



## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) Quality Control of Feed Materials (GMP B2)

The GMP<sup>+</sup> Feed Assurance Scheme consists of several standards, put together in the *GMP<sup>+</sup> Certification Scheme 2006*, for several activities/companies in the feed chain.

For feed materials suppliers, located outside The Netherlands, for a long time the so-called **QC-standard** was applicable. In the new GMP<sup>+</sup> Certification Scheme 2006 this standard is indicated as GMP B2

In this FAQ-list is meant to inform companies who apply the GMP B2-standard about the consequences of the revision of the GMP<sup>+</sup> Certification Scheme 2006. Further, information and interpretation is given about the content of the GMP B2-standard. This information does not differ much from previous FAQ-lists, because neither the requirements nor the interpretation of the different requirements changed because of the revision to GMP<sup>+</sup>-2006

Note: the major changes compared to the previous version have been shaded in grey. For new questions and answers or those which have been greatly modified, only the question is shaded in grey.

On the PDV Internet site also other FAQ-lists concerning the following subjects have also been published:

- [GMP Transport](#) (GMP B4.1)
- [GMP Production and trade](#) (GMP B1 and GMP B3)
- [Database Risk Assessments Feed Materials etc](#)

These FAQ's also give a lot of information about the GMP<sup>+</sup> Certification Scheme 2006, also for a GMP B2-certified company.

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## **A) Revision of the GMP<sup>+</sup> Certification Scheme 2006 (2003 ➤ 2006), IFIS**

### **1. Where can I find an overview of the whole GMP<sup>+</sup> Certification Scheme 2006?**

An overview of the GMP<sup>+</sup> Certification Scheme 2006 is published on the [PDV website](#). See also the [FAQ-list Production, Trade, Storage & Shipment](#).

## **2. Where can I find the old 'GMP 13' or 'QC standard'?**

The QC-standard was indicated as GMP13 in the GMP regulation 2003. In the new GMP<sup>+</sup> Certification Scheme 2006 this standard is indicated as GMP B2. Apart from some minor adaptation, the GMP B2 does not differ from GMP13. These adaptations will be explained in one of the next questions.

### **3. Where does the GMP<sup>+</sup> Certification Scheme 2006 starts with certification?**

In general, the GMP<sup>+</sup> Certification Scheme 2006 requires certification when a product is produced that may be used as a feed or a feed material, and put on the market as such. From this link on, GMP<sup>+</sup>-certification is required, each subsequent link in the animal feed chain must also apply to GMP<sup>+</sup> quality assurance and be certified as such. This also applies to the trading links in the chain. This is the only way to guarantee that the compound feed company receives safe, high quality feed materials

The first link, that has to be certified, must also at least assess the potential hazards in the preliminary section (for instance: crop production) in the risk analysis and define the necessary control measures for those risks.

Because it is not always clear where the feed chain and the certification exactly starts, the Product Board Animal Feed has drawn some diagrams that intend to clarify the beginning of the certified feed chain for several different situations. This [document](#) is published on the PDV-website

#### 4. What consequences has the GMP<sup>+</sup> Certification Scheme 2006 for the feed material chain?

The final goal of the GMP<sup>+</sup> Certification Scheme 2006 is to reach total quality assurance throughout the whole feed (material) chain. By now this is almost realised.

This means that suppliers which deliver feed materials to GMP<sup>+</sup>-certified compound feed producers and to GMP<sup>+</sup>-certified suppliers of single feed products (who in turn supply livestock farmers) must now also have a certified quality system and assure the safety and quality of the feed materials intended for animal feed.

Difference is made between national purchasing (meaning the purchase from a supplier/producer in the Netherlands) and purchase from a supplier abroad.

- When a GMP<sup>+</sup> certified company purchases feed materials from a trader or producer in the Netherlands, this trader or producer must be certified according to the GMP<sup>+</sup>-standard GMP B1 and GMP B3 (scope: feed material)
- When buying from a foreign feed material supplier, this feed supplier may also choose to apply GMP B2. The standard GMP B2 is the current name of the so-called QC-standard (Quality Control-standard). For more information about this, read this FAQ-list.

