



# Code of Good Practice for Poultry Litter Hauliers

## Legal Obligations and Good Practice Guidelines for Poultry Litter Hauliers in Relation to the Use and Disposal of Poultry Litter

**Poultry litter poses a risk of transmitting botulism to cattle. Poultry litter containing dead birds may not be land-spread and must be disposed of by rendering or incineration at Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) or Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved plants**

Persons transporting poultry litter ('poultry litter hauliers') are obliged to comply with the requirements of the European Animal By-Products Regulations (Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009 and Regulation (EU) 142/2011) and European Union (Animal By-Products) Regulations 2014 (S.I. 187 of 2014) when it comes to the collection, transport and traceability of poultry litter. If the poultry litter is transported to an EPA-approved waste facility then waste authorisation will also be required.

### *1. Registration with DAFM*

- i. Poultry litter hauliers may only collect poultry litter if their details are entered **in advance** on DAFM's Animal By-Products (ABP) Transport Register. Poultry litter hauliers can register with DAFM by contacting;

Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine  
Milk and Meat Hygiene/ABP/TSE Division  
(Animal By-Products Section)  
Grattan House  
Grattan Business Centre  
Dublin Road, Portlaoise, Co. Laois  
R32 RY6V

#### **Contact Details:**

Phone Number: 057 869 4399

Email Address: [AnimalByProducts@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:AnimalByProducts@agriculture.gov.ie)

Application Forms for Transporters of Animal By-Products Are Available at:  
<https://www.gov.ie/en/form/3c803-animal-by-product-processing-operations-transporters/>

### *2. Outlets for poultry litter*

- i. Poultry litter containing dead birds may only be taken to one of the following types of premises for disposal. The premises of destination must be recorded on the commercial document referred to at paragraph 3(i).

- DAFM/EPA-approved incineration plant.
  - DAFM-approved category 1 rendering plant.
- ii. Poultry litter that does not contain dead birds may be taken to one of the following types of premises for use or disposal. The destination must be recorded on the commercial document.
- Farm or other premises for land-spread.
  - DAFM-approved compost or biogas plants.
  - DAFM-approved organic fertilizer/soil improver manufacturing plant.
  - DAFM-approved category 1 rendering plant.
  - DAFM/EP-approved incineration plant.

Details of premises approved by DAFM can be found on the DAFM website using the following link and searching for the above listed plants:

<http://www.agriculture.gov.ie/agri-foodindustry/animalbyproducts/euapprovedabpplants/>

### ***3. Collection and transport of poultry litter***

- i. **In the case of commercial broiler flocks, the poultry litter must be accompanied during transport by a commercial document completed by the poultry farmer. It is the responsibility of the poultry farmer to complete this document and provide it to the person transporting the poultry litter and the responsibility of the person transporting the poultry litter (be that the poultry farmer or a DAFM-registered haulier) to ensure that this document accompanies the load at all times and that the document is delivered to the end-user". Commercial document books are available to order from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Milk and Meat Hygiene/ABP/TSE Division, (Animal By-Products Section), Grattan House, Grattan Business Centre, Dublin Road, Portlaoise, Co. Laois, R32 RY6V.**
- ii. Poultry litter hauliers should check consignments of poultry litter for dead birds **before** the consignment is loaded. In the event that dead birds are visible in the poultry litter, the haulier may not deliver the poultry litter to a premises for land-spread. If the haulier decides to take poultry containing dead birds he/she may only deliver it to a DAFM-approved incineration or category 1 rendering plant. The premises of destination must be recorded on the commercial document.
- iii. Similarly, if the poultry litter haulier sees dead birds in the poultry litter while it is being loaded, the haulier may not deliver the poultry litter to a premises for land-spread. In the event that the haulier decides to take the poultry litter it may only be delivered to a DAFM-approved incineration or category 1 rendering plant.
- iv. Poultry litter may only be transported in covered, leak-proof containers or vehicles, which are maintained in a clean condition.
- v. Containers or vehicles used to transport poultry litter must be dedicated to that purpose only, or must be cleaned, washed and disinfected after each use. It is strongly advised that even if they are cleaned and disinfected, containers or vehicles used to transport poultry litter would **never** be used to transport animal feed or bedding.
- vi. During transport a label containing the following wording must be attached to the container or vehicle;

*Category 2 Material – Manure*

- vii. The commercial document must be assigned a unique identifiable number and must be produced in quadruplicate. The original and a copy must be given to the person receiving the poultry litter; a copy must be retained by the poultry litter haulier and a copy must be left with the poultry farmer.
- viii. The person receiving the poultry litter should sign and stamp the copy of the commercial document and return it to the poultry farmer to confirm arrival of the poultry litter in compliance with the European Animal By-Products Regulations. Return of commercial documents may be done via the poultry litter haulier.

#### ***4. Delivery of poultry litter***

- i. It is strongly advised that poultry litter hauliers give persons to whom poultry litter is being delivered for use as an organic fertilizer a copy of DAFM's information note entitled: "Code of Good Practice for End Users of Poultry Litter". A copy of this document may be found on the DAFM website using the following link:

[gov.ie - Animal By Products \(www.gov.ie\)](http://www.gov.ie)

- ii. End-users have been advised to check consignments of poultry litter being delivered to their premises for dead birds **before** the consignments are unloaded. In the event that dead birds are observed in the poultry before or during unloading, end-users are advised to refuse to take the consignment.
- iii. Similarly, end-users have been advised that if they see dead birds in the poultry litter while it is being unloaded, or following unloading, they should ask the person who delivered the poultry litter to reload it and remove it without delay and notify DAFM.
- iv. Poultry litter found to be contaminated with dead birds must either be taken back to the poultry farm from which it originated, or must be delivered to an approved incineration or category 1 rendering plant for disposal.
- v. The rules in relation to commercial documents also apply to consignments of poultry litter that are being removed from the premises of the end-user because they have been found to contain dead birds.

#### ***5. Records to be maintained***

- i. Poultry litter hauliers must keep copies of commercial documents for all consignments of poultry litter transported by them. These commercial documents must be filed in date order and must be retained for inspection by DAFM officers for at least 3 years.
- ii. In addition to keeping the commercial documents on file, the poultry litter haulier should record the following in book form:
  - name and address of the premises from where the poultry litter was collected.
  - date on which the poultry litter was removed from the poultry plant.
  - name and address of the destination premises.
  - date on which the poultry litter was delivered to the destination premises.
  - commercial document number.

## **6. Review**

- i. This document shall have effect as and from 1 August 2022 and shall be the subject of a review procedure 12-18 months following the date of issue.

**Issued 1 August 2022**

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### ***CONTACT DETAILS***

For further information contact:

**Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine,  
Milk and Meat Hygiene/ABP/TSE Division,  
(Animal By-Product Section),  
Grattan House,  
Grattan Business Centre,  
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