

Examiner's report

CTSI Professional Competency Framework

Stage 2: Feed Written Examiner's Report May 2022

General

The number of candidates choosing to sit the examination for the CTSI Professional Competency Framework for feed in May 2022 was ten. Marks ranged from 31 – 64.

The exam was on the whole well answered. It was evident that there had been a significant amount of revision for the subject area by some candidates and they understood feed law enforcement. It was also pleasing to see more candidates sitting the written exam and 90% being successful in passing.

The examination paper was split into two sections, with Section A comprising of 4 questions out of 6 that required answering and allowing up to 40% of the total marks awarded. Overall, this section was answered well with candidates showing a breadth of knowledge on the subject area. Where marks were lost it was due to not answering the question asked or there was a lack of detail in the answers provided.

Section B in the written examination required 2 questions to be chosen out of a choice of 4 and accounted for 60% of the total overall marks. Again, this section was answered well with few marks lost and showing a good standard of revision and understanding of the subject area by most candidates sitting the exam. Again, where marks were lost it was due to failing to answer the question asked or it was a lack of detail in the answers provided. It was evident that a number of candidates failed to make any reference to sampling and analysis in some of their answers which is a critical element to feed law enforcement.

The time allowed for the written examination was 1.5 hours plus 10 minutes reading time. Exam technique and time management did not appear to be an issue, with all papers marked completed. As a reminder to candidates preparing for future written examinations, ALL sections must be attempted, and the front of the exam paper provides guidance for candidates on the suggested time allocation per section.

Candidates need to be concise in their answer and need to ensure they answer the question asked. Spelling and grammar were fine, however there was difficulty in understanding the handwriting of some candidates which made marking exceptionally challenging.

Section A

Q1

This question was attempted by 2 candidates and gave an average mark of 4.5 out of a possible of 10 marks.

This question related to the official controls and retained Regulation EU 2017/625. Whilst this question was on the whole answered reasonably well by one candidate, the average mark was reduced due to a lack of detail given by a second candidate.

Q2

This question was attempted by 8 candidates and gave an average mark of 4 out of a possible of 10 marks.

This question related to Annex II of retained Regulation EU 1831/2003 and the prevention of cross contamination from equipment. The marks varied on this question with some candidates giving very good answers and others failing to give sufficient information. This subsequently reduced the average mark.

Q3.

This question was attempted by 8 candidates and gave an average mark of 6.9 out of a possible of 10 marks.

This question required candidates to detail the records they would expect to see when inspecting a feed manufacturer. Overall, this question was answered well, candidates had a good understanding on what records they would expect to see with one candidate achieving the full 10 marks for the answer given.

Q4.

This question was attempted by 7 candidates and gave an average mark of 5.7 out of a possible of 10 marks.

The question related to primary production. Overall, this question was answered well with one candidate achieving the full 10 marks. Where marks were lost, it was due to a lack of detail in the answer.

Q5.

This question was attempted by 6 candidates and gave an average mark of 7 out of a possible of 10 marks.

The question required the candidate to demonstrate that they understood feed hygiene registration, particularly R12, co-product producer. This question was answered well with one candidate achieving the full 10 marks.

Q6.

This question was attempted by 9 people and gave an average mark of 5.4 out of a possible 10 marks

This question required the candidates to explain the general mandatory labelling requirements for a feed material or compound feed in accordance with retained Regulation EU 767/2009. Generally, the question was answered well, however one candidate failed to be awarded any marks for the question which subsequently reduced the overall average mark.

Section B

Q7.

This question was attempted by 7 candidates and gave an average mark of 17.2 out of a possible 30 marks.

This question required the candidate to compare the differences between HACCP and Pre-Requisite Requirements in a raw pet food manufacturer. Marks were lost where candidates failed to answer the question asked. It is important that if given a scenario, answers are relevant to this. A number of

candidates failed to identify the hazards or controls for raw pet food and marks were subsequently lost as a result.

Q8.

This question was attempted by 3 candidates and gave an average mark of 9.3 out of a possible of 30 marks.

The question required the candidate to prepare a report on the official controls and retained Regulation EU 2017/625. Whilst one candidate answered the paper well, others did not, which subsequently reduced the average mark. When asked to produce a report, or write a brief, it is important that candidates do this. Easy marks are lost by not answering the question in the format requested.

Q9.

This was a popular question and was attempted by 9 candidates, giving an average mark of 15.2 out of a possible of 30 marks.

This question required candidates to detail what steps they would take where processed animal proteins have been found in a mill producing feed for ruminant animals. Overall, this was a well answered question though the average mark has been lowered by some candidates failing to answer the question asked. It is important that if given a scenario, answers are relevant to this.

Q10.

This question was attempted by 1 person and gave an average mark of 21 out of a possible of 30 marks.

This question required the candidate to demonstrate that they had knowledge on the challenges for both feed business operators and enforcement bodies responsible for feed following the UK departure from the EU. The answer given was good and demonstrated a reasonable level of understanding.