Next to above-mentioned options, it is also possible for a GMP<sup>+</sup>-approved company to buy feed materials from a supplier certified according to another feed assurance scheme, which is accepted by the PDV. See for more information about accepted feed assurance schemes hereafter in this FAQ-list.

## 5. How does the GMP B2-standard fit into the GMP<sup>+</sup> Certification Scheme 2006

The GMP B2-standard ([GMP B2](#)) only specifies the minimum requirements for the foreign suppliers (including traders), who deliver to GMP<sup>+</sup>-certified suppliers. It does not require a total quality assurance system, like other GMP<sup>+</sup>-standards (GMP B1 or GMP B3) but requires a quality control system based on HACCP-principles. Foreign suppliers who are successfully certified are qualified as GMP<sup>+</sup>-supplier and are registered on the Product Board Animal Feed-website. GMP<sup>+</sup>-certified compound feed producers are allowed to buy products from these suppliers.

QC-suppliers are allowed to use the same GMP<sup>+</sup>-logo as other GMP<sup>+</sup>-certified companies. Please contact your certification body for this.

## **6. What is the scope of the GMP B2-standard?**

The GMP B2-standard was originally intended for assuring the production of feed materials. A few years after the introduction the standard modified slightly, and from that time also applicable for trading, collecting and storage & transshipment.

The standard is not applicable for the production of feed additives or compound feed!

## **7. What is the IFIS-standard?**

The IFSA Feed Ingredient Standard (IFIS) has been drawn up as a collaborative industry project to ensure that safety is placed at the forefront of feed business operations (= feed materials producers), with the aim of ensuring confidence in the safety of the feed supply chain. Safe animal feeds are essential to both animal and human health, farmed animals being the source of many products for human consumption. The safety of the feed and food chain must therefore be the industry's primary objective.

Until now, only in the UFAS-FEMAS-scheme the IFIS-standard is fully integrated. In other schemes, also the GMP<sup>+</sup>-scheme, IFIS has not been fully integrated, so far. (Note: This does not mean that in GMP<sup>+</sup> an IFSI-certified company is not accepted. Let there be no mistake about that. See also GMP Appendix 10).

The Expert Committee has recently decided to integrate the IFIS-standard in a new version of the GMP B2-standard.

If this project is completed (probably in 2009), final decisions will be made about the IFIS-scheme and its link to the GMP<sup>+</sup>-scheme. Anyway, current IFIS-certified companies will be given sufficient time to make a transfer to another standard/certificate. When final decisions have been made, companies will be informed.

## **8. Will the current GMP B2-standard change in the future, or maybe deleted from the GMP<sup>+</sup>-Certification Scheme 2006?**

During the adoption of GMP<sup>+</sup>:2006 (in mid-2005) it was decided that the current GMP B2 certificates would be valid until the end of 2008 if they were issued before the end of 2006. Some time later this decision was amended so that certificates which were issued before the end of 2007 would still be accepted until the end of 2008.

It is now clear that these dates are also not realistic end dates. The Expert Committee has therefore decided to review its original decisions to a great extent. This amounts to the following: the GMP B2 will remain in the GMP<sup>+</sup> scheme. It will be drastically revised but an exact date has no longer been established.

The content (requirements) of new GMP B2-standard will be based on the IFIS-standard. The structure will be more or less similar to the new GMP B3(2007)-standard.

## **B.) Requirements: interpretation, explanation and other information**

The information etc. in this section is not always new. It is adapted to the new GMP<sup>+</sup> Certification Scheme 2006, with a special focus on the GMP B2-standard. The most important adaptations are marked in grey

**9. I am a new participant in GMP+. How can I consult the Database Risk Assessment Feed Materials (DRV)?**

The DRV-database can only be consulted by participants in the GMP+ Certification Scheme for the Animal Feed Sector 2006. Once a company has been certified and has been notified by its certification body in the Certified Companies Database, then this participant will receive an access code and password with which it is possible to consult the protected DRV-database.

