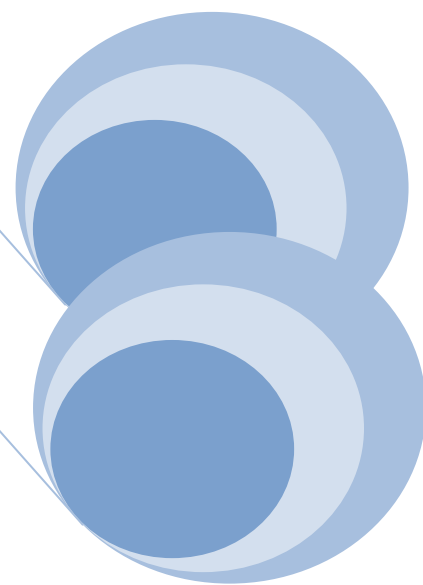


CONDITIONS FOR REGISTERED ORGANIC FERTILISER/SOIL IMPROVER (OF/SI) PLANTS (HANDLING, MIXING, BLENDING, PACKAGING, RETAILING)



GOVERNING EU AND NATIONAL LEGISLATION:

The European Union (Animal By-Products) Regulation 2014 (S.I. No. 187 of 2014) and in accordance with Regulation (EC) No. 1069 of 2009 and Regulation (EU) No. 142 of 2011.



Issued 14th February 2014
Milk & Meat Hygiene/ABP/TSE Division

**CONDITIONS FOR REGISTERED ORGANIC FERTILISER/SOIL
IMPROVER (OF/SI) PLANTS (HANDLING, MIXING, BLENDING,
PACKAGING, RETAILING)**

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
Glossary of terms	i – iii
Section 1: General Information and Requirements	1
1.1 General Information and Requirements	1
Section 2: Biosecurity, Plant Hygiene and Transport	2 - 3
2.1 Perimeter	2
2.2 Buildings/Structures	2
2.3 Plant Hygiene	2
2.4 Pests and Birds	3
2.5 ABP Transport and Signage	3
2.6 Plant Waste Disposal	3
Section 3: Intake	4
3.1 Raw Material Intake Procedures	4
3.2 Documentation	4
Section 4: Processing/Handling	5 - 6
4.1 Processing/Handling Requirements	5
4.2 Cross-Contamination/By-Pass	6
Section 5: Storage, Dispatch and Traceability/Recall	7 - 9
5.1 Dispatch Procedures	7&8
5.2 Documentation	8&9
Contact Details	9
Appendix 1: Procedure for the decommissioning of registered OF/SI plants (handling, mixing, blending, packaging, retailing) OF/SI	10

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

A

‘**Animal By-Products**’ (ABP) means entire bodies or parts of animals, products of animal origin or other products obtained from animals, which are not intended for human consumption, including oocytes, embryos and semen.

B

‘**Biogas plant**’ means a plant in which animal by-products or derived products are at least part of the material, which is submitted to biological degradation under anaerobic conditions. It shall include the site on which the Plant is located, all services and facilities used in any way thereon, for, or in connection with the Plant and any buildings erected, located, or to be erected and located on the site, all of which are confined within a defined perimeter boundary, hereinafter referred to as a ‘Plant’;

C

‘**Compost**’ means;

- In the case of plants required to pasteurize feedstock, material resulting from the pasteurization of feedstock
- In the case of plants not required to pasteurize feedstock, material resulting from the transformation of feedstock

‘**Composting plant**’ means a plant in which animal by-products or derived products are at least part of the material, which is submitted to biological degradation under aerobic conditions. It shall include the site on which the Plant is located, all services and facilities used in any way thereon, for, or in connection with the Plant and any buildings erected, located, or to be erected and located on the site, all of which are confined within a defined perimeter boundary, hereinafter referred to as a ‘Plant’.

D

‘**DAFM**’ means the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine;

‘**Derived products**’ means products obtained from one or more treatments, transformations or steps of processing of animal by-products;

‘**Digestate**’(**digestion residues**) means all material resulting from the transformation of feedstock

‘**Digestive tract content**’ means the contents of the digestive tract of mammals and ratites, separated from the digestive tract

E

‘**End user**’ means a person who uses, will use or intends to use, compost on land

‘**EU**’ means the European Union.

