

KAT – Verein für kontrollierte alternative Tierhaltungsformen e.V.

KAT Guide for Mixed Feed Manufacturers

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Table of content

Teil I:	Basic principles	1
1	Preamble	1
2	Scope of application	1
3	Participation in the system	1
4	Responsibilities	2
5	Internet portal	2
Teil II:	List of requirements	3
1	General requirements	3
1.1	Licensing	3
1.2	Staff training	3
1.3	Crisis management	3
2	Raw materials management and raw materials procurement	4
2.1	Raw materials requirements	4
2.2	Incoming goods inspection	4
3	Self-monitoring system	4
3.1	Requirements of self-monitoring system	4
3.2	Production sequence (cross-contamination)	4
3.3	Inspection schedule	5
4	Traceability and assurance of origin	5
4.1	Raw material batches	5
4.2	Deadline	5
4.3	Random sample	5
4.4	Supply relationships	5
4.5	Delivery notes	5
5	Establishment inspection	5
5.1	Establishment premises	5
5.2	Stores	6
5.3	Production area	6
6	Advice and support	6
6.1	Advice and support	7
7	Share of regional plant-based raw materials in organically produced feedstuff	7
7.1	Regional share	7
7.2	Calculation of regional share	7
Teil III:	Annex 1	8
1	Definitions	8

2	Key to symbols	8
3	Abbreviations	8
4	Applicable documents	8
Annex 2	9	
	Sample schedule for analysing finished feed (mixed feed manufacturers)	9

Teil I: Basic principles

1 Preamble

The Verein für kontrollierte alternative Tierhaltungsformen e.V. (Association for Controlled Alternative Animal Husbandry, KAT) is the most important inspection body in Germany and neighbouring EU countries for the inspection of eggs from alternative forms of hen keeping (free-range, barn and organic egg production). Virtually all eggs offered for sale on the German food retail market bear the KAT conformity seal. The number of member establishments has grown continually since the association was founded in 1995.

The chief objectives of KAT are:

- to ensure full traceability, assurance of origin, and quality assurance of eggs and egg products from barn, free-range and organic rearing produced, traded or placed on the market by Members;
- to lay down and implement uniform requirements for the barn, free-range and organic rearing of laying hens, taking account of animal welfare issues;
- to lay down and implement uniform requirements for the keeping of male laying hybrids, taking account of animal welfare issues;
- transparency for the consumer by providing information (e.g. through the www.was-steht-auf-dem-ei.de).

2 Scope of application

This guide has been developed for feedstuff companies that produce mixed feed for farms participating in the KAT system and market these under the KAT label. The guide is valid for all feedstuff companies and self-mixers with a total annual quantity of finished feed of more than 5000t. The Guide serves as a tool for the systematic implementation of KAT requirements for the assurance of origin and traceability of the process stages involved in the production and marketing of KAT eggs.

Definition of mixed feed manufacturer:

Mixed feed manufacturers are all operators of stationary milling and mixing equipment for commercial use, irrespective of size.

Legal requirements

German Food and Feed Code, German Feed Law, German Feed Ordinance, Regulation (EC) 183/2005, Regulation (EC) 178/2002, Regulation (EC) 852/2004, Regulation (EC) 853/2004, Regulation (EC) 767/2009, Regulation (EU) 228/17, Regulation (EC) 852/2004, Regulation (EC) 853/2004, Regulation (EC) 767/2009, Regulation (EU) 2279/17, Regulation (EU) 68/2013, Regulation (EU) 1017/17, Regulation (EC) 1829/2003, Regulation (EU) 892/2010, Regulation (EC) 378/2005, Regulation (EC) 882/2004, Regulation (EC) 152/2009, Regulation (EC) 1831/2003, Regulation (EC) 396/2005, Regulation (EU) 225/2012 and Directive (EC) 2002/32 in the current applicable versions.

3 Participation in the system

Any establishment that wishes to be part of the KAT value chain must register with KAT at www.anmeldung.kat.eu and – if not already a participant in the KAT system – enter into a KAT participant contract.

Once the KAT Office has been provided with all of the necessary registration documents and signed participant contract, the establishment will be given access details for the KAT database and the database instructions.