Applicant participants have no access to the DRV-database. In order however to be able to make use of the information which is relevant to them in the DRV-database (including the checking on whether their own production process corresponds to what is recorded in the generic risk assessment in the DRV-database, GMP B1, § 7.3.1), the college has decided that the Product Board Animal Feed may, at the request of these applicant participants, send the details so that they can be used in the implementation of the HACCP analysis.

## 10. What is the scope of the system, required in the GMP B2-standard?

The GMP B2-system must cover at least one's own (production) process from purchase to delivery (including transport or storage & transshipment). The HACCP analysis must cover this whole process. It is also important that each link in the chain, responsible for the quality and safety of the animal feed material at a particular moment, sets up its own Quality Control system and has it certified. Only in this way, after all, can the safety and quality of the end product be assured.

The Quality Control system is based on HACCP analysis of the product and process. The requirements for this Quality Control system are included in the standard [GMP B2](#), the standard *Quality Control of Feed Materials for Animal Feed*.

GMP B2 contains HACCP requirements, specified for the production of feed materials for animal feed. But also companies with storage & transshipment activities could apply this standard.

By complying with this standard and when certified, one guarantees the quality and safety of feed materials that are used to produce animal feeds under GMP<sup>+</sup>-conditions. The minimum requirements for assuring the quality of the feed materials are met when a company is certified for this standard by an independent certification body that is accepted by the Product Board Animal Feed. See the PDV-website for more information about the [certification bodies](#).

**11. Is there any additional information or are there guidelines to better understand and apply the GMP B2-standard?**

On our website you will find a lot of background information about GMP<sup>+</sup>, including GMP B2, and so on.

We like to draw your special attention to the [HACCP-guideline](#), that can be used to set up a Quality Control system.

Further, the Product Board Animal Feed has made a large number of feed material risk assessments. These risk assessments are included in separate documents. In practice, these documents are especially informative for the foreign supplier and they clarify the approach for setting up the required Quality Control system. The risk assessments also serve as an inspection framework in order to carry out the certification audits.

The database Risk Assessments is moved to the Login-part of the website and is from now only accessible for GMP<sup>+</sup>-certified companies. But also see this [question](#).

## **12. What about the Database Risk Assessments Feed Materials (DRV), PDV introduced?**

The Dutch animal feed sector, in close cooperation with animal production chain, finally decided in April 2003 to require in future the use of approved animal feed. The word 'approved' means that the risks, that might possibly occur during the production, storage and transport of the feed material, are controllable.

The basic assumption is in fact that, under the GMP<sup>+</sup> Certification Scheme 2006, a product (of a particular production process) may only be used if a (generic) risk assessment has been recorded in the Database Risk Assessments Feed Materials (DRV) of the Product Board Animal Feed.

GMP<sup>+</sup>-certified companies may only use animal feeds for which a risk assessment has been published.

Products will only be published in the Database Risk Assessments Feed Materials (DRV) if they meet all the legal requirements and the risks are sufficiently controllable. This must be shown from a risk assessment that must meet certain criteria (See [Appendix 2](#) for this). See also the [FAQ-list](#).

### **13. Must a risk assessment for feed additives also be published in the Database Risk Assessments Feed Materials (DRV)**

It is not necessary that a generic risk assessment of feed additives is published in the DRV-Databank.

Purchased feed additives do however have to be permitted under EC/2003/1831 (see for this, for example [document](#)) and they must be purchased in accordance with the GMP<sup>+</sup> requirements (which means from a GMP<sup>+</sup> or equivalent supplier or via the Gatekeeper principle).

**14. How far back must I be able to trace when I buy feed materials, that become available as co-products in the process of a food supplier? Back to the moment the co-product becomes available, or even before that?**

As you may have learned from the previous question and answer, the GMP<sup>+</sup> Certification Scheme 2006 abroad begins (normally with a Quality Control system) at the moment the product, intended to be used as an animal feed (material), is coming into existence.