‘**EU transformation parameters**’ means **all** the material within the composting reactor must be simultaneously held at 70 °C or above for 60 **continuous** minutes. The particle size of the ABP material must be reduced to 12 mm or less before entering the composting reactor.

M

‘**Manure**’ means any excrement and/or urine of farmed animals other than farmed fish, with or without litter

“**MDM**” means

- Category 2 manure;
- Category 2 digestive tract content;
- Category 2 milk, colostrum and milk based products;
- Category 3 milk, and milk-based products and colostrum and colostrum-based products.

N

‘**National transformation parameters**’ means all the material within the composting reactor must be simultaneously held at 60 °C or above for each of two **continuous** 48-hour periods. The particle size of the ABP material must be reduced to 400 mm or less before entering the composting reactor and the material must be thoroughly mixed between the two 48 hour periods.

O

‘**Operator**’ means the natural or legal persons having an animal by-product or derived product under their actual control, including carriers, traders and users.

‘**Organic fertilisers**’ and ‘**soil improvers (OF/SI)**’ means materials of animal origin used to maintain or improve plant nutrition and the physical and chemical properties and biological activity of soils, either separately or together; they may include manure, non-mineralised guano, digestive tract content, compost and digestion residues.

P

‘Processed animal protein’ (PAP) means animal protein derived entirely from Category 3 material, which have been treated in accordance with Section 1 of Chapter II of Annex X of Regulation (EU) No. 142 of 2011 (including blood meal and fishmeal) so as to render them suitable for direct use as feed material or for any other use in feedingstuffs, including petfood, or for use in organic fertilisers or soil improvers; however, it does not include blood products, milk, milk-based products, milk-derived products, colostrum, colostrums products, centrifuge or separator sludge, gelatine, hydrolysed proteins and dicalcium phosphate, eggs and egg- products, including eggshells, tricalcium phosphate and collagen.

‘Processed Category 3 material’ means processed Category 3 material other than PAP that has been produced using Methods 1-5 and Method 7 in the case of ABPs derived from animals other than aquatic animals and Methods 1-7 in the case of ABPs derived from aquatic animals. Regulation (EU) No. 142 of 2011, Annex IV, Chapter II.

T

Transform/Transformation: in a biogas plant means biological degradation under anaerobic conditions and includes all steps in a biogas plant up to and including the final storage of the digestate.

SECTION 1

GENERAL INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS

1.1 GENERAL INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS

- A plant involved in Organic Fertiliser and Soil Improver (OF/SI) handling (which includes blending and packaging), mixing, or retailing of OF/SI in >50kg bags or in bulk, must be registered by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) and hold a valid certificate of registration in accordance with (Article 23 of Regulation (EC) No. 1069/2009).
- The operator must comply with all relevant requirements listed in National legislation and EU legislation (EC) No. 1069/2009 and Regulation (EU) No. 142/2011)
- OF/SI is defined as materials of animal origin used to maintain or improve plant nutrition and the physical and chemical properties and biological activities of soils, either separately or together; they may include manure, non-mineralised guano, digestive tract content, compost and digestion residues.
- The operator must notify DAFM immediately if significant changes are proposed to plant activities, plant personnel or if the plant ceases to handle Animal by-Products (ABP).
- Where the plant is no longer to be used for handling ABP, the plant must be decommissioned at this time and prior to use for any other activity. (Appendix 1)
- The operator must put in place, implement and maintain a system of checks to monitor compliance with the legislation.

SECTION 2

BIOSECURITY, PLANT HYGIENE AND TRANSPORT

2.1 PERIMETER

- Adequate measures must be taken to ensure satisfactory plant biosecurity, e.g. where a plant is located on, or adjacent to premises or land where farmed animals are kept or have access, there must be a secure animal-proof fence and gate surrounding the Plant. Animals must not be allowed access to the Plant.
- A plant taking in Processed Animal Protein (PAP), processed Category 3 material other than PAP, Category 2 meat and bone meal (MBM) or OF/SI containing any of these products, must be dedicated to OF/SI activities only and must be surrounded by a secure animal-proof fence and gate.
- A plant taking in (PAP), processed Category 3 material other than PAP, Category 2 MBM, or OF/SI containing any of these products, must not be located on a premises where animals are kept for farming purposes.

