

Examiner's report

CTSI Professional Competency Framework

Stage 2: Feed Oral Examiner's Report May 2022

General

Nine candidates took the oral exam. The average pass mark was 55%. Marks ranged from 6 – 76.

The oral exam in May 22 was conducted via Microsoft Teams.

Despite the virtual nature of the examination, candidates are encouraged to:

- Keep good posture and maintain eye contact. Ensure that the computer is set up and the camera is steady and operational.
- Verbalise their thoughts otherwise there will be extended periods of silence where no marks are being gained.
- Be confident in the discussions with the examiner, even if unsure verbalise the thought process.
- Avoid rambling when you do not know the answer.

The oral examination comprised of a 15-minute interview with the candidate to assess competency with regards feed law. The format of the feed oral exam being held remotely without the examiner and the candidate meeting has been in operation for a couple of years now and appears to work well.

The oral examination was based on scenario situations with the expectation that candidates would discuss the matter presented to them. Marks were awarded for knowledge on the relevant legislation, enforcement powers, sampling procedures, how information was obtained and analysed, actions and conclusions and the manner of communication.

Area of knowledge	Examiners Comments
Knowledge of the Legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scenarios were presented that included the labelling and placing on the market of a feed material and associated claims. Inspection on farm for primary production, including powers and areas for audit. The sale of pet food and raw petfood. Overall, the exams went well with candidates recognising key pieces of legislation such as retained EU Regulation 183/2005 however weaknesses were evident in the knowledge of some candidates, particularly with regards claims and placing on the market.
Knowledge of Enforcement Powers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generally, a satisfactory level of knowledge shown on enforcement powers and the actions that can be taken to promote compliance including an understanding on

	the notices that can be served though prompting required for some candidates.
Sampling Procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Varying levels of knowledge on sampling procedures. With the portfolio being deferred and no longer requiring completion prior to the exam, this could account for the lack of knowledge evident with some candidates.
Information Obtained and Analysed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information was taken from the scenarios and overall, for some candidates was analysed well, for others prompting was required and a lack of knowledge did make it difficult for some candidates in the completeness of their answers. Discussions included reference to the law and practice.
Action and Conclusions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There were varying levels of knowledge demonstrated when detailing the actions that could be taken by a candidate for different scenarios. All candidates required a level of prompting to obtain information. It is important to consider the scenario and answer the question asked.
Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whilst it is more difficult to assess body language via Microsoft Teams, candidates overall appeared relaxed with good verbal communication.