

QUALIMAT TRANSPORT SPECIFICATIONS

QUALITY FOR BULK TRANSPORT OF ANIMAL FEED

“PRODUCTS” BY ROAD

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DOCUMENT HISTORY

Version	Content	Reasons for the modification of the reference guidelines	Modification date	Date of entry into force
Version 1.0	Entire document	Creation of a programme applicable to all transport companies	/	June 2001
Version 2.0	"Signature" page	Signature of the specifications by the representatives of the transport companies (FNTR, TLF, UNOSTRA).	/	April 2002
Version 3.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2.3 Traceability - 4.1 Verification of contract feasibility - 7.2.1 Cleaning levels - 7.2.2 Cleaning records - Steps 5 and 7 of Annex 3. 	Instigation of third-party audits, update of paragraphs referring to third-party audits.	/	October 2004
Version 4.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1.4 Reference to legislative and regulatory texts. - Section 5, point 2. - Annex 1 point 3. 	Change in European regulations (the "hygiene package") and implementation of mutual recognition with other European reference guidelines.	/	July 2007
Version 5.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Section 7 - Annex 1 points 1 and 2. 	Introduction of the "International Database Transport (for) Feed" (IDTF) with incorporation of the resulting changes.	/	July 2020
Version 6.0	Entire document	Extension of the scope of certification to the transport of compound feed.	/	December 2015
Version 7.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Entire document - 1.2 General definitions - Annex 2: Criteria for acceptability of water - Annex 3: cleaning protocol with a view to redeployment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Incorporation of formal adjustments following the merger of the Qualimat, Qualimat Sud-Est and Oqualim Associations (names, logo, visual identity elements). - Regulatory changes. 	01/04/2026	01/04/2026

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Deletion of the manual signatures page - Addition of the "document history" table. - Changes to the terminology: the term "cleaning point" replaces the term "cleaning station". - Publication of a new note from the CSNA on the criteria for acceptability of water. - Reformulation of step 5 in annex 3 to provide clarifications on the technical point no. 2-004 (clarifications provided on the required analytical parameters). 		
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The changes to the document compared to the previous version of the Qualimat Transport Specifications are in blue.

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ANNEXES

- ANNEX 1.** Previous transportations and cleaning required
- ANNEX 2.** Criteria for acceptability of water
- ANNEX 3.** Protocol for cleaning and disinfecting containers used for transporting prohibited goods, with a view to redeploying them for the transport of animal feed “products”.

1. Section 1: Background and general information

These Specifications have been drawn up by [the former Qualimat Association](#) in collaboration with Qualimat Sud-Ouest, Nord-Est and Sud-Est, AFAB, manufacturers of animal feed of Centre Ouest of France, representatives of transport companies, and with the support of AFCA-CIAL, former COOP de France Nutrition Animale (today La Coopération Agricole Nutrition Animale), SNIA and Oqualim.

The Qualimat Association [was](#) established in 1978, as a voluntary and independent initiative by animal feed manufacturers in the Grand-Ouest area of France. It coordinates activities for improving the nutritional and sanitary quality of raw materials for animal feed.

Since it was set up, the Qualimat Association has concerned itself with preserving the quality of raw materials when they are transported in bulk by road, in particular that they are exposed to no physical contamination (foreign bodies, etc.), chemical contamination (residues of non-food substances, etc.) or organic contamination (salmonella, etc.).

Realising that only an overall control of cleaning operations between each transportation (and disinfection where necessary) would guarantee the absence of contamination, the Qualimat Association drew up the first version of the Qualimat Transport Specifications in June 2001 with the collaboration of AFAB. This version was soon adopted by over 500 transport companies.

Version 2 was adopted in April 2002 by representatives of transport companies (FNTR, TLF and UNOSTRA), including the Qualimat Transport Monitoring Committee. Over 1,000 transporters have now registered.

Version 3 came into effect in October 2004. It was under this version that audits by independent certifying bodies approved by Qualimat were instigated in January 2005.

Version 4 of the Specifications, which was ratified on 1 July 2007 and came into effect on 1 November 2007, came in response to the development of European regulations (the “hygiene package”) and the need to establish reciprocal recognition with other standards.

It benefited from wider recognition as it was approved by 10 organisations representing feed manufacturers (Qualimat, Qualimat Sud-Ouest, Qualimat Sud-Est, Qualimat Nord-Est, AFCA-CIAL, former COOP [de France NA \(which in 2019 became La Coopération Agricole – Nutrition Animale\)](#), SNIA, AFAB, AINACO and URFACAL) and also transport companies (FNTR, TLF and UNOSTRA).

Version 5 of the Specifications followed the introduction of the International Database Transport (for) Feed (IDTF) and incorporated the changes this entailed.

Version 6 of the Specifications related to the extension of the scope of Qualimat Transport operations to include the transport of compound feed.