2.2 BUILDINGS/STRUCTURES

- A plant taking in (PAP), processed Category 3 material other than PAP, Category 2 MBM or OF/SI containing any of these products, must have an enclosed building or container, for the intake, handling and dispatch of the OF/SI.
- Adequate measures must be taken so as to prevent cross-contamination of food and feed for humans and animals respectively. OF/SI must be received, handled and stored completely separately from foodstuffs, animal feedingstuffs, animal bedding and machinery used to handle any of these. This separation must be a physical separation.
- The premises must be constructed in a way permitting their effective cleaning and disinfection, where appropriate.

2.3 PLANT HYGIENE

- Where installations and equipment are necessary, they must be kept in a hygienic condition.
- The plant should be equipped with a power washer and approved disinfectant for cleaning buildings, equipment and containers/receptacle. Equipment, vehicles and containers used on the premises must not be used for the handling of food, feed or animal bedding unless thoroughly cleaned and disinfected.

2.4 PESTS AND BIRDS

- The operator must have a documented pest control program (insects, rodents and birds) in place which includes the following:
 - a bait map;
 - a service schedule for bait points;
 - service records for bait points.

2.5 ABP TRANSPORT AND SIGNAGE

- Operators transporting organic fertilisers other than between premises of the same operator shall:
 - a) have information at their disposal with regard to the identification of their vehicles, which allows verification of the use of the vehicles for the transport of OF/SI (vehicle haulier codes assigned by DAFM);
 - b) clean and disinfect their vehicles as appropriate;
 - c) take all other necessary measures to prevent contamination and the spreading of diseases communicable to humans or animals.
- Operators transporting ABP must be registered as an ABP haulier on DAFM's Animal By-Products transport register.
- Plant vehicles used to transport bulk OF/SI must be labelled on both sides with the haulier registration code, receptacle number and labelled in accordance with Regulation (EU) No. 142/2011, Annex VIII, Chapter II, point 2 requirements.

2.6 PLANT WASTE DISPOSAL

- The operator has a responsibility to ensure that waste water is treated in accordance with relevant Community environmental legislation. See Trader Notice 02/2011 which can be found on the DAFM website by using the following link:

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

- The operator has a responsibility to dispose of packaging material in accordance with environmental legislation.

SECTION 3

INTAKE

3.1 RAW MATERIAL INTAKE PROCEDURES

- The plant may only accept OF/SI made from ABP as specified in the plant certificate of registration. The following is a list of possible OF/SIs which may be permitted;
 - Compost from an ABP approved composting plant*;
 - Digestate from an ABP approved biogas plant*;
 - Processed manure or processed manure products from an ABP approved OF/SI manufacturing plant;
 - Category 2 meat and bone meal from an ABP approved Category 2 processing plant;
 - PAP from an ABP approved rendering plant or an approved Category 3 PAP store;
 - Processed Category 3 material from an ABP approved Category 3 processing plant;
 - OF/SI from another ABP approved or registered OF/SI plant;
 - A mixture of any of the above.

*Compost and digestate must have been transformed to a transformation parameter. Where transformed to the EU transformation parameter, the OF/SI may be traded to other EU Member States as well as placed on the national market. Where the compost or digestate is transformed to a National transformation parameter, the OF/SI may only be placed on the national market in the country in which it is produced.

Details of premises approved by DAFM can be found on the DAFM website using the following link:

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

3.2 DOCUMENTATION

- OF/SI may only be accepted into the plant provided each consignment is accompanied by a fully completed ABP commercial document. Operators must keep all commercial documents filed and in date order. A copy of the commercial document must be signed and dated and returned by the plant operator to the place of origin.
- Operators should keep a separate intake log (separate from the commercial documents) for each consignment of ABP entering the plant, including those collected by the operator themselves, of
 - a) the name, address and approval/registration number of the plant of origin;
 - b) the date of receipt of the ABP;
 - c) the quantity of OF/SI;
 - d) the ABP commercial document number.
- All records must be accessible to DAFM and must be kept for a minimum of 3 years.