So for instance a food company must have at least a Quality Control system implemented and certified for his co-products. It is necessary for the food company to have insight into the way in which the co-products are produced in order to be able to assess potential risks for the co-product and to take proper control measures.

This may also mean that this food company has to set requirements for the quality and safety of the raw materials which he buys. The HACCP system used must guarantee the purchase of safe materials for both food and feed. Entry control is also part of the quality assurance

**15. How far back must I be able to trace a batch of feed materials which I am sure has been made by mixing batches from various origins (e.g. for tapioca, soybeanmeal, citrus pulp or corn gluten feed meal). Surely in that case I cannot trace the original grower?**

In many cases the original grower will not be traceable. In any case, trace back as far as possible and record as much data as possible on the batch. Consecutive links all have their own responsibility in this respect. It is in everyone's interest to do this as carefully as possible because

- in the event of calamities the problem can quickly be contained
- individual liability is at issue here.

Note: when a GMP B2-feed material is mixed with non-GMP B2-materials, the mix is also non-GMP B2

See [Appendix 8](#) for further requirements about tracking & tracing

**16. If suppliers only store and transfer feed materials. Do they also have to set up a Quality Control system?**

As pointed out before, GMP<sup>+</sup> requires quality assurance throughout the whole chain of production of feed materials. Every part in this chain must apply to at least the requirements of the GMP B2-standard, and be certified. Only in this way there can be confidence that at the end of the chain a safe feed is delivered to the farmer.

## 17. Who needs to be certified for road transport in the GMP<sup>+</sup> system, and what certificate is required ?

Road transport is a very important activity in the animal feed sector. Every part in the chain has to do with transport. In the GMP<sup>+</sup> Feed Assurance Scheme the following basic requirement is laid down:

	Transport with destination	GMP B4.1 Certification	Appendix 14
GMP B2 certified company with road transport of own feed materials	GMP B1 GMP B5	x	x
GMP B2 certified company with road transport of own feed materials	GMP B2 GMP B3 (2007)	- (transport requirements are included in B2)	x

See for more information about GMP<sup>+</sup>-certified transport the [FAQ-list GMP Road Transport Animal Feed Sector](#) in the PDV-website.

With regard to GMP B2-certification of the above mentioned requirements this means that:

1. When a GMP B2-certified company transports feed materials with his own truck to a GMP<sup>+</sup>-certified company (GMP B1, B3 or B5) he must be certified additionally for GMP<sup>+</sup>-Transport (GMP B4.1), and also be listed as such.

Note: Normally a GMP<sup>+</sup> Transportcertificate is granted based on GMP B4.1. In the case the transport is done by a GMP B2-certified company the GMP Transportcertificate can be granted based on the combination of GMP B2 and GMP B4.1. The GMP B4.1 is considered an additional standard. The company may exclude from GMP B4.1 all requirements which are marked with a (\*). Compliance with these requirements (more or less 'system requirements') is realized already by compliance with all GMP B2-requirements. Audit frequency is based on GMP B2. Be sure that your certification body is not only accepted to carry out GMP B2- audits but also GMP<sup>+</sup> Transport certification audits (GMP B4.1).

2. When a GMP B2-certified company uses external road carriers to transport feed materials to the above mentioned GMP<sup>+</sup>-certified companies, he must make sure that the external road carrier is GMP<sup>+</sup>-certified (GMP B4.1).
3. When a GMP B2-certified company transports feed materials to another GMP B2-certified company, he must make sure to meet the GMP B2-requirements concerning transport. This activity must be within the scope of the Quality Control system, and be certified as such.
4. When a GMP B2-certified company uses external road carriers to transport feed materials to another GMP B2-certified company, he must make sure that the external road carrier meets at least the GMP B2-requirements. The GMP B2-company is responsible ('gate-keeper').