[In October 2024, the associations Qualimat, Qualimat Sud-Ouest and Oqualim merged into a single entity, which took the name of OQUALIM, dedicated to the animal feed sector, and thus benefiting from the regional anchoring of a national organisation and an international interface.](#)

[Oqualim ensures the management of certification references, for the manufacturing and distribution of animal feed and pre-mixtures, for raw materials suppliers and for their bulk transport by road. Oqualim ensures that the certification protocols, reference guides and their annexes are relevant, updated and in circulation.](#)

[The name Qualimat Transport is retained when designating these specifications and the eponymous system. This is based on the third-party audit carried out on transport operators by an independent certifying organisation that has signed a collaboration agreement with Oqualim.](#)

The [Oqualim](#) Association is the principal contact for all parties and can be consulted for judgements.

Version 7.0 of the Specifications refers to this new institutional framework. It incorporates several adjustments in terms of form, notably the update to the entities, logos and visual elements of the Association and the deletion of the signatures. Moreover, the term “cleaning point” now replaces “cleaning station”.

1.1. Purpose and scope

These Specifications set out the requirements in terms of cleanliness and traceability of containers used for bulk transport of animal feed “products”, to ensure that there are no sources of contamination for the products, especially substances and organisms that are prohibited or undesirable for animal nutrition. They also cover the prevention of inter-batch transfer.

The term “product” as used in these Specifications is defined in the section “Definition of terms used in the Qualimat Transport Specifications”.

The Qualimat Transport Specifications list the requirements to be observed by any operator transporting bulk products for animal feed by road. They do not apply to the transport of products that are packaged or in sealed containers, or to goods intended for the manufacture of pet foods.

Please refer to the relevant current legislation for these types of transport.

1.2. General definitions

→ Additives for animal feed:

Any authorised substance or micro-organism under EC Regulation 1831/2003 of the European Parliament and Council of 22 September 2003 on additives for use in animal nutrition (Source: Regulation 183/2005).

→ Compound feed:

A mix of two or more raw materials for animal feed, which may or may not contain animal feed additives, for oral feeding of animals in the form of complete or supplementary feed (Source: Regulation 767/2009).

→ CSNA

Scientific Committee on Animal Nutrition (Source: AFCA-CIAL, COOP de France NA, SNIA)

→ Hazard:

Any biological, chemical or physical agent present in food and animal feed, or any condition of food or animal feed that may cause an adverse effect on health (Source: Regulation 178/2002).

→ Company in the animal feed sector:

Any private or cooperative undertaking to produce, manufacture, process, store, transport or distribute animal feed, for profit or otherwise, including any agricultural producer who produces, processes or stores feed for animals on his/her own farm (Source: Regulation 178/2002 amended).

→ Operator in the animal feed sector:

Any natural or legal person(s) responsible for ensuring compliance with the requirements of food legislation in the animal feed sector company that they control (Source: Regulation 178/2002).

→ HACCP:

A system for analysing and reducing the risk of safety hazards (Source: Regulation 183/2005).

→ Raw materials for animal feed:

Various products of vegetable or animal origin, the main purpose of which is to meet the nutritional needs of animals in their natural state, fresh, preserved and as derivatives of industrial processing, and any organic or inorganic substances that may or may not contain animal feed additives intended for the oral feeding of animals directly, or for the preparation of compound feed for animals, or as components of premixtures (Source: Regulation 767/2009).

Raw materials for animal feed are listed in a European catalogue that is the subject of a regulation (Regulation EU 68/2013).

→ Premixture:

Mixtures of animal feed additives or mixtures of one or more animal feed additives with raw materials for animal feed or water as a carrier, not intended for feeding directly to animals (Source: Regulation 1831/2003).

→ Recall:

Any measure aimed at achieving the return of a dangerous product that has already been supplied or made available to the consumer by the manufacturer or distributor (Source: [Regulation 2023/988](#)).

→ Withdrawal:

Any measure aimed at preventing the distribution, display and offer of a product dangerous to the consumer ([Source: Regulation 2023/988](#)).

→ Contract review:

Systematic action taken by the transport operator before signing the contract to ensure that the quality requirements are adequately and unambiguously defined, expressed in the documents and achievable by the transport operator (Source: ISO 8402: 1994 amended).

→ Risk:

A function of the probability of an adverse health effect on the health, consequent to the presence of a hazard (Source: Regulation 183/2005).

→ Reporting:

The obligation of all operators in the animal feed sector to notify the competent authorities immediately if they consider or suspect that any animal feed they have put on the market does not conform to the requirements for animal feed safety (Source: Regulation 178/2002).

→ Traceability:

The ability to trace and follow foodstuffs, animal feed and substances intended for inclusion or that may be included in foodstuffs or animal feed through all stages of production, processing and distribution (Source: Regulation 178/2002).