SECTION 4

PROCESSING/HANDLING

4.1 PROCESSING/HANDLING REQUIREMENTS

- The operator must not engage in activities other than those specified in the certificate of registration.
- OF/SIs which are derived from
 - Category 2 meat and bone meal,
 - Category 3 (PAP) or
 - products other than (PAP) which are produced from the processing of Category 3 material,
 must be mixed and adulterated with an authorised component to exclude the subsequent use of the mixture for feeding purposes before being placed on the market. The country in which the OF/SI will be placed on the market determines the authorised component which must be used.

The following exception applies: OF/SI derived from such products and which are packaged in ready-to-sell packages of 50kg or less in weight for use by final customers are excluded from this mixing requirement.

The mixing agent and inclusion rate will be specified in the plant certificate of registration.

The following mixing agents and inclusion rates are authorised in Ireland:

- Wood shavings (not bark chippings), subject to the following conditions:
 - the source wood must be from clean wood and not be pre-treated with paint or preservatives etc;
 - end-users should consider the impact on soil nitrogen levels of the product versus the nitrogen used up by decomposing wood shavings;
 - minimum inclusion level >2% in the final product.
- Limestone chips/grit/prills, subject to the following conditions:
 - must be <5mm in diameter;
 - minimum inclusion level >2% in final product.
- Inorganic fertiliser prills, subject to the following conditions:
 - must be <5mm in diameter;
 - minimum inclusion level >2% in final product.
- Compost or digestate subject to the following conditions:
 - must not already contain Category 2 meat and bone meal and/or Category 3 (PAP) and/or products other than PAP which are manufactured from processed Category 3 material of mammalian origin;
 - minimum inclusion level >50% by weight in final product.

The operator must be able to demonstrate by means of a clear documented procedure how this mixing requirement is met, and records must be maintained to verify compliance with this requirement.

4.2 CROSS-CONTAMINATION/BY-PASS

- Measures must be taken so as to ensure that vehicles, machinery and or equipment used in a plant do not present a risk with regard to disease transmission to animals or humans; e.g. plant machinery must not be used for handling animal feedingstuffs or bedding material and must not enter any place where animals are kept unless thoroughly cleaned and disinfected
- Organic fertiliser must be stored under conditions preventing contamination and the spreading of diseases communicable to humans or animals.

SECTION 5

STORAGE, DISPATCH AND TRACEABILITY/RECALL

5.1 DISPATCH PROCEDURES

- Prior to dispatch, OF/SI must be stored either (a) in bulk or (b) packaged or in big bags.
- In general, OF/SI's should be supplied to ABP approved or registered premises only. The following premises do not need to be registered or approved:
 - a retail premises which retails OF/SI in ready-to-sell packs of <50 kg directly to final consumers;
 - business operator end-users, other than farmers*, e.g. landscapers using it for their own landscaping work, and;
 - non-business operator end-users, e.g. people using it on their own domestic garden.

*Farmers who intend to use it on land which will be used for grazing animals or for the production of feedingstuff must be registered as OF/SI end-users.

- **Labelling:**
 - a) Where OF/SI is supplied in ready-to-sell packs <50kg, for use by the final consumer/final users for horticultural and gardening purposes, no labels are required;
 - b) Where OF/SI is supplied in bags >50kg with the exception of OF/SI derived only from processed manure, or processed manure products or from compost derived from milk, digestive tract content and manure (MDM) only, the following label must be applied to the bag:
 - In the case of OF/SI derived from Category 2 material or mixtures of Category 2 and 3 material; **‘Category 2 organic fertilisers and soil improvers - no grazing of farmed animals or use of crops as feedingstuffs for at least 21 days post application’**;
 - In the case of OF/SI derived from Category 3 material; **‘Category 3 organic fertilisers and soil improvers - no grazing of farmed animals or use of crops as feedingstuffs for at least 21 days post application.’**
 - c) Packages of OF/SI >50 kg made from any or all of the following-
 - processed manure or;
 - processed manure products;
 - from MDM derived compost.

must be labelled with the **Category of ABP** from which the OF/SI is derived in addition to the wording **‘organic fertilisers and soil improvers’**.

