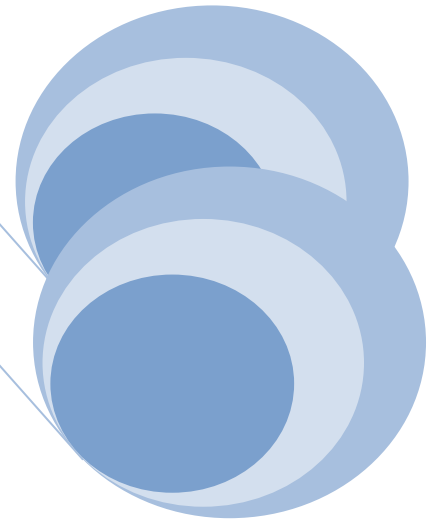


CONDITIONS FOR APPROVAL AND OPERATION OF ON-FARM BIOGAS PLANTS TRANSFORMING OWN ANIMAL BY-PRODUCTS - TYPE 9 BIOGAS PLANTS



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 17th April 2014
Milk & Meat Hygiene/ABP/TSE Division

CONDITIONS FOR APPROVAL AND OPERATION OF ON-FARM
BIOGAS PLANTS TRANSFORMING OWN ANIMAL BY-PRODUCTS -
TYPE 9 BIOGAS PLANTS

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
Glossary of terms	i & ii
<u>Section 1: General Information and Requirements</u>	1
1.1 General Information and requirements	1
<u>Section 2: Biosecurity, Plant Structure, Hygiene and Transport</u>	2
2.1 Buildings/Structural	2
2.2 Plant Hygiene	2
2.3 ABP Transport and Signage	2
2.4 Plant Waste Disposal	2
<u>Section 3: Intake</u>	3-4
3.1 Raw Material Intake Procedures	3
3.2 Documentation	3&4
<u>Section 4: Processing/Handling</u>	5
4.1 Processing/Handling Requirements	5
<u>Section 5: Storage, Dispatch and Traceability/Recall</u>	6
5.1 Dispatch Procedures	6
5.2 Documentation	6
Contact Details	6
Appendix 1: Type 9 Plants	7
Appendix 2: Sample Feedstock Acceptance Agreement	8

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.

C

‘**Category 3 milk**’ means raw milk originating from live animals that did not show any signs of disease communicable through that product to humans or animals;

‘**Category 2 milk**’ means milk containing residues of authorised substances or contaminants exceeding the permitted levels as referred to in Article 15 (3) of Directive 96/23/EC or milk which is declared unfit for human consumption due to the presence of foreign bodies in those products.

D

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

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

F

‘**Feedstock**’ means any material including ABP material and non-ABP material, which is transformed in a biogas Plant;

M

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

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.

Own ABP' means manure (including poultry litter), colostrum and/or milk derived from a single epidemiological unit (same herd or flock number) and which is derived from animals on the same holding as the biogas plant.

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 the anaerobic digestion of animal by-products (ABP) or derived products must be approved by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) and the approval must be in date in accordance with Article 24 (h) of (EC) Regulation No. 1069/2009.
- The operator must ensure to abide by all relevant requirements listed in National Legislation S.I. 187/2014, EU Legislation (Regulation (EC) No.1069/2009 and Regulation (EU) No. 142/2011).
- The operator must notify DAFM immediately if significant changes are proposed to plant activities, plant personnel or if the plant ceases to handle or store ABP).
- Where the operator ceases to handle or store ABP, the plant must be decommissioned at this time and prior to use for any other activity. Please notify DAFM in advance.
- In certain situations, e.g. in the event of a Class A Disease outbreak, DAFM may restrict the movement of ABP to and/or from the plant under relevant national legislation and/or may require additional controls and measures to be implemented in the plant.
- All records required in the context of the ABP Regulations must be retained for a period of 3 years. Records must be made available for inspection by DAFM staff at the plant.

SECTION 2

BIOSECURITY, PLANT STRUCTURE, HYGIENE AND TRANSPORT

2.1 BUILDINGS/STRUCTURAL

- An enclosed building for the storage of colostrum, milk and manure (including litter), over and above routine environmental requirements, is not required. Poultry manure must however, pending incorporation into the digester, be stacked on a concrete base, away from rivers, streams and other water courses, and any runoff should be collected. It must be kept covered if stored outside and away from animals and animal feed and bedding, as the storage of poultry manure/litter presents a risk with regard to botulism outbreaks up to 500m away from where the poultry manure/litter is stored.