1.3. Definition specific to the Qualimat Transport Specifications

- Approved feed contact (detergent and disinfectant):
Approved by the competent authority and having an authorisation number.
- Loader:
The company and its personnel appointed by the ordering agent to load the “products” in containers provided for this purpose.
- Compartmentalised tanker:
Type of container used for transporting compound feed. These tankers have separate compartments for transporting different “products” at the same time. The containers are equipped with mechanical systems for transferring feed (screws, Redler systems, etc.). In addition to mechanical systems, they may also be equipped with systems for completely purging the compartments and circuits (by air blower or by pressurizing the circuits).
In tankers used for transporting powders, the circuits are purged by high pressure only.
- Container:
Equipment designed to contain and transport bulk “products” by road. The equipment must have a unique identification reference.
- Ordering party:
A manufacturer of animal feed or any other person who places an order for the transport of animal feed “products” with a transport operator.
- ICRT:
The International Committee of Road Transport set up in 2007 by OVOCOM (Belgium), GMP+ International (Netherlands) and former Qualimat (France) joined by QS (Germany) in 2009. The main purpose of this committee of experts is to describe the goods transported and determine a cleaning process to ensure the safety of all products transported subsequently.
- IDTF:
International Database Transport (for) Feed is a database set up by the ICRT. The IDTF groups together the minimum cleaning operations required, thereby facilitating the work of companies that operate internationally.
- Goods:
Any material covered by these Specifications that is transported in a container. This term also includes “products”.
- Packaged goods:
Any material covered by these Specifications that is transported in a hermetically-sealed, closed container and does not constitute “bulk” material.
- PROHIBITED goods:
Any goods not authorised for bulk transportation at any time in containers designed for transporting “products”.

Note: Prohibited goods that are packaged may be transported in bulk containers designed for transporting “products” if the transport operator specifically includes an HACCP analysis, and in particular any corrective measures to be taken in the event that the packaging is damaged.

→ Transport operator:

Any transport company appointed to deliver “products” for animal feed. A transport operator may be a common carrier or a freight forwarder.

→ Person(s):

The term “person” used in the singular or plural refers to any natural or legal person who implements the activities governed by the Specifications.

→ “Product”:

Any material that may be included or is likely to be included in the composition of feed for food-producing animals (such as raw materials for animal feed, mixtures of raw materials for animal feed, premixtures and additives for animal feed, etc.) and any compound feed intended for food-producing animals.

Note 1: Caution! Inclusion in the “catalogue of raw materials for animal feed (Regulation EU 68/2013) alone does not qualify any material as a “product”. The Regulation includes “raw materials for animal feed” that are not used or not likely to be used in feed for food-producing animals. For example, most of the “raw materials for animal feed” that appear under section 9 of the catalogue (Land animal products and products derived thereof) constitute prohibited goods in the IDTF.

Note 2: This concept includes the term “input” used in the Good Practice Guide for the compound animal feed and pre-mixture manufacturing industry.

Note 3: The transport operator's obligations, in respect of the concept of “products” also applies if the said “product” is intended for purposes other than animal feed (human foodstuffs, biofuel, etc.).

→ Purge:

Activity employing integral systems (air blowers or pressurisation of circuits) to completely empty a container. Where no integral system is available, the compartment must be emptied using a mobile blower system and mechanical evacuation of residue.

→ Oqualim:

The association that owns these Specifications.

→ Qualimat Transport:

The title of these Specifications and accompanying procedures.

→ Redeployment:

Change of usage that allows a container deployed for a certain use to be used for one or more other uses, in accordance with existing national and EU regulations.

→ Subcontracting:

A voluntary decision by a transport operator to assign the services it has contracted with a client to another transport operator.

This term applies to all forms of subcontracting and may appear under different names.

→ Subcontractor:

A transport operator who performs all or part of a transport operation on behalf of another transport operator, which he/she performs under his/her own responsibility.

→ Inter-batch transfer:
The accidental transfer of residual matter from one batch to another.

→ Emptying: The complete mechanical evacuation of containers.

1.4. Reference to legislative and regulatory texts

→ Directive 2000/16/EC: "amending Council Directive 79/373/EEC on the marketing of compound feeding stuffs and Council Directive 96/25/EC on the circulation of feed materials".

→ Regulation 178/2002: "general principles and requirements of food law, establishing the European Food Safety Authority and laying down procedures in matters of food safety".

→ Regulation 183/2005: "requirements for animal feed hygiene".

→ Regulation 999/2001: "rules for the prevention, control and eradication of certain transmissible spongiform encephalopathies".

→ Regulation 1069/2009: "laying down health rules as regards animal by-products and derived products not intended for human consumption and repealing Regulation (EC) 1774/2002".

→ Regulation 142/2011: "implementing Regulation (EC) 1069/2009 of the European Parliament and the Council laying down health rules as regards animal by-products and derived products not intended for human consumption."

→ Regulation 767/2009: "on the placing on the market and use of feed".

→ ADR: [international](#) agreement concerning the international carriage of dangerous goods by road.

→ Decree n° 2017-461 of 31 March 2017 on the annex to regulatory section 3 of the transport code concerning the standard contract applicable to the public road transport of goods for which there is no specific contract.

→ Decree n° 2019-695 of 1 July 2019 concerning the standard contract applicable to the public road transport of goods carried out by subcontractors.

→ Order of 8 September 1999: "processes and products used for cleaning materials and objects that come into contact with foodstuffs, products and beverages for human and animal foods".

→ ISO 9001/2015 standard: "Quality management systems".

→ ISO 22000/2018 standard: "Food safety management systems".

Note: Concerning applicable regulations, the above references are not exhaustive. Transport operators must comply with all regulations applicable to their activities at the time the transport services are executed.