Note: a GMP B3(2007)-certified company does not need an additional transportcertificate for road transport of own feed materials, because all the transportrequirements to fulfill are laid down in the GMP B3(2007)-standard

## 18. What are the requirements for transport from a GMP B2-company to another GMP B2-company?

The following requirements are applicable for **road transport** from a GMP B2-certified company to a GMP B2-certified company:

- The road transport is carried out by a GMP B4.1-certified company;
- If the road transport is not carried out by a GMP B4.1-certified company, the following applies:

The GMP B2-certified company and/or the external transport company it has hired provide the following during the transport of feed materials:

- a travel log for each load compartment containing records of the previous loads;
- records for each load compartment indicating the cleaning and disinfection procedures that have been carried out;
- a record of a cleanliness inspection for the load compartment prior to loading;
- a record of the inspections that have been carried out per load compartment.

For more information about load assessment and adequate cleaning see [GMP Appendix 14](#) or the [Database of Road Transport Loads](#).

If the result of the inspection is positive, the load compartment is approved for the transport of feed materials. A loading inspector carries out this inspection. "Loading inspector" is a function included in the quality system (see GMP B2, § 4.1.5) and is performed by an employee who, on the basis of training and experience, has the knowledge and skill to inspect a load compartment for suitability for loading with animal feeds.

The receiving GMP B2-certified company carries out a goods-inward inspection of the incoming transport of feed materials. The company checks if:

- the three previous loads were acceptable as previous loads for the transport of feed materials;
- an adequate cleaning has taken place;
- an inspection was carried out before loading.

Note: Also transport by **inland waterways, sea and rail** must meet the GMP B2-requirements. At this moment this type of transport needs not to be certified.

## **19. What should I do when I buy feed materials from a grower?**

The supplier purchases exclusively unprocessed agricultural products (like grain, beans, etc.) from growers that are

- GMP B6 certified, or
- certified according to another standard declared as equivalent.

If the grower is not certified as such, the supplier meets the following requirements:

- He carries out an intensive goods-inward control programme that is based on the risk assessment and quality assurance that the grower can give.
- He has an agreement with the grower.

The supplier acts as a kind of gatekeeper. Note that this is only allowed for buying unprocessed arable products from a grower, and that these requirements only apply if the unprocessed agricultural products are bought for supplying to the feed industry, and not in case they are bought for food production, for instance the crushing or milling industry.

## **20. How do I know which supplier is GMP B2-certified?**

The Product Board Animal Feed publishes the suppliers who are GMP B2-certified in a public [register](#) on the web site. These suppliers are entitled to sell feed products in the GMP<sup>+</sup>-chain.

Suppliers are registered if an accepted certification body has declared that the supplier in question complies with the requirements of the standard GMP B2. A GMP<sup>+</sup>-certified company may continue to buy products from these suppliers.

## **21. Does a broker/agent also have to be GMP B2-certified?**

If a broker/agent trades feed materials on its own account, it must first be GMP B2-certified itself. If the broker/agent only acts as an intermediary, it is not the juridical owner. In that case he doesn't need to be GMP B2-certified.

Note: The requirement to be certified does not depend on how a person calls himself (trader or broker), but depends on what a person is actually doing.

**22. I am a trader and I do not handle the products at all. Must I have a certified Quality Control system?**

With this GMP<sup>+</sup> Certification Scheme 2006 the Product Board Animal Feed intends to cover the whole feed chain. Every supplier in that chain must apply to at least the GMP B2-standard.

This also applies to traders.

Although they do not physically handle or process the product they must also comply with the relevant conditions of the GMP B2-standard, and be certified. See for this the GMP B2-standard, § 4.2.

Traders are, after all, at a particular moment the owners of the feed product and are as such responsible for its safety and quality.

For instance, when a trader calls in a third party for transporting or storing the products, this activity must be covered by a Quality Control system. See also [Question 20](#) for a more detailed explanation for transport.

**23. What should I do with respect to the requirement that I must take retention samples within the framework of tracking & tracing of my products?**

The new GMP<sup>+</sup> requirements will closely match the requirements set by the legislator and their interpretation in practice.

The legislator requires that *the manufacturer* takes samples (Reg. 183/2005, Annex II). It was not always entirely clear who should be seen as the manufacturer. The interpretation of this is that 'all companies which receive products and *further process them so that the products as such are not sent (= as they were received)*, should take samples taken in accordance with the Feed Hygiene Regulation.'