4 Responsibilities

Every stage in the value chain is responsible for complying with the described requirements and for correctly reporting the necessary data to the KAT database.

5 Internet portal

In order to create greater transparency, KAT offers a special service on the query page at www.was-steht-auf-dem-ei.de: By entering the number printed on the egg (stamp number), consumers can find out the name and location of the laying farm and view pictures of the henhouse and birds. The query function is also available in the form of a smartphone app.

Further information on the KAT system can be found at www.kat.eu Every KAT participant can register for the internal area of the website and download the documents held there (circulars, forms, member lists, etc.).

Teil II: List of requirements

1 General requirements


1.1 Licensing

1.1.1 **[K.O.]** There is an official licence or registration notification.

Feedstuff plants (plants) that produce mixed feed for placing on the market or store, transport or market it, or produce it for the exclusive use in their own establishment, are subject to mandatory registration in accordance with Article 9(2) of Regulation (EC) No 183/2005.

In addition to mandatory registration, the following establishments are subject to mandatory approval in accordance with Article 10 No. 1 lit. c and Article 10 No. 3 in conjunction with Annex II Section “Facilities and Equipment” No. 10 of Regulation (EC) No 183/2005 and in accordance with Article 8(2) sentence 3 of Regulation (EC) No 767/2009:

- Establishments that produce mixed feedstuff using the following additives, or premixes containing the following additives, to place on the market or for the exclusive requirements of their own agricultural operations:
 - coccidiostats and histomonostats.
- Establishments that mix fats in order to place on the market products for use in feedstuffs (fat mixing establishment).
- Establishments that produce mixed feed for special nutritional uses that contain levels of feedstuff additives (vitamin A, vitamin D, copper or selenium) that are higher than 100 times the fixed maximum content in complete feedstuff.

 *Leaflet for the licensing and registration of feedstuff plants (mixed feed), status 17.05.2017*

1.1.2 **[K.O.]** For feedstuff production, there is an up-to-date GMP+FSA (Feed Safety Assurance) and/or QS certificate for the laying hen feed or, for organic feedstuffs, an up-to-date EU organic certificate.

Information:

Certificates of feedstuff standards that are benchmarked and recognised by GMP+FSA and/or QS are also accepted.

1.2 Staff training

Staff who perform tasks relevant to feedstuff manufacture are instructed with regard to the content of the Guide. The training is to be repeated twice per year and documented.

1.3 Crisis management

Contingency plans with clearly defined responsibilities are in place in the event of an emergency. These contain all important contact data. The documents ensure that all persons in charge can be reached outside operating hours. If the emergency concerns KAT system goods, the KAT Office must be notified immediately.

 *KAT Emergency Guide for Member Establishments*

2 Raw materials management and raw materials procurement

2.1 Raw materials requirements

- 2.1.1 Only feedstuff materials included in the positive list of the German Standards Commission are used.
- 2.1.2 Full details of all raw materials and additives used are stored in the KAT database and updated on a regular basis.
- 2.1.3 **[K.O.]** The coccidiostats used in the feedstuff plant are named and stored in the database.

2.2 Incoming goods inspection

- 2.2.1 **[K.O.]** Unambiguous, comprehensible procedures for incoming goods inspections are in place.
- 2.2.2 **[K.O.]** The incoming goods inspection is conducted on the basis of the assessment criteria established. All incoming goods are checked and documented; evaluation data are available.
- 2.2.3 Sampling as part of the incoming goods inspections is performed in the establishment by trained employees.
- 2.2.4 The incoming goods inspection includes checking the last three precarriages, as well as the resulting cleaning measures and the condition of the means of transport.

3 Self-monitoring system

3.1 Requirements of self-monitoring system

- 3.1.1 All potential risks are recorded as part of an HACCP system and the control points (CP) and critical control points (CCP) are determined accordingly.
- 3.1.2 **[K.O.]** CCPs and CPs are correctly documented and mastered.

3.2 Production sequence (cross-contamination)

- 3.2.1 **[K.O.]** The contamination matrix is designed in such a way as to exclude the possibility of contamination of the feedstuff by unwanted substances within the production process. This also prevents certain additives from exceeding veterinary threshold values.
- 3.2.2 When handling internal and external returns, effective measures are in place to prevent cross-contamination of critical substances.
- 3.2.3 Cleaning batches are documented as required.
- 3.2.4 **[K.O.]** The batch sequences are determined on the basis of the contamination matrix and complied with in a verifiable manner.