2. Section 2: Quality System

2.1. Management of documents and records

Transport operators must establish and maintain a system of documentation (including records) to ensure the requirements of these Specifications are complied with, as regards animal feed safety in particular.

2.2. HACCP

Transport operators must undertake and formalise an HACCP analysis in accordance with the applicable regulatory requirements, to control the physical, chemical and microbiological hazards relating to their business. This analysis must be appropriate for the nature of the goods transported (taking into account the IDTF and specific instructions from the ordering party) and kept constantly up to date.

Special circumstances for compound feed:

The ordering party's specific instructions may include control measures resulting from the ordering party's HACCP analysis for the transportation stage of compound feed.

2.3. Traceability

Transport operators must carry out all the measures necessary to carry out reliable traceability through previous stages and ensure that the required cleaning has been done. Transport operators are advised to use computerised systems to manage traceability of containers and a logbook for each container, and to quote the IDTF number for the goods on every possible occasion.

Transport operators must agree to all audits and all requests that enable the ordering party to check the accuracy of the information recorded and any additional information.

2.4. Managing internal non-compliance and claims by ordering parties

Transport operators must identify and formalise their methods of managing "products" and services if they do not conform to feed safety or any requirements included in the current version of these Specifications and annexes that apply to them.

Management includes identifying non-compliant "products" or services, determining what action is required by authorised managers, notifying the ordering party immediately and recording the facts and any action decided upon in accordance with current regulations.

2.5. Improvements

Transport operators should implement all necessary measures to improve their organisation, taking the following elements into account, in particular:

- Internal non-compliance
- Complaints from ordering parties
- Results of internal and external audits

Any action (preventative or corrective) decided upon for improvement should be recorded and its effectiveness checked against the desired objective.

3. Section 3: Registration of operators

The process for registration of transport operators is described in the Qualimat Transport Regulations for Third-party Recognition.

4. Section 4: Contract review

The ordering party's requirements are formalised in the contract review.

4.1. Verification of contract (transport order) feasibility

In response to a request from an ordering party, transport operators must:

- Check the logistic feasibility of the transportation;
- Identify and check that the goods to be transported comply with section 7.1 and the IDTF, and in consultation with the ordering party and/or loader where applicable.

Note: To prevent errors and facilitate third-party audit procedures, transport operators should establish and maintain a list of the main types of goods they transport, including those classified as prohibited and those requiring level D cleaning, as a minimum. Each item on the list should be accompanied by its IDTF number and the level of cleaning required. There is a function on the IDTF website for creating such a list.

- Assign an appropriate container for the goods to be transported.
- Schedule an appropriate cleaning operation for containers after delivery, depending on the type of goods they were used to transport previously (see IDTF).
- Schedule an appropriate cleaning operation for containers after delivery, depending on the type of goods transported (see IDTF).

Note: It is advisable to confirm in writing the feasibility of the transport order and the deliberations relating to it.

Special case for compound feed:

The identification and description of compound feeds and scheduling of cleaning must take into account the IDTF and also any specific instructions notified by the ordering party, including any incompatibility of compound feeds.

4.2. Compliance with lead times

Transport operators should undertake to comply with the lead times and schedules agreed with the ordering party, in accordance with transport regulations.

Transport operators should notify the company if the service cannot be carried out within the agreed timescale.

4.3. Special instructions

The Qualimat Transport Specifications are a common reference for all ordering party users of these Specifications, but do not preclude the possibility of supplementary formal requirements from individual ordering parties communicated directly to transport operators in specific contracts.

5. Section 5: Subcontracting

An operator listed by Qualimat Transport may only engage a subcontractor on two conditions:

- That the transport operator informs the ordering party that he/she is engaging a subcontractor and confirms in advance that there is no obstacle of any kind to the chosen subcontractor.
- That the subcontractor is listed with Qualimat Transport or another system with which Qualimat Transport has a mutual recognition agreement (a list of these is published on the [OQUALIM website](#)).

Note: The requirements in this part apply to all forms of subcontracting under any name (permanent charter, exclusive leasing, etc.).

6. Section 6: Human resources and equipment

6.1. Human resources

All operators engaged in the Qualimat Transport process undertake to inform and train their staff in applying the Specifications.

In particular, it is incumbent on them to train all staff involved in cleaning, washing and disinfecting containers.

Transport operators must establish a periodic evaluation procedure of the staff concerned, including any internal non-compliance and complaints from ordering parties in particular.

Note: The "staff concerned" includes temporary workers and external drivers.

Special case for compound feed:

The initial training and monitoring of staff involved has a bearing on the Specifications for delivery of compound feed that the ordering party may have included in his/her specific instructions, in terms of delivery instructions, unloading instructions, identification of the number of compartments in containers, etc.

6.2. Equipment

The transport operator's vehicles must be in good working order and be clean, well-maintained and well-presented. They must also contain all the equipment and documentation required by the various regulations in force.

Note 1: When a Qualimat-Transport-listed operator leases out a container (or set of containers) with a driver, the rental agreement must explicitly prohibit the lessee from travelling with documents in the lessor's name, even though this practice may be authorised by transport legislation.