In the updated requirements each company will have to consider whether samples must be taken and how many within the framework of the above supra-legal requirement and its interpretation. For some companies (for example compound feed manufacturers or feed material manufacturers) there is no discussion. Other companies (for example traders) may possibly decide to take (almost) no samples. It is important that each company is aware of the consequences that sampling or not sampling may have for the company (within the framework of risk management).

Note: the above relates to sampling within the framework of tracking & tracing. It does not relate to sampling and analysis within the framework of the monitoring to be carried out or in checking if control measures have been effective. This must take place in accordance with GMP<sup>+</sup> requirements.

## 24. What are the requirements for laboratories, who carry out the necessary analysis

The Product Board Animal Feed has made a special standard for laboratories, the so-called *Laboratory testing-standard* ([GMP B10](#)). This standard holds all the necessary requirements for laboratories to set up a good quality assurance system. The GMP<sup>+</sup>-standard requires that all the analyses related to GMP<sup>+</sup> must be carried out under this Laboratory testing-standard.

Important elements of the standard are:

- a certified quality assurance system for the laboratory (GMP B10)
- analyses must be carried out with methods accepted by the Product Board Animal Feed. These [methods](#) (only in Dutch) are published on the website. If another method is used, the laboratory must demonstrate that at least the same characteristics for performance are achieved.
- the laboratory must participate in collaborative trials. In the Netherlands the KDLL organises special collaborative trials for animal feed.

Another option is that the analyses are done at a laboratory with a quality level equivalent to the GMP B10-standard. Therefore, the minimum requirements for foreign laboratories are:

- an accreditation according to ISO/IEC 17025 (was EN-45001) for the relevant analyses
- participating in relevant collaborative trials
- using accepted [methods](#) (only in Dutch). If another method is used, the laboratory must demonstrate that at least the same characteristics for performance are achieved.

**25. Do the requirements for the assurance of external transport only apply to transport *between* GMP B2 companies?**

When the requirements were drawn up the intention was primarily the transport *between* GMP<sup>+</sup> companies. A strict distinction was made between transport to GMP B1 companies and transport to other GMP companies such as GMP B2 companies.

The transport from a grower *to* a GMP B2 company can however be carried out under the requirements in section 4.4.

As these requirements are also included in the new GMP B3(2007) they are applicable in such cases for the transport to a GMP B3(2007) certified company.

This will be amended in subsequent versions of the above standards.

## Some questions and answers on the updated P10 protocol

The so-called P10 protocol was completely updated at the beginning of February 2008. As a result of this there were a number of questions with respect to the explanation and interpretation of certain parts of this protocol.

### 26. What does the protocol actually mean?

This protocol contains requirements for the purchase of grains, untreated oil seeds or legumes from a non-GMP<sup>+</sup>-certified<sup>1</sup> chain or origin. It is to be considered to be a sort of Gatekeeper variant on the GMP<sup>+</sup> prerequisite for purchasing. This prerequisite means that you may only sell feed (ingredients) from a fully-certified chain.

If a GMP<sup>+</sup> company purchases specified products under the conditions of this protocol then he may sell them on under his GMP<sup>+</sup> certificate. The products are 'GMP<sup>+</sup>-worthy'.

The protocol is not to be generally applied but only applies to the purchase of grains, (oil) seeds or legumes from certain countries.

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<sup>1</sup> The term 'GMP<sup>+</sup>-certified' also means in possession of or in the possession of another certificate accepted within the GMP<sup>+</sup> scheme.

## **27. What has been changed in the protocol?**

There has been a critical examination of the countries from which, under the requirements of this protocol, the specified feed materials may be purchased. This classification of the countries to which this protocol applies or does not apply has been changed.

This change was considered necessary due to current developments in the world grain market. There was also a critical examination of the developments in the field of (GMP<sup>+</sup>) certification which have taken place in certain countries in recent years.

The actual principle on which the requirements are formulated has not been touched. The basis is still the carrying out of a complete hazards analysis for the preliminary process combined with a batch control.

