

FEED ISSUES

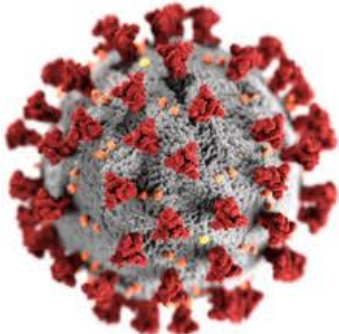
IGFA MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



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GENERAL NEWS

Covid 19



The last four weeks have seen unprecedented changes in all of our lives.

The health and safety of staff, customers and all of those in the feed chain has been Igfa's top priority during this crisis. We have shared with members the experiences of others within the feed sector across the EU and sought answers from various stakeholders on a range of questions and concerns.

We joined the **Covid-19 European feed industry task force** 4 weeks ago. This is a video link conference call and is attended weekly by up to 44 feed industry members from across Europe. The first telco enabled the most affected countries (Italy and Spain) to share with us their practical experiences and they emphasised the need to

- Ensure sanitizers for all common areas
- Implement effective zoning / area splitting at feed mill level to avoid contact between different worker groups and between shifts
- Follow WHO recommendations on rational use of PPE
- Prevent external visitors from direct site access
- Home office work where possible
- Staff & drivers temperature testing if considered necessary

It has been heartening to see how quickly the feed industry in Ireland adapted to this and other advice. New measures were put in place almost immediately to protect people and businesses.

Igfa has also been having regular meetings with the feed committee using technology to allow us all work within the social distance criteria. Keeping our members open for business and helping businesses to prepare and adapt to the new reality has also been a top Igfa priority. We were constantly in touch with DAFM and others to ensure that feed manufacturers were designated an essential service and to emphasise the importance of our sector in terms of ensuring animal health and welfare and a viable food supply chain.

We have set up a webpage <http://igfa.ie/Covid19.html> that we hope has been useful to members and will continue to update it will all relevant Covid 19 information for our sector over the coming weeks and months.

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WHATS ON

April	Teagasc events
On line	Feed Reg & HACCP
April 21 st	Fefac feed safety *
April 30 th	Fefac Sustainability*

*GoToMeetings' on line

USEFUL LINKS

Igfa Covid 19	Gov Covid 19
HSE Covid 19	CDC Covid19
Crop Forecast	Irish Fbo's
Protein Balance	Fbo Forms
Oeju	Dafm Brexit
Fsai Amr	Dafm Amr
Dafm Trader	Pig
Notices	Innovation

RASFF MARCH 2020

Total Food & Feed	284
Food	251
Food Contact Materials	12
Total Feed	21
Feed Materials	18
Feed Premixtures	0
Feed Additives	1
Compound Feed	1
Nuts, nut products and seeds	1

Covid 19 (cont)

Across the European feed industry there has also been many other initiatives to ensure our business, as an essential service, continues to function as efficiently and effectively as possible during this period.

✓ [Regulation \(EU\) 2020/466 of 30 March 2020](#) was published allowing Member States to perform **official controls** in a more flexible manner, in particular via the delegation of physical controls to a third party, checking of electronic copies of certificates or performance of analysis by specially designated labs. Those Member States willing to make use of this flexibility shall inform the Commission.

✓ The EU Commission issued new [guidelines](#) meant to facilitate cross-border working for those essential workers who need to move across borders to their place of work. This applies to seasonal workers and to machine operators, including in the food sector.

✓ The German Food Safety Agency, BfR, issued a [Q&A](#) addressing the case of feed as a vector of dissemination of SARS-Cov-2 on 30 March 2020 and concluded in particular that, **there was no evidence that animal feed was a vehicle for corona viruses.**

✓ The EU Commissioner for Agriculture, Janusz Wojciechowski has introduced a package of measures for farmers to help cope with COVID 19 consequences under the new Coronavirus Response Investment Initiative Plus (CRII+). Member states will be given new flexibility under the second CAP pillar (support for rural development) including allowing funds to be used for facilities to deal with the crisis in rural areas, the reallocation of unused funds towards measures to reduce the impact of Covid 19 and a relaxation of admin procedures associated with using EU money. Farmers will be allowed to claim higher advances for direct payments. In addition, the deadline for applications of direct payments was postponed to 15 June 2020 instead of 15 May 2020. The checks, ensuring that eligibility conditions are met at farm level, will be reduced in order to minimise physical contact between farmers and the inspectors. Under the announced package farmers will be also be allowed to ask for loans and guarantees of up to €200,000 with low interest rates.