This is to ensure transparency for the ordering party and to prevent any non-Qualimat-Transport-listed operator who may be leasing the container from using the lessor's listing activity.

Note 2: If a transport operator introduces a used container (purchased, leased or returned to a lessee) into his/her fleet, the transport operator must obtain a written attestation based on the transport history **over the last 12 months**, guaranteeing that the container has never been used to transport IDTF-prohibited goods before it enters the fleet. In the event that no attestation can be obtained, the transport operator must carry out a release procedure protocol. For multiple entries and re-entries, these provisions must be repeated on each "re-entry" of the container to the transport operator's fleet.

6.3. Features of equipment

When purchasing containers, transport operators must ensure the technical features ensure the hygiene standard of the "products" transported to be maintained (fasteners on containers, interior coatings smooth except for any fittings required by the equipment, etc.).

On receipt, the transport operator must check the equipment to ensure it conforms to the order, paying particular attention to areas identified as risk areas, especially that which can lead to inter-batch transfers.

For containers already purchased that do not possess all the features required for maintenance of the hygiene standards for the "products" transported, the transport operator must take this into account in the HACCP analysis.

Special considerations for compound feed:

Containers used for transporting compound feed must be fitted with equipment for purging.

The preferred types of equipment when purchasing new containers are as follows:

- Containers completed with an integrated purging system
- Mobile blowing systems for compartments

Inter-batch transfer tests are recommended to assess the technical capabilities of the above purging system.

6.3.1. Maintenance requirements

Transport operators must define, formalise and carry out preventive and corrective maintenance procedures to ensure that the features that were identified on inspection at receipt are maintained, and to prevent any risk of "product" contamination.

Regular maintenance must be carried out and recorded, and the records kept.

The frequency of maintenance operations must be established by each operator depending on the type of container and the operator's risk analysis.

Special attention should be given to lubricants used during maintenance operations, which must be safe for any accidental contact by anyone who comes into contact with the "products" or is in the vicinity of them; technical specifications must be kept for any lubricants used.

Special considerations for compound feed:

Special attention must be given to the container's purging or emptying mechanism during maintenance procedures on containers used for transporting compound feed.

7. Section 7: Cleaning containers

Transport operators must give their staff all the instructions necessary for them to ensure containers are completely empty when loading, and that they are clean and dry. For tankers that transport liquids, the container must be completely empty and clean.

Cleaning procedures must be carried out as often as necessary depending on the products transported to avoid any "products" being left in containers, as far as possible. These operations must be recorded in accordance with the procedures outlined in section 7.2.2.

Transport operators (both managers and staff) must take care to facilitate the operations or checks relating to the apparent cleanliness of the container requested by the loader or the sender of the “product”.

7.1. Classification of goods transported

Transported goods are classified according to the type of hazard (physical, chemical or biological) and assessment of the risk that the goods may represent for any “products” transported subsequently in the same container.

7.2. Cleaning management

7.2.1. Cleaning levels

The purposes of cleaning are to ensure:

- That containers are dry (except for tankers transporting liquids);
- That containers have no residual trace of deposits that may cause microbial growth or other types of contamination.

The IDTF identifies 4 levels of cleaning depending on the type of goods transported previously (see section 7.1):

- Level A: cleaning for dry goods (sweeping, blowing, emptying) or liquids (draining, scraping, etc.)
- Level B: cleaning with clear water
- Level C: level B plus a suitable detergent “approved” for food contact
- Level D: level B or C plus a suitable detergent “approved” for food contact. Where necessary, level D cleaning must be carried out between each new loading of “products” regardless of the number of intermediate transportations.

Where a detergent or disinfectant is used, this must be approved and used in accordance with the recommendations on its technical data sheet (including rinsing, where necessary).

Note 1: Containers can also be cleaned by an approved thermal process (the transport operator's HACCP analysis must refer to this and the description/approval of the process must be available to auditors).

Note 2: Special consideration for consecutive transportations of the same “product”: Where the same “product” is transported on consecutive occasions, the requirement for cleaning between transportations should be assessed by the transport operator by means of an HACCP analysis, taking into account the features of the “product”, the place of loading and the batch type.

Note 3: Special considerations for compound feed:

Purges must be carried out in the event of successive loads of compound foodstuffs relating to different orders. The entire container or a single compartment should be purged, depending on the specific case(s). Any implementation of this special measure must be recorded.

7.2.2. Cleaning records

For levels B, C and D, there must be a minimum of two copies of the cleaning record:

- one for the transport operator's archived in case of audit (conservation 18 months minimum)
- one for the recipient of the goods on delivery.

Special considerations for compound feed:

Cleaning records must be sent to the ordering party or loader, and not to the recipient at the farm.

Records must include the following information:

- The registration number of the container
- The date it was cleaned
- The place where it was cleaned
- The exact, unambiguous name of the goods necessitating the level of cleaning carried out
- The type of cleaning (clear water, detergent, disinfectant, etc.) and the precise, unambiguous name of the detergent or disinfectant used, where applicable.

Special considerations for compound feed:

In addition to the information listed above, purge records must also include the time the purge was carried out.