3.3 Inspection schedule

- 3.3.1 **[K.O.]** Inspections have been performed in accordance with the “Sample schedule for mixed feedstuff manufacturers”. If there is QS certification of the laying hen feed, the QS monitoring of the mixed feedstuff is recognised.
- 3.3.2 The analysis results are evaluated on the basis of the threshold and guide values.
- 3.3.3 The necessary measures are implemented and documented.
- 3.3.4 Before use in laying hen feed, high-risk fats, oils or products derived from them must be tested and proven to be harmless in accordance with the requirements defined in Regulation (EU) No 225/2012. When using analysis certificates from the upstream supplier, measures are in place to ensure that the batch delivered has been proven to correspond to the batch identified on the analysis certificate of the upstream supplier.

4 Traceability and assurance of origin

4.1 Raw material batches

The feedstuff plant has a traceability system that ensures and documents the identification of raw materials batches and their relation to end product batches in both directions (from the delivered product to the raw materials, and vice-versa).

4.2 Deadline

All data relevant for traceability must be available within a deadline of max. 4 hours. This is documented comprehensively on the basis of annual tests.

4.3 Random sample

A random check of the traceability system during the audit does not reveal any deviations.

4.4 Supply relationships

Supply relationships (recipient – laying farm) and corresponding quantity reports are documented in the KAT database.

4.5 Delivery notes

All delivery notes of KAT feed show the KAT-ID of the production site.

5 Establishment inspection

5.1 Establishment premises

- 5.1.1 Areas in which feedstuff is treated, processed and stored are designed and set up in such a way as to ensure the safety of the feedstuff.
- 5.1.2 The establishment premises are clean and well-maintained.
- 5.1.3 The acceptance points for raw materials are designed to prevent, as far as possible, any negative impact on the products (e.g. bird droppings, effects of the weather, etc.).

- 5.1.4 When not in use, all acceptance points for raw materials are covered or closed.
- 5.1.5 Procedures are in place to prevent any mix-up of the relevant acceptance points when raw materials are delivered.
- 5.1.6 The cargo spaces of the transport vehicles are hygienic.

5.2 Stores

- 5.2.1 If there are any flatstores at the location, they are designed so as to effectively prevent the mix-up and contamination of the raw materials stored inside and the penetration of birds. The gates of the storage areas are always kept closed when not in use.
- 5.2.2 The silo cells for raw materials, intermediate and finished products are clean and hygienic.
- 5.2.3 All floors, facilities and areas of the feedstuff plant are clean and tidy.
- 5.2.4 Leaks in pipes and other systems carrying the product are repaired as quickly as possible and any product residues removed.

5.3 Production area

- 5.3.1 Structural preventive measures are taken to prevent, as far as possible, birds and rodents from accessing the inside and production areas of the feedstuff plant.
- 5.3.2 In the small and microcomponent dosage area (automatic or manual), procedures are in place to prevent the mix-up and incorrect dosage of the components used.
- 5.3.3 It is ensured that, in the small and microcomponent dosage area, no products are used that have exceeded the best before date specified by the manufacturer.

Information:

If the best before date is exceeded, the feedstuff plant performs appropriate analyses to determine whether or not the product can be used. Any ingredient contents that deviate from the manufacturer's information are taken into account during dosing.

6 Advice and support

The increasing requirements for modern livestock keeping demand greater attention from the management and skilled workers responsible for looking after the animals. Coordinated interaction of the respective forms of rearing, daily monitoring of the animals, regular veterinary checks and providing the animals with high-quality feedstuff are all crucial to success.

