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Stand
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News from CMI Certification June 2008



Volatility in the wheat market

The Cereals event takes place this year against a background of global uncertainty, with economic slow-down and increasing food prices worldwide. According to Jonathan Tipples, the chairman of HGCA (see feature on page 2), with the explosion of middle class populations in India and China predicted over the next 50 years, the volatility of wheat stocks worldwide is very likely to continue. The argument surrounding the production of biofuels in favour of food looks likely to run and run.

However, prospects for this year's harvest are favourable with no problems reported across the world. It looks as though world wheat stocks could be replenished after last year's shortfall. No doubt we will all have plenty to discuss when we meet up at Cereals. We look forward to seeing you there.

Tim Green
Agriculture Director

Cereals News

CMI will be at Cereals 2008 which will take place at Heath Farm, Leadenham, Lincolnshire on Wednesday 11th and Thursday 12th June, located at stand number 337. This leading technical event for the UK arable industry, attracting over 22,500 professional farmers and industry experts, takes place over two days and covers over 64 hectares of stands and live demonstrations.

Over 350 suppliers will be there to keep visitors up-to-date with the latest products, advice and information.

ACCS Update

Nowadays in the UK over 90% of wheat is assured by the Assured Combinable Crops Scheme. As the leading certifiers of the scheme our assessors and technical experts find the Cereals event an invaluable opportunity to keep up-to-date with developments and meet up with scheme members.



Get your NRoSO points

As usual, there will be a NRoSO box on the CMI stand where you can register for your continuing professional development (CPD) points. Please visit our stand at anytime during the show.

Camgrain delivers full traceability

The assurance of grain has come a long way since its introduction 12 years ago. ACCS has laid the foundation for the supply chain to demonstrate their commitment to higher levels of food safety and traceability from field to fork.

Robust supply chain for Sainsbury's bakeries

Last autumn, news that the farmer-owned central grain storage business Camgrain,

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Hauliers sign up for GTAS certification

GTAS, the international scheme for all sectors of the global grain and feed trade, brought to the market by The Grain & Feed Trade Association (GAFTA), with the support of CMI in 2006, is under review.



The new standard is due for release in July this year and is expected to contain minor changes.

If you would like more information about this or any other Cereals matters, please call Paul Adams (Crop Schemes Manager) on 07775 575829 or contact enquiries@cmicertification.com

based at Linton, Cambridgeshire, was part of the first ever grain supply chain delivering fully traceable flour into a major UK supermarket, was heralded as a ground breaking achievement.

Working together with its marketing agent, Grainfarmers, plus its millers, Whitworth Brothers, and the retailer Sainsbury, a new supply chain was

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Camgrain delivers full traceability

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created to the retailer's 360 in-store bakeries.

"Assurance is what customers expect today right through the supply chain," says John Latham, chairman of Camgrain, explaining that assurance is mostly all about risk assessment and mitigation in today's climate. But, he says, the words 'full traceability' have been used and aspired to for a number of years now and this new supply chain is an example of how traceability can be successfully delivered.

"First of all," explains John, "Camgrain is very different from any other farmer based grain storage business, in that it already has a ready-made producer group of 300 farmers committed to delivering and marketing their grain. This is an instant attraction in terms of supply chain logistics to a supermarket."

"Obviously," says John, "it makes a lot more sense than having to deal with a large number of individual farmers. But what also makes us unique is that as well as the grain all being assured, which is taken as read by today's consumers, we go a step further by assuring its quality, delivering so-called 'vendor assured grain'.

"This has huge benefits for Whitworth Bros Ltd as they receive a consistent quality of grain from us," he says, adding that this secures the end marketplace for Camgrain members by guaranteeing an homogenous flour supply with consistent baking characteristics and of known provenance.

Sainsbury currently bakes 1.5 million loaves a week in its 360 in-store bakeries. The chain plans to build more bakeries and there is potential to supply up to 85,000 tonnes of bread wheat a year from Linton.