7.2.3. Water quality

Transport operators must ensure that the quality of the water used for cleaning conforms to the CSNA microbiological specifications (see annex 2), whatever the source of the water.

The evidence required varies depending on the water source. The main types of evidence are listed in the table below:

	Evidence required	
Mains water	Self-declaration	The quality of the water at the it is used for cleaning containers must be controlled (the control must appear explicitly in the transport operator's HACCP).
Any other water supply	Microbial analysis according to CNSA criteria must be carried out at least once a year (see annex 2 of the Qualimat Transport Specifications)	

7.3. Redeployment of containers used to transport certain prohibited goods

After transporting certain prohibited goods, the containers used to transport them may be redeployed, following the protocol in annex 3.

For other types of prohibited goods, containers cannot be redeployed; this is mentioned in the IDTF database as follows: "forbidden, the release procedure is not accepted".

8. Section 8: Monitoring the loading of "products"

Road transport drivers are required to observe the loading of "products" wherever this is technically possible, and advise the ordering party if they notice any anomaly (temperature, smell, insects, impurities, etc.), and if necessary, record reservations on the transport document.

This is a strictly preventative measure.

Special considerations for compound feed:

Transport operators must agree to the loader carrying out checks on containers before any compound feed is loaded.

The transport operator undertakes to apply the sequencing set out by the ordering party/loader unless the ordering party/loader has authorised the transport operator to assume control of the sequencing.

9. Section 9: Preservation of “products” during transportation

Transport operators must ensure their containers are watertight and be extremely vigilant in the event of adverse weather conditions (rain, snow, fog, etc). The tarpaulins, hatches, joints, tanks and floors of containers must be watertight to avoid humidification of the “product”. Tankers transporting liquid “products” are equipped with devices for maintaining the temperature of the “product” being transported, where required, to ensure they arrive for unloading in good condition, especially in winter.

Transport operators are liable for any impairment of the transported goods arising from the means of transport.

10. Section 10: Operator’s obligations at unloading

Special case for compound feed:

Unloading must be carried out according to the ordering party’s sequencing plan, unless the ordering party/loader has authorised the transport operator to assume control of the sequencing.

The operator must ensure that all documents are remitted at unloading in accordance with regulations and the ordering party’s requirements.

10.1. Declaration

The goods previously transported in the container must be stated clearly and unambiguously by the driver on arrival at the destination.

The information may need to be signed off by the road transport driver on a new tracking document for each consignment, for each recipient.

This information may also appear on a document drawn up by the transport operator (e.g. bill of lading).

This constitutes a form of evidence for the ordering party.

Basic information required on the document:

- Date of receipt
- Name and contact details of the company holding the Qualimat Transport certificate
- First name and surname of the road transport driver (signature optional)
- Registration number of the container
- Precise, unambiguous name of the “product” delivered
- Precise, unambiguous name of the last good(s) transported in the container
- Date the container was last cleaned
- Level of last cleaning

Note 1: In certain cases, the recipient company may need to request information on the goods previously transported (N-1).

Note 2: The transport operator must be able to demonstrate to the recipient in all circumstances that the container belongs to (i.e. Is owned or rented by) a transport operator listed by Qualimat Transport, especially in the case of a trucker. Documents that stand as proof of this are the registration certificate, the rental agreement, the leasing contract, etc.

Special considerations for compound feed:

The above declaration requirements do not apply to stages in the delivery chain to farms.

10.2. Checking compliance on receipt

The service delivered by the transport operator or subcontractor on receipt will be considered compliant if the following elements are satisfactory:

- The information set out in section 10.1 of these Specifications is recorded;
- The transport documents are presented;
- The contract references are presented;
- The container is clean and the “product” correctly preserved, as defined in these Specifications and annexes;
- The cleaning record is produced, where applicable;
- Safety protocols are observed and a sample taken, facilitated by the road transport driver;
- Appropriate equipment is used for unloading (with pumps and connectors in good condition, etc.);
- The reception area is left in its original state of cleanliness.

Special considerations for compound feed:

The above requirements for compliance checking do not apply to stages in the delivery chain to farms.

Special considerations for compound feed:

The transport operator undertakes to refer to the ordering party any anomalies that occur at the time of delivery, and any remarks made by the recipient of the delivery, concerning risks of physical, chemical or biological contamination of the “products” transported.

ANNEX 1

Previous transportations and cleaning required

1. Presentation of the IDTF

The IDTF (International Database Transport [for] Feed) groups together the minimum cleaning operations required, thereby facilitating the work of companies that operate internationally.

The database is computerised and can be accessed at icrt.idtf.com. Searches can be done by type of goods to show the level of cleaning required and any prohibition on transportation. It is managed and regularly updated by the ICFT.

The IDTF database was set up by the ICRT (International Committee [for] Road Transport), an association of the following organisations: Oqualim, Ovocom, GMP+ International, QS, GTP.

Transport operators must consult the IDTF and stay abreast of developments in the "News" section. There is an IDTF user manual available on the qualimat.org/qualimat-transport website and the IDTF website.

2. Goods not listed in the IDTF

Any goods not listed in the IDTF database are prohibited from loading in containers used to transport products for animal feed, even occasionally.