6.1 Advice and support

- 6.1.1 If required, and if asked to do so by the farms, the KAT-approved feedstuff plants are able to advise farms on choosing and using feedstuff that has been individually adapted to the animals. The corresponding documentation is in place.
- 6.1.2 The valid feedstuff declaration and its intended use are specified in the accompanying documents. In addition, every customer has the right to request from the mixed feed manufacturer an open declaration with the respective percentages. The declaration contains all nutritional information and other data relevant to the feed, for example, its period of use. The feedstuff plant ensures that fluctuations in the raw materials selection that can have a severe impact on the structure and nutrient availability of the feed are minimised as much as possible.
- 6.1.3 The feedstuff plant ensures that the people charged with advising and supporting the farms have the necessary qualifications. These people regularly receive further specialist training. The training is documented.
- 6.1.4 If necessary (e.g. on veterinary grounds), the mixed feed manufacturer is able to modify the composition of the feedstuff in agreement with the animal keeper for an individual farm or to offer a special mixture in order to use the feedstuff to help improve animal welfare. If technically possible, the new feedstuff is offered within a maximum of three working days.

7 Share of regional plant-based raw materials in organically produced feedstuff

7.1 Regional share

Measures are in place to guarantee that the share of regional plant-based raw materials used in organically produced feed is at least 30%.

7.2 Calculation of regional share

The points detailed in this chapter are used to calculate and document the regional share in organic feed and have no influence on the evaluation in the audit report.

- 7.2.1 There is a list of all agricultural buyers, structured by federal state.
- 7.2.2 A list detailing total production volumes is available for the calendar year under review. A random check of this data confirms the accuracy of the total production figures.
- 7.2.3 The total production volume calculated under 7.1.2 was broken down to show the delivered quantity per federal state. A random check of this information confirms that the breakdown is accurate.
- 7.2.4 The average share of plant-based raw materials in all formulations for mixed feed was determined as a factor for the subsequent calculation.
- 7.2.5 A breakdown of the total volume of bought-in plant-based raw materials is provided, broken down by federal state. A random check of this information confirms that the breakdown is accurate.
- 7.2.6 Based on the data gathered, the share of regional plant-based raw materials in feed was calculated, broken down by federal state. The calculation took account of the factor calculated under point 7.2.4 as well as the currently valid definition of the term “region”.

Teil III: Annex 1

1 Definitions

Region

A region is the federal state in which the establishment using the feed is located, including directly bordering federal states and directly bordering political entities of neighbouring countries.

Bremen (HB) and Lower Saxony (NI) form one entity, Hamburg (HH) and Schleswig-Holstein (SH) form one entity, Saarland (SL) and Rhineland-Palatinate (RP) form one entity, Berlin (B) and Brandenburg (BB) form one entity.


Bordering political entities of neighbouring countries pursuant to NUTS1 (NUTS = Nomenclature des unités territoriales statistiques).

The Netherlands are equated to the region of Lower Saxony.

2 Key to symbols

[K.O.] Knock-Out-criteria

 *References to other applicable documents*

 *Documents to be provided or submitted*

3 Abbreviations

EU	European Union
K.O.	Knock-out
HACCP	Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points
KAT e.V.	Verein für kontrollierte alternative Tierhaltungsformen
KAT ID	KAT identification number
n.a.	not applicable
QR-Code	Quick Response Code

4 Applicable documents

Applicable documents (in the respective applicable version) include:

The documents are available to download from the internal area at www.kat.eu.

KAT documents:

- ✓ KAT logo design rules
- ✓ Leaflet for the licensing and registration of feedstuff plants (mixed feed), status 17.05.2017
- ✓ Form FB-A-01-EN_Description of establishment
- ✓ KAT Emergency Guide for Member Establishments

Annex 2

Sample schedule for analysing finished feed (mixed feed manufacturers)

Parameters and number of tests for mixed feed establishments

Feedstuff in t/a	<5,000	< 20,000	< 40,000	< 60,000	> 60,000
Parameter	Number of tests				
a) Mixed feed sampling					
Dioxin+DL-PCB+ NDL-PCB	1	3	4	6	8
Salmonella	5	5	6	7	8
Heavy metals (cadmium, lead, arsenic, mercury)	1	2	3	4	5
b) Sampling plant-based raw material					
Pesticides	2	5	6	7	8
c) Additional sampling organic mixed feed					
GMO	2	5	6	7	8
In derogation from the information under letter (a), for organic mixed feed, the following requirements apply with regard to the dioxin+DL-PCB+NDL-PCB test:	Sampling from the combined weekly laboratory test samples				
	One dioxin analysis per 2,000 t KAT feed				
	Min. 3 analyses per year				
	Max. 12 analyses per year				