✓ DG AGRI addressed COVID-19 impacts on agricultural markets at the DG AGRI videoconference on the CMO for crop markets on Friday, 3 April 2020. Pavel Musil, chair and Nicolas Coudry Mesny, member of FEFAC's Industrial Compound Feed Production Committee represented FEFAC. FEFAC highlighted to DG AGRI services the persisting cross-border feed transport problems at the Romanian - Bulgarian border, resulting from confusing application of driver quarantine rules in Romania and exclusion of feed transport from the Green Lane agreement in Bulgaria. A reduction of activity from the biodiesel and bioethanol industry resulted in a decrease on availabilities of EU produced oilseed meals and DDGS.

Sustainability – Nitrates Derogation 2020

Ireland's nitrates derogation provides farmers an opportunity to farm at higher stocking rates, above 170 kg livestock manure nitrogen/ ha, subject to additional conditions designed to protect the environment. Those who want to make use of the derogation are required to undertake certain additional requirements. In terms of feed, these requirements say that a reduction is required in the crude protein in concentrate feeds for grazing livestock. Further details can be found at this [link](#) but DAFM's frequently asked questions document clarifies the following.

Question: What will be the level of Crude Protein in concentrate feeds to compliment grazing livestock at grass?

Answer: Livestock with a 100% Grass forage diet during the main grazing (1st April to 15th September) season will be required to follow the following;

- A maximum of 16% CP between 1st April and 15th September in 2020
- A maximum of 15% CP between 1st April and 15th September in 2021

Note: If higher levels of crude protein are required, this needs to be certified by the appropriate advisor.

Question: What records will be required by DAFM?

Answer: Appropriate concentrate records will be required as part of the Nitrates records which must be submitted by the 31st March each year both in the case of farmers using concentrates and straights.

For more Q & A see [link](#)

On line training



We wish to thank all those that subscribed to the IGFA Feed Legislation & HACCP for Feed Manufacturing online training. We would like to encourage more members to take this course. It will provide you with a background on the development of feed legislation along with HACCP. One of the next courses we plan

to set up online will be more advanced in the area of feed legislation. Completing this one will therefore provide you with the foundation to build on your knowledge in this area.

The course is comprised of four modules. All 4 modules can be taken to achieve a certificate in "Feed Regulations & HACCP for Feed Manufacturing" or alternatively you can complete just module 1 and receive a certificate for the "Introduction to Feed Regulations". Module 1 is suitable for everybody working in the agri industry as it explains the background and development of feed legislation. Modules 2-4 are suitable for personnel in a quality/manufacturing role. Participants will be required to complete an assessment in order to receive their certification. To book the course visit <https://www.macra.ie/macra-skillnet>, scroll down and select buy ticket.



Once booked, you will receive an e ticket. Provide the e ticket number to cornelia.oconnell@eorna.ie and she will provide you with log on details. The cost of the course is €50 for all four modules. The modules can be completed

at the participant's convenience. If you encounter problems with the booking process please contact cornelia.oconnell@eorna.ie

Quality Certification Q&A



The following are some questions members have posed. These have been answered by AIC

Q) Are AIC looking at other ways of auditing the schemes?

AIC are currently working with the Certification Bodies on remote auditing. This will be based upon risk assessments, desktops audits and participants supplying information to the Certification Body

Q) To reduce the risk of transmission of the virus we have changed our intake/ collection/ delivery procedures which means that paperwork is not passed on, and/ or not signed by all parties – is this OK?

As long as the new procedure is documented, and you are able to demonstrate traceability this is acceptable. Maintenance of traceability is key for feed and food safety.

Q) My site is short staffed due to illness/self-isolation. Is it acceptable to stop intake sampling to free up resource for other activities?

The requirement for feed businesses to retain intake samples is contained within the EU Feed Hygiene Regulation (183/2005). Before making a change to your procedures, you need to contact your competent authority.

Q) Some of my equipment is due for an annual calibration, but the engineer can't visit/ I am not permitting visitors on site – what should I do?

As long as you can demonstrate on an ongoing basis that the equipment is working within acceptable tolerances by means of regular internal checks, external calibration can be delayed.

To view more of the FAQ see [link](#)

www.igfa.ie | <https://twitter.com/IGFAie> |

To the best of our knowledge, the information contained herein is accurate and reliable as of the date of publication