Jordans Cereals

The story of the Conservation Grade

Over the past 50 years, intensive farming practices in the UK have been blamed for significant declines in our country's wildlife. In response to this Jordans helped to pioneer the production of environmentally responsible foods through the development of 'Conservation Grade' farming protocols, originally launched by Bill Jordan in 1985. Jordans' products were among the first that allowed people to make ethical choices through their grocery shopping.

About Conservation Grade

The Conservation Grade programme enables more than 60,000 acres of UK farmland each year to experience a significant uplift in biodiversity.

All the non-organic cereals used in Jordans products are grown to certified Conservation Grade standards. Conservation Grade provides an economic incentive to farmers for implementing specific farming processes designed to reintroduce wildlife biodiversity back onto farmland.

Conservation Grade farmers take 10% of their land out of food production and use their skills as land managers to create specific habitats so that a range of wildlife can be protected. Typically they will plant the less productive margins of their fields with a range of wildflower and seed mixes that encourage insects, birds and small mammals at the same time as allowing the cultivation of a commercial cereal crop. Conservation Grade farmers also plant specific crops to provide food for birds in winter; they erect and maintain bird boxes and also provide habitats for species such as bats, skylarks and bumblebees. They also agree not



to use some of the more harmful pesticides and herbicides, including Organophosphates.

All the farmers who supply Jordans agree to two year contracts with European Oat Millers, Jordans' sister company that supply the cereals used in their cereals and cereal bars. These contracts guarantee a premium price for the farmers' grain based on either the current market price or a projection of the future market price (the farmer determines which option to take).

Jordans believe they are helping to create a countryside that has more to offer to the millions of people who enjoy it for recreational purposes in the UK every year, by putting farmland back into environmental working order.

For more information about the Guild of Conservation Grade Farmers, please contact Bill Young of CMI on 07712 644704

Wheat prospects and the fine tuning of assurance schemes

An interview with Jonathan Tipples, Chairman of HGCA and one of the founder members of the ACCS.

With an explosion of middle class populations in India and China predicted over the next 50 years the volatility of wheat stocks worldwide is set to continue. Jonathan Tipples believes that the world has to face up to the fundamental fact that these countries will therefore be eating more meat and using up large amounts of the world's resources, forcing the costs of production up. But he points out that with only half of one per cent of world wheat going into bio-fuels the threat to wheat supplies revolves wholly around the extra mouths to feed.

As for the UK, with over 90% of all wheat covered under the Assured Combinable Crop Scheme, farmers have to be praised for getting a single scheme established when they did, back in the mid 90s after the 1990 Food Safety Act was introduced. "We have come a long way since the ACCS was set up," says Jonathan, who points out that quality has been enormously improved as a result. "It puts a firm line under food safety and it has allowed the supply chain to offer assurances all the way up to the consumer.



Jonathan Tipples

It also stopped a plethora of end of user schemes sprouting up everywhere."

"The number of rejections at mills are now dramatically reduced, which of course not only increases quality but cuts down on waste too.

"We have the most comprehensive, in-depth scheme which our industry should be very proud of," he says, adding that every consignment can be traced back to its origin. "We embraced a united scheme that, although it required lots of record keeping and extra work, farmers understood and respected. Premium prices were not the driver but having access to all the markets was. Today un-assured grain can go to feed your own livestock or be taken to the port to travel on a boat to a country which doesn't yet require assurances. That's the long and short of it," he says.

Currently all assurance schemes are being updated and improved towards further harmonisation. "We are always looking at simplifying the process, making the inspection less onerous and more cost efficient. That means having a more integrated approach to how the schemes are constructed. Working groups are now looking at this and aim to roll out the new versions by autumn.

Livestock Transport

Beware: EU regulations now require full inspection and vehicle approval for transport of animals – including horses and ponies – for journeys of longer than eight hours.