## 28. What are countries of origin?

This protocol distinguishes between countries or origins where this protocol may or may not be applied.

The *original* countries of origin have been known for years as an area or region where the feed materials (especially grains) in question are cultivated and from which they are purchased for processing in feed. Certification of the whole chain was already a prerequisite here and this remains the case. The protocol can not be applied for purchases from these countries.

Then there are the *new* countries of origin. In these countries – due to the efforts of many parties – there is now a large number of companies (collectors and traders) who have set up a GMP<sup>+</sup> quality assurance system and they can offer their feed materials under the GMP<sup>+</sup> certificate. Because of the increasing amount of certification among the companies these new countries of origin can within the foreseeable future be added to the list of original countries of origin. An end date has also been set for the application of this protocol.

The countries which do not belong to the original or the new countries of origin are designated as '*other countries of origin*'. A characteristic of this is that these are continuously changing countries. The companies in these countries do not yet have a GMP<sup>+</sup>-certified quality system. The basic principle continues to be that these other countries of origin produce the specified feed materials within a complete (GMP<sup>+</sup>-)certified chain. Until further notice, under the requirements of this protocol, grains, (oil) seeds and legumes can be purchased which originate from the countries in question.

## **29. Is purchase on the basis of this protocol a temporary option?**

In GMP<sup>+</sup> a decision has been made that in principle feed materials and feed additives may only be purchased from a complete certified chain. The requirements laid down in the protocol should be seen as a temporary, second opportunity to buy these products.

The intention is to consider the market situations for the feed materials in question with those directly involved each year (in August/September). An important point each time will be to establish which countries can be added to the list of 'Original countries of origin' and 'New countries of origin'.

### **30. How can I show that I do not have to comply with the protocol?**

The GMP<sup>+</sup>-requirements for the purchase of untreated grains, (oil) seeds and legumes from certain countries permit various options. A GMP<sup>+</sup> company does not have to apply this protocol if the product in question is from a fully assured, certified chain. In this case all the previous links will have had their responsibilities and implemented a proper GMP<sup>+</sup> control system which has been certified by an independent auditor.

It is the responsibility of the GMP<sup>+</sup>-certified supplier which delivers the products in question from these countries to show that there is a fully-certified chain and that the protocol does not have to be applied. This means that there is information about the complete prior chain from the 1<sup>st</sup> collector, any (intermediate) storage, transport to the GMP<sup>+</sup> supplier himself. This information must be available to the auditor and can also be used to provide the client with convincing information.

### **31. When should I sample a batch if I use the protocol?**

This should be done in the country of origin, at the latest during loading of, for example an inland waterway vessel or a train. See Article 4.1 of the protocol.

The protocol may not be applied to batches which have, for example, already been transported to the Netherlands. These batches remain by definition outside the GMP<sup>+</sup> circuit.

**32. Must I provide monitoring data with the batches which I inspect within the framework of this protocol**

The GMP<sup>+</sup> requirements do not require that analysis results must always be delivered with the batches. This is also not required in this protocol. The supplier and customer should make their own arrangements for this.

### **33. Which points are part of the hazards analysis?**

If a GMP<sup>+</sup> company applies this protocol then batch control is not sufficient. A hazard analysis should be carried out for the complete preliminary process. This starts with cultivation and runs up to and including delivery to customers. The generic hazard analyses which are published in the database can be an important aid in this. GMP Appendix 15 ("HACCP manual") can be useful for the system for implementing a HACCP hazard analysis. In any event, the final monitoring plan should include the specifically specified substances in section 4.2. During the GMP<sup>+</sup> audit the auditor checks the soundness and completeness of the hazard analysis and the HACCP plan.

## C) Relation to other standards and QA-schemes

### **34. There are also suppliers who have set up a quality system based on a different quality standard. Can these suppliers also deliver to GMP<sup>+</sup>-certified companies?**

There are several standards, set up for specific companies or sectors of the feed material industry, that may ensure the same level of quality assurance as a GMP<sup>+</sup>-certificate. Therefore, these standards can be accepted and those certified companies can deliver their products to GMP<sup>+</sup>-certified companies.