2.2 PLANT HYGIENE

- Where off-farm non-ABP feedstocks are accepted into the plant, there must be wheel cleaning and disinfection facilities in place for delivery vehicles.

2.3 ABP TRANSPORT AND SIGNAGE

Transport of digestate from the biogas plant

- Plant vehicles used to transport digestate must be maintained in clean condition.

2.4 PLANT WASTE DISPOSAL

- The operator has a responsibility to ensure that leachate and 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/>

SECTION 3

INTAKE

3.1 RAW MATERIAL INTAKE PROCEDURES

- It is the responsibility of the operator to ensure that feedstock received at the plant is in compliance with the conditions attached to the plant's approval.

A plant may only accept those ABP or derived products detailed in the conditions attached to the plant's certificate of approval.

- Only colostrums, milk and manure (including litter) from a single epidemiological unit (same herd or flock number) and which is derived from animals on the same holding as the biogas plant, i.e. 'own ABP', may be used in the biogas plant.
- Non-ABP originating from the same holding as the biogas plant is located, as well as off-farm non-ABP may also be used in the plant, e.g. grass, silage. (Such plants are classified as a Type 9 Plants - see **Appendix 1** on page 7).
- Where off-farm non-ABP feedstocks are accepted into the plant, the operator must carry out visual checks of incoming material to ensure compliance with the conditions attached to his/her approval and maintain a record of such checks.

3.2 DOCUMENTATION

Intake procedure

- Where off-farm non-ABP feedstocks are accepted into the plant, the plant must have a documented procedure which includes the following:
 - a) list of acceptable feedstocks;
 - b) completion of feedstock acceptance forms;
 - c) documentary check of intake dockets;
 - d) physical checks of incoming material;
 - e) maintenance of intake log;
 - f) procedures for dealing with non-compliant feedstock received;
 - g) record keeping procedures.

Feedstock acceptance agreement

- Where applicable, a feedstock acceptance agreement must be completed for each external/off-farm supplier of non-ABP feedstock to the plant. It must be completed by both the plant operator and the feedstock supplier.
- Feedstock acceptance agreements must be completed in advance of the supply of feedstock to the plant. A sample feedstock acceptance agreement can be found in **Appendix 2** on page 8.

- In the event that a supplier changes the feedstock being supplied to the plant or there are any other changes in terms of the supplier e.g. personnel change, then the feedstock acceptance agreement must be updated.

Commercial documents

- Commercial documents are not required for non-ABPs feedstocks taken into the plant. An intake docket must however be completed for each consignment and must be retained on file in the plant.

Intake log

- An intake log must be maintained in date order for all consignments of feedstock (non-ABP) delivered to the plant. These records must contain the following information:
 - a) date of receipt;
 - b) quantity;
 - c) description;
 - d) place of origin of the material;
 - e) intake docket number.

SECTION 4

PROCESSING/HANDLING

4.1 PROCESSING/HANDLING REQUIREMENTS

- A record must be maintained of:
 - a) the date any feedstock is introduced into the digester;
 - b) the type of feedstock;
 - c) the quantities introduced.

SECTION 5

STORAGE, DISPATCH AND TRACEABILITY/RECALL

5.1 DISPATCH PROCEDURES

- Digestate may only be used for direct landsread within the Republic of Ireland.

5.2 DOCUMENTATION

Dispatch log

- A dispatch log must be maintained for each consignment of digestate that leaves the plant. This log must contain the following information:
 - a) date of dispatch;
 - b) quantity;
 - c) name and address of the recipient.

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

TYPE 9 PLANTS

Transformation parameter	Plant Type	Time/ Temp/ Particle size	List of potential feedstocks	End-use
No specific transformation parameters	9	None required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Own ABP as defined in the glossary • Non-ABP feedstocks from the same farm holding as the biogas plant is located. • Non-ABP feedstocks from premises other than the farm holding as the biogas plant is located. 	Can only be supplied for direct land-spread in the RoI.

APPENDIX 2

SAMPLE FEEDSTOCK ACCEPTANCE AGREEMENT

- 1. Name and address of plant.**
- 2. Name, address and telephone number of feedstock supplier:**
- 3. Detailed description of each feedstock to be supplied.**
- 4. Estimated quantity (tonnes) of each type of feedstock to be supplied to the plant per annum:**
- 5. Statement of conformity e.g. Feedstock supplied to the above named plant will only contain non- animal by-products as detailed in point 3 above.**
- 6. Signature of person signing on behalf of feedstock supplier and date:
Capacity of person signing on behalf of feedstock supplier (must be a person in senior management)**
- 7. Biogas plant management signature and date.**