sugar beet greater than 50ha must have been tested annually under the National Sprayer Testing Scheme (NSTS) or approved equivalent, this includes contractors. (Revised)

- 5.13 Producers must have a copy of the NaCTSO leaflet 'Security of fertiliser storage on farms' and must be able to explain how they observe the recommendations contained within the leaflet.

The recommendations in the leaflet are reproduced in Appendix 5 together with a copy of a Self Assessment Checklist that producers may find useful. The assessor will need to see a copy of the leaflet during the assessment and will ask to see where fertiliser is stored and also how you observe the recommendations in the leaflet. This leaflet is available to download from the website www.assuredcrops.co.uk.

If fertiliser is not stored on farm at the time of the assessment the assessor will still ask you to explain how you observe the recommendations in the leaflet.

- 5.16 Producers who are planning to use land classified as uncultivated or semi natural area for arable production must ensure Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations have been met. In addition, if any of that land is used to produce energy crops producers must assess and record carbon losses (R) (E).

Conversion from permanent pasture to arable can significantly increase carbon emissions and biofuel feedstock will need an assessment of carbon emissions. Where there is no land use change (arable-arable) assessment is not required. Set-aside land is classified as arable and so does not require assessment of carbon emissions.

- 6.8 Moisture meters and temperature probes must be calibrated annually and the results recorded. (R)

For production only members, a temperature probe is not compulsory.

- 6.12 Deleted

- 6.18 Regular ongoing risk assessments (at least annual) must be carried out and in relation to the storage facilities (temporary and long term holdings) including reference to the fabric of the store (walls and roof etc) and any stored crops.

8.8 CRITICAL FAILURE POINT

If an accident or other type of incident occurs, which may have contaminated the load, an assessment must be carried out to identify any contamination or other hazards, and a decision made in conjunction with the recipient as to whether to continue with the delivery.

- 12.0 Holding areas for diesel tanks and waste must be environmentally safe and conform to the guidelines contained in 'Protecting our Water, Soil and Air: A Code of Good Agricultural Practice for Farmers, Growers and Land Managers' (see Standard 1.0)

Procedures to be followed by mills & maltsters etc

Rejection forms **must** be submitted to certification bodies by fax or 1st class post (and copied to the ACCS office) within **7 days** of the incident and **must** include a copy of the grain passport that accompanied the load. Forms can also be sent by email but must be accompanied by a scanned copy of the passport. Rejections will **not** be investigated if the relevant paperwork is not submitted within this timeframe.

Objectives

1. To verify to the consumer/end user that assured grain that is the subject of rejection by them for reasons other than contractual specification is seen to be followed up by the relevant Certification Body.
2. To give member producers confidence that grain from assured farms is treated fairly by the consumer/end user and that, causes for rejection are clearly identified and followed up to ascertain the reason, where applicable.
3. To investigate the cause of rejection and determine if ACCS member producers have not been adhering to ACCS standards.

ACCS will not get involved in any contractual disputes and this rejection procedure, including the form, will remain confidential to all parties.

Only on farm **storage, own transport of grain or food and feed safety related elements** should be reported to the relevant Certification Body as indicated on the ACCS delivery point rejection form. Mould (including mycotoxin contamination), heating, smell, vermin droppings, infestation and contamination are the main areas but this is not an exhaustive list. Contractual specifications such as protein/nitrogen, hagerberg, hectolitre weight, screenings, moisture and germination are the main areas which **must not be included**.

Certification Body (CB) Actions

a) All rejections except for those relating to mycotoxin levels

Following receipt of the delivery point rejection form, one of the following actions will be taken depending on the cause and severity of the rejection:

1. In severe cases or when the consumer/end user requires an immediate response such as when a food or feed safety issue is discovered at intake, the relevant CB will take the following action :-

Presence of contaminants

- Immediately suspend the producer;
- Undertake a spot check to confirm that the non conformance has been rectified

Presence of vermin or vermin droppings

- Immediately suspend the producer;
- If this is the first incidence the CB will require copies of the vermin control records and evidence of measures taken to clean crops as corrective evidence of rectification of the non conformance
- If this is a repeat non conformance the CB will undertake a spot check to confirm that the non conformance has been rectified.

The CB will send a report on the cause of rejection and action taken to the complainant,-producer and ACCS office within 28 days of receipt.

APPENDIX 1
ACCS DELIVERY POINT REJECTION PROCEDURES

2. In other cases (such as mouldy grain, presence of other contaminants and evidence of infestation etc) the relevant assessment report will be checked to ascertain if the cause of the rejection was:-
 - a) Highlighted as a non conformance and subsequently upgraded following confirmation by the member producer that action had been taken.
 - b) Not highlighted at the time of assessment.

The CB will then request written details of corrective action taken to remedy the non conformance and if this is not received within 28 days the producer will be suspended and a revisit will be undertaken (cost to be charged to the producer) to confirm rectification.

The CB will send a report on the cause of rejection and action taken to the complainant, producer and ACCS office within 28 days of receipt.

b) Rejections relating to mycotoxin levels

Following receipt of the delivery point rejection form which **must** be accompanied by a copy of the relevant grain passport showing a risk assessment of score of 10 or below:-

- 1) CB will send producer an ACCS mycotoxin questionnaire (see attached) for completion and return by the producer within 14 days of receipt
- 2) If questionnaire and copy of risk assessment is not received within the time scale the CB will suspend the producer with immediate effect
- 3) Upon receipt of completed questionnaire and copy of passport the CB will check that:-
 - Risk assessment score corresponds with score on passport
 - Answers on questionnaire correspond with risk assessment answers

Any discrepancies in the above will result in immediate suspension pending full investigation which will include revisit (costs to be charged to the producer)

The CB will send a report to the complainant and ACCS office within 28 days of receipt indicating whether the risk assessment score corresponds with the score on the passport.

Mycotoxin Risk Assessment Sheet

This tool is designed for online use. For instructions on how to use the form please refer to the HGCA Guidelines to minimise risk of fusarium mycotoxins prior to completing your risk assessment

Farm name	
Town	
County	
Postcode	

[HGCA Guidelines to minimise risk of fusarium mycotoxins in cereals: www.hgca.com](http://www.hgca.com)

Store name			field name	field name	field name	field name	field name	field name	field name	field name
Factor	Details	Risk	Score	Score	Score	Score	Score	Score	Score	Score
Region (see map below)	High	4								
	Moderate	2								
	Low	-2								
	Very low	-4								
Previous Crop	Maize	6								
	Other	0								
Cultivation	Direct drilled	4								
	Standard Minimum tillage	3								
	Intensive Minimum tillage	2								
	Plough (soil inversion)	0								
Wheat variety	RL Resistance rating 1-5	1								
	RL Resistance rating 6-9	0								
Your pre-flowering score			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
T3 fungicide	Under 50% rate of recommended product	0								
	50-74% rate of recommended product	-2								
	75% or above rate of recommended product	-3								
Rainfall at flowering (GS 59-69)	More than 80 mm	9								
	40-80 mm	6								
	10-40 mm	3								
	Less than 10mm	0								
Rainfall pre-harvest (GS87 to harvest)	More than 120mm	12								
	80-120 mm	9								
	40-80 mm	6								
	20-40 mm	3								
	Less than 20 mm	0								
Your final score			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Date: Signature:

Final risk scores must be reported on the grain passport, and lots with scores greater than 15 should be tested and the result reported. Additionally, growers should check end-user requirement (e.g. for breakfast cereals) if mycotoxin testing is required at lower risk score values