To accept such a standard PDV has developed a benchmark procedure. For more information, use the following [link](#)

**35. I am a trader, following the Coceral GTP-codex. Do I also need to have a certified Quality Control system?**

The General Board of the PDV concluded that the *GTP-standard* of Coceral –concerning the function of trade- could be more or less equivalent with the requirements for foreign suppliers as stipulated in the standard *GMP Animal Feed*. Still, the way the GTP-standard is audited by certification bodies is an issue for further discussion.

Meanwhile, GMP<sup>+</sup>-certified companies are allowed to buy feed materials from GTP-certified companies under the following conditions:

- Products are coming from suppliers/producers who are demonstrably operating in accordance with the standard the GMP B2-standard, and be certified as such, or that the products are produced by a company that is certified according to an equivalent standard.
- The conditions of transport and storage & transshipment comply with the GMP<sup>+</sup>-requirements for transport of feed materials. This means among others that the transporter needs a GMP<sup>+</sup>-certificate in case of road transport.
- Goods comply with the relevant GMP-requirements like GMP appendix 1

**36. I am certified according to the FEMAS standard of UKASTA. Do I also need to have a certified Quality Control system?**

The PDV and UKASTA have the intention to reach mutual acceptance between the UKASTA Feed Assurance Scheme (UFAS) and the GMP<sup>+</sup> Certification Scheme. One of the first steps will be a mutual acceptance of the FEMAS-standard and the GMP B2-standard. The board of PDV has decided, based on a thorough and structural comparison of both schemes, that there is no objection against a mutual agreement. The mutual acceptance means that FEMAS certified companies are allowed to participate as foreign suppliers in the GMP<sup>+</sup> Certification Scheme 2006, and otherwise that GMP B2-suppliers are allowed to participate in the UFAS-FEMAS scheme.

See also the [interim statement](#) about this subject. Following this statement, assuming that a mutual acceptance of both systems will be reached, British traders who are certified according to the TASCSC scheme, are temporarily allowed to deliver their products to GMP<sup>+</sup>-certified companies, until an official agreement with UKASTA is reached.

**37. I am certified according to the GMP-standard Belgium (Ovocom). Do I also need to have a certified Quality Control system?**

The PDV and Ovocom also reached mutual acceptance between the Ovocom GMP<sup>+</sup> system and the PDV GMP<sup>+</sup> Certification Scheme 2006. So companies certified to one of these schemes are accepted in the other.

**38. I was GMP B2-certified successfully, but I cannot find my company in your list?**

Registration must be done by the certification body. So if you are not listed on our website, please contact your certification body and make sure they register you. It is not necessary to send your certificate to PDV.

**39. I am registered as a GMP B2-certified supplier. I am moving to a new address. What should I do?**

Please inform your certification body about this change, and let him take care of the correct registration. This is the best way to make sure the right modifications are made.

#### **40. I cannot find an accepted certification body in my country/region?**

At this moment there is not an accepted certification body located in every country. However, there are about 35 accepted certification bodies, of which some are working worldwide with offices and auditors in almost every country. So we believe that no supplier can state that he cannot find a certification body to perform a certification audit for GMP B2 at his own location.

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Should you have any more questions, please report these by fax ( 0031 70 3708290) or by e-mail ([pdv@hpa.agro.nl](mailto:pdv@hpa.agro.nl)). You will receive a written response and this question will possibly be added to the list above.

## Annex 2: Gatekeeper and transport in GMP B2

The diagram shows the requirements in the GMP B2 standard with regard to:

- A GMP B2 participant may act as Gatekeeper for growers (A)
- A GMP B2 participant can assure the transport between himself and another GMP B2 company (B).

Some remarks:

1) This diagram is an example. Not all the possible options have been shown.

2) As gatekeeper for the growers, a collector is shown with a GMP B2 certificate.

Companies with other certificates can also act as gatekeeper for growers. See for instance GMP B1.