If you are involved in transporting horses or ponies as part of your business or work, you are affected by the new EU regulation which came into force in January 2007. One of the key features is the 'Vehicle Approval Scheme' (VAS) which requires your vehicle to be approved and certified as suitable for transporting animals for journeys of greater than eight hours. Drivers and attendants must also obtain 'Certificates of Competence', and the business will require a 'Transporter Authorisation'.

"There have been a growing number of incidents, particularly in Europe, where paperwork is now being checked by the authorities who are being rigorous about seeing proof of the Vehicle Approval Scheme," says Rachel Archer of CMi Certification who are certifiers of VAS.

"If you do not have the right certificate you may not be allowed to complete your journey, with the obvious complications and inconveniences to both the competitors and the event organisers themselves," explains Rachel. Moreover, journeys over 12 hours are subject to additional requirements to the vehicle.

"Commercial drivers should also be aware of the need to get a 'short journey' Certificate of Competence for any journey over 65km and up to eight hours duration, or a 'long journey' Certificate if travelling for over eight hours, which would be the case for all journeys going into Europe.

Note that from 1 May you need the Vehicle Approval Certificate and a Certificate of Competence before you can apply for a Type 2 Transporter Authorisation (Journeys over 8 hours), so getting the Vehicle Approval Certificate is vital!

For an application pack please contact Jackie Cleaton at CMi Certification, tel. 01993 885610 or e-mail Jackie.cleaton@cmicertification.com

Note that for vehicles travelling more than 12 hours and/or being used on overseas journeys there are additional requirements beyond those being used within the UK only. Full details of the requirements for both can be found on the DEFRA web site.

Further guidance on the EU Welfare of Animals During Transport regulation can be found on the DEFRA web site www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/welfare/farmed/transport/eu-transportreg.htm

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News in brief

CMi's Trevor Coleman cycles to Paris for charity

On Wednesday 25th June 2008 Trevor will be starting a 300 mile cycle ride from London to Paris to raise money for Spinal Research.



Over 40,000 people in the UK alone are paralysed because of a spinal cord injury. This can happen to anyone, and can be caused by anything from a road traffic accident to an awkward fall while out for a walk.

Trevor, who plays a leading role within CMi's IT project support, has personal reasons for taking part; a few years ago a friend of his was paralysed from the shoulders down while playing rugby and faces the rest of his life from a wheelchair.

Spinal Research funds pioneering research into repairing damaged spinal cords and developing therapies to restore feeling and movement to people paralysed by spinal cord injury.

If you would like to sponsor Trevor, please go to <http://www.justgiving.com/trevorcoleman>

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CMi averts crisis for Olympic rider caught out by the new regulations

Thanks to swift action by Philippa Cartwright of CMi, Olympic rider, Alex Hua Tian managed to get to his equestrian event in Poland despite being unaware of the requirement for Vehicle Approval only two days before departure! Alex had obtained his Certificate of Competence but needed his Vehicle Approval before being able to set off from the UK. A member of Alex's team said, "We were really panicking but CMi came out at very short notice and gave us marvellous support. We obtained the required certificate following an inspection and the crisis was averted."

Steve Homer joins CMi Governing Board



Steve Homer is to join the CMi Governing Board. Steve has spent most of his career working with companies that supply the supermarket industry with fast moving fresh products and has been involved with industry standards for over ten years. He has just finished a full time contract as Corporate Responsibility Manager with Flamingo Holdings, one of the largest grower/importer/packers of fresh and premium vegetables. In the last five years he has worked extensively with international organisations, helping them to understand the positive impacts that private standards can have on export potential.

What is the Governing board?

Certification Bodies such as CMi are required by the United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS) to have a Governing Board independent of the company with producer, retailer and independent members to oversee their activities. The Chairman of the CMi Governing Board is Chris Barnes CB, formerly Chairman of Assured Food Standards, the company that runs the Red Tractor food assurance mark.

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Please complete this coupon and bring along to the CMi stand 337 to win your free annual NSTS sprayer test* at Cereals 2008. There will be three prizes each day, announced at 5pm on the day. Winners will be contacted personally.

* up to a maximum value of £250.

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Scheme Membership No