Note: Any goods containing one or more prohibited components are also prohibited.

Any transport operator wishing to classify (or reclassify) goods must send a request to Qualimat Transport by completing a classification request form, as below.

This form is available online at www.qualimat.org and www.icrt-idtf.com.

The request for classification will be assessed in accordance with the following conditions: Qualimat Transport will check if the file is complete and then consider the request. If accepted, an individual provisional authorisation will be sent to the transport operator within 4 weeks.

The file will then be assessed by the ICRT for inclusion in the IDTF database update.

3. Mutual recognition with other systems

Any transport operator wishing to consult other similar systems on a mutual recognition basis must visit the list of differences frequently to stay abreast of them. The most stringent requirement for previous loads (cleaning level or prohibition) must subsequently be applied before any transportation of "products" for animal feed.

Note: The level assigned to certain goods will vary from one system to another, however, mainly due to differences in national legislation. These differences are highlighted in the database. A list of differences is available to download. To access it, go to the IDTF website and click on [List of differences].

ANNEX 2

Criteria for acceptability of water

The criteria for acceptability of the water used for washing containers are based on the microbiological criteria defined by the CSNA version of January 2026: "QUALITY OF WATER USED IN ANIMAL NUTRITION COMPANIES" as well as the Qualimat Transport risk analysis.



CSNA NOTE

January 2026 version

QUALITY OF WATER USED IN ANIMAL NUTRITION COMPANIES

1. Context

In the same way as energy, water is an essential resource for the animal nutrition sector. While low in volume terms – the annual requirements for the sector in France amount to less than one million cubic metres – it remains an essential resource for the manufacture of animal feed. Operators may add it as an input, use it in the form of steam for granulation, or to carry out the cleaning steps for installations. Its availability constitutes, therefore, a logistical prerequisite, and its quality a major challenge for feed health safety.

In a context where useful fresh water is becoming scarcer due to climate change, pressure on natural environments and the growing regulation of uses, animal nutrition companies must adapt. The sector associations have, therefore, built a water sobriety plan for animal nutrition. Restrictions on the volume withdrawn may occur in certain regions, inciting industrialists to question their practices and explore alternative sourcing: borehole water, surface water, rainwater or recycled water.

Faced with these challenges, the Scientific Committee for Animal Nutrition (CSNA) was called upon to formulate a scientific opinion on the criteria for water quality in animal nutrition. This opinion aims to:

- recall the regulatory framework in force in animal nutrition establishments,
- define the different sources of water available and explain their definition,
- direct their use in a pragmatic way, according to their characteristics.

The recommendations proposed by the CSNA aim to inform professionals, but not, under any circumstances, substitute for their responsibility. The decisions concerning water use must be part of a structure risk analysis approach, in accordance with the principles of the HACCP method. Thus, each operator must assess, document and manage the specific risks for their activity, taking into account the characteristics of the water used, its uses, and the specific features of their industrial sites.

Criteria for acceptability of water:

The criteria for classifying water must be suitable for the uses for which it is intended:

1. When the water used comes from the network for potable water, this guarantee alone is enough to qualify the water as fit for all potential uses in feed plants.
2. When the water used does not come from the potable water network, the table below shows the minimum analytical requirements, whatever the water is used for (ingredient, steam, cleaning). However, when the water is used exclusively for steam production, the requirements below do not apply.

Frequency of analysis: Annual	Criteria	Upper limit	Notes
Microbiological criteria	Salmonella	Absence in 5 l	Qualimat Transport risk analysis The result must not vary beyond a factor 10 compared to the usual value (the usual value may be that of the year N-1 for example). * <i>relevant internal result for the cleaning point.</i>
	Total coliforms Intestinal	Absence in 0.1 l	
	enterococci	Absence in 0.1 l	
	E. coli.	Absence in 0.1 l	
	Sulphite-reducing anaerobes	Absence in 0.1 l	
Numeration of revivable aerobic germs at 22°C and at 36°C	–		

In the event of non-conformity, immediate corrections as well as corrective measures must be put in place.

The results of the analyses for the water used for cleaning containers used within the framework of the Qualimat Transport certification must comply with the microbiological criteria defined by the CSNA and the Qualimat Transport risk analyses.

ANNEX 3

Protocol for cleaning and disinfecting containers used for transporting prohibited goods, with a view to redeploying them for the transport of animal feed products”

Foreword:

Any transport operator wishing to redeploy one or more trailer or other container for transporting “products” for animal feed, which has been used previously for transporting prohibited goods, must observe the protocol below.

Note: *Caution! The Qualimat Transport Specifications include certain types of transported goods that prohibit redeployment of the container under any circumstances.*

The IDTF indicates the following Qualimat Transport Specifications requirement for these goods: “PROHIBITED, no redeployment procedure authorised”.

Step 1: Suitability of cleaning points:

The operations described in this protocol must be carried out at a cleaning point that belongs to an establishment using water consistent with the CSNA microbiological specifications (see annex 2, Qualimat Transport Specifications, at www.qualimat.org) and processing waste water in accordance with applicable regulations.

