

## Examiner's report

### CTSI Professional Competency Framework

#### Stage 2: Feed Oral Examiner's Report May 2021

##### General

5 candidates took the oral exam. The average pass mark was 45%. With marks ranging from the 30% - 39% bracket to the 70% - 79% bracket.

The oral exam in 2021 was conducted via Microsoft Teams due to Covid 19 restrictions.

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 your thoughts otherwise there will be long periods of silence where no marks are being gained.
- Be confident in the discussions with the examiner, even if unsure verbalise your thought process.
- Avoid rambling when you don't know the answer.

The oral examination comprised of a 15-minute interview with the candidate in order to assess competency with regards feed law. This is the second time that the feed oral exam has been held remotely without the examiner and the candidate meeting.

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"> <li>• Scenarios were presented that included the labelling and placing on the market of a feed material and associated claims, the inspection and use of former food on farm as feed and the sampling and HACCP procedures for a manufacturer. On the whole, some areas were answered 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 with regards claims being made about feed materials and the use of former foods as animal feed.</li> </ul>

<p>Knowledge of Enforcement Powers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Generally, a good 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. No candidate referred to the home authority or primary authority principles when referring a matter to another local authority.</li> </ul>
<p>Sampling Procedures</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Generally, a good level of knowledge on sampling procedures which is to be expected with the completion of the portfolio prior to the examination, though prompted at times, particularly with regards the reduction process to obtain the final sample.</li> </ul>
<p>Information Obtained and Analysed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information was taken from the scenarios and on the whole 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 and a good rationale given for what would be required for inspections.</li> </ul>
<p>Action and Conclusions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good level of knowledge and considered responses in respect of the actions an enforcement officer would need to take when presented with similar situations by some candidates, however others did struggle showing a lack of understanding of the law.</li> </ul>
<p>Communication</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More difficult to assess body language via Microsoft Teams, however candidates on the whole appeared relaxed with good verbal communication.</li> </ul>