Where the OF/SI is traded to other Member States, the labelling on the vehicle, container or packaging must be indelibly colour-coded for the period of transport at least.

- In the case of OF/SI derived from Category 2 material or mixtures of Category 2 and 3 material, the label must be yellow;
- In the case of OF/SI derived from Category 3 material, the label must be green with high content of blue.
- The operator must ensure that any ABP or derived products suspected or discovered not to comply with the legislation or the specific plant registration conditions do not leave the plant unless destined for disposal.

5.2 DOCUMENTATION

- Farmers who intend to use OF/SI on land which will be used for grazing animals or for the production of feedingstuff must be registered as OF/SI end-users with DAFM. The operator must carry out checks, which must be documented, to ensure that farmer customers are registered prior to supplying OF/SI.

If a farmer is not registered, the plant must ask the farmer to complete an OF/SI end-user registration form prior to supplying the OF/SI, the plant must then send the fully completed registration form within 5 working days to DAFM

Books of registration forms can be obtained from DAFM or alternatively, the farmer can contact Milk and Meat Hygiene/ABP/TSE Division directly for a registration form, complete it, and return it to DAFM Please refer to Page ? where you can access full contact details for Milk and Meat Hygiene/ABP/TSE Division.

- Operators should keep a dispatch log of:
 - a) the name and address of the person or premises to which the OF/SI is consigned and their approval or registration number where relevant;
 - b) the date of dispatch;
 - c) the quantity of OF/SI;
 - d) the ABP commercial document number.
- A fully completed ABP commercial document must accompany each load of OF/SI leaving the plant other than OF/SI consignments going to final consumers/end-users which are not business operators within the Republic of Ireland.

Where the commercial document is supplied, it must also contain the following wording:

- **“Organic fertilisers and soil improvers – no grazing of farmed animals or use of crops as feedingstuffs for at least 21 days post application”.**
- The following exception applies; in the case of OF/SI made from MDM derived compost or processed manure or manure products only, the additional wording as detailed in the previous 2 bullet points is not required on the commercial document.

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 OF/SI, a copy must be retained by the haulier and the final copy must be

retained by the plant of origin. The person receiving the OF/SI must sign and date one copy and return it to the plant of origin to verify arrival.

In the case of OF/SI being dispatched outside of the Republic of Ireland, the EU commercial document must be used. These commercial documents are available from the address overleaf.

Operators must keep the copies of commercial documents for all outgoing loads filed and in date order.

- e) A reconciliation of the quantities of OF/SI traded must take place at least every 6 months and satisfactory records of same maintained.
- f) All records must be accessible to DAFM and must be kept for a minimum of 3 years.

CONTACT DETAILS

For Further Information contact:

**Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine,
Milk and Meat Hygiene/ABP/TSE Division,
Grattan House,
Grattan Business Centre,
Dublin Road, Portlaoise, Co. Laois**

Phone Number: 0761 064440

Fax Number: 057-8694386

Email Address: AnimalByProducts@agriculture.gov.ie

Appendix 1

Procedure for the decommissioning of registered OF/SI plants (handling, mixing, blending, packaging, retailing) OF/SI

Where a plant is no longer to be used for handling ABP, the plant must be decommissioned at this time and prior to use for any other activity.

Specific Procedure:

1. All visible OF/SI must be swept up and collected from all surfaces including floors, walls and roof. All OF/SI collected must be placed in a designated container on site pending dispatch off site in accordance with Regulation (EC) No. 1069 of 2009 and Regulation (EU) No. 142 of 2011.
2. All surfaces including the roof, floor and walls must be washed. This can be achieved for floors and walls using a power washer.
3. All walls and floor surfaces must be sprayed using a DAFM approved disinfectant at the appropriate concentration. Surfaces may subsequently be rinsed down after the appropriate contact time for the disinfectant has elapsed, and then allowed to dry fully.
4. All waste water generated by the cleaning and disinfection procedure must be disposed off in accordance with environmental legislation.
5. A record must be maintained detailing the date of cleaning and decommissioning of the plant and the person who carried out the procedure. This record must be signed off by both the person who carried out the cleaning procedure and the plant owner as having been completed in accordance with this procedure. The plant owner or person in charge may carry out this procedure.