Step 2: Scheduling a cleaning-disinfection operation

When scheduling the operation, the operator must check if cleaning-disinfection is permissible by staff at the [cleaning point](#) in accordance with the protocol in this document. The type of goods necessitating the cleaning must be described.

Step 3: Cleaning-disinfection in accordance with the following procedure

- 3.1. Scraping and dry brushing in accordance with the specifications for the container:
 - Trailers: particular attention to joints and tarpaulins.
 - “Moving floor” trailers: particular attention to joints and tarpaulins and complete disassembly of planks and joints. A photograph should be taken of the disassembled parts and retained.
 - Tankers: all hoses replaced. Complete disassembly of cover seals for cleaning, with special attention to flexible doors, rigid air lines, unloading valves and non-return valves.
- 3.2. Cleaning with water (pressure 20-25 bars).
- 3.3. Cleaning with “approved food contact” detergent. Hot water should be used for this step if possible.
- 3.4. Rinsing with water.
- 3.5. Visual check for any remaining traces of matter.
- 3.6. Application of an approved food-contact disinfectant
- 3.7. Rinsing with water and a minimum 5-litre sample of the water from the final rinse taken by the company carrying out the cleaning (sample size to be confirmed with the laboratory doing the analysis).

Step 4: Certificate of cleaning-disinfection (see page 4/5 of this annex)

At the end of the cleaning process described in step 3 above, the **cleaning point** will issue a cleaning-disinfection certificate as on page 4/5 of this annex.

Step 5: Checking if the cleaning-disinfection process has been effective

The technical position n°2-004 defines the minimum analyses to be carried out as part of a process for the cleaning-disinfection of a container.

The analytical parameters vary according to the type of goods classified as “prohibited” in the IDTF. The transport operator must, therefore, carry out a risk analysis before each container redeployment operation. The analysis of the risks and any additional parameters to be analysed constitute key items that are assessed during third-party audits.

Specific case of second-hand containers: If the transport operator introduces a second-hand container into their fleet (purchase, rental or return from rental) without having obtained the transport history over the 12 months prior to the integration into the fleet and/or the written declaration required by the technical position n°4-002 (Traceability of second-hand containers), the contaminants described in point a) of the technical position n°2-004 must be searched for in the last rinsing water following a cleaning-disinfection protocol for the redeployment of the container:

Microbiological contaminants

- Salmonella
- Enterococci
- Escherichia coli (E. coli)
- Sulphite-reducing anaerobes

Non-organic contaminants - Heavy metals

- Arsenic
- Cadmium
- Fluorine
- Lead
- Mercury

Organic contaminants - Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAC)

- Benzo(a)pyrene
- Benzo(a)anthracene
- Benzo(b)fluoranthene
- Chrysene

The sample taken in sterile bottles from the last rinse (minimum 5 litres, see step 4) is given to the transport operator, who must send it to a laboratory for analysis within 24 hours to confirm that the water quality complies with the specifications of the technical position n°2-004.

A container is deemed to have responded favourably to the procedural requirements set out in step 3 if the result of the analysis is consistent with the criteria analysed above.

The analysis request form (see page 5/5 of this annex) must include the traceability elements required to establish a link between the sample, the result of the analysis and the container in question.

Step 6: Redeploying the container

A container may be used to transport “products” for animal feed only if the effectiveness check under step 5 is satisfactory.

If not, it cannot be used to transport animal feed “products” until the entire protocol has been repeated and a favourable analysis obtained on the last rinse water.

The results of the analysis should be attached to the cleaning-disinfection certificate. A copy of it must also be kept in the vehicle and produced on request.

Step 7: Documents and records

The transport operator and the person responsible for the [cleaning point](#) must keep all records relating to the redeployment of trailers and other containers for at least 2 years. These documents must be made available to the official control services and the certification body that audits the transport operator as part of the “Qualimat Transport” listing process.

CLEANING-DISINFECTION CERTIFICATE
For the redeployment of containers used for transporting prohibited goods, to enable them to transport animal feed “products”

Transport company requesting cleaning and disinfection	
Registration no. of container	
Goods necessitating the cleaning-disinfection	
Detergent and disinfectant used	

Cleaning company	
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Type of container:

Cereal tipping trailer	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
Moving-floor trailer	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
Tanker	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
Other container	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO

The service provider having carried out the cleaning-disinfection operations of the container with registration no.:

hereby certifies that the protocol indicated in the referenced document under Annex 3 of the current Qualimat Transport Specifications has been followed, in accordance with the type of container.

To be attached: photograph of disassembled components for “moving-floor” trailers.

In: _____ On: _____

Name of the operation supervisor:

Signature and stamp:

REQUEST FOR ANALYSIS
for the redeployment of containers used for transporting prohibited goods, to enable them to transport animal feed “products”

Send to: _____

Applicant: _____

Sample information:

Date sample taken: _____

Taken from rinsing water for container

Registration no.: _____

Owned by (company): _____

Request for analysis of water:

- Microbiological criteria
- pH
- Other searches required due to type of goods

Result and invoice to be sent to the applicant

In: _____

On: _____

Signature and stamp: