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ISTA Annual Meeting
1st July 2024
Rose Riby –
Head of Seed

How the UK seed sector works



AIC Services



UFAS - Universal Feed Assurance Scheme

Provides an assurance system to ensure that feed destined for UK livestock meets safety requirements defined by legislators and industry.



TASCC - Trade Assurance Scheme for Combinable Crops

Provides an assurance system for the trading of combinable crops for food, feed and biofuel use, the trading of compound feed and feed materials and the transport and storage of combinable crops and animal feeds to meet safety requirements defined by legislators and industry.



FEMAS - Feed Materials Assurance Scheme

Provides an assurance system to ensure that feed ingredients destined for UK livestock meet safety requirements defined by legislators and industry.



FIAS - Fertiliser Industry Assurance Scheme

Provides an assurance system to ensure that the security, safety and traceability of fertilisers meet the requirements defined by legislators and industry.



ESTA - European Seed Treatment Assurance scheme

Provides a quality assurance system to ensure that seed treatment and the resulting treated seed meet requirements defined by legislators and industry.



Renewable Energy Directive (RED II)

RED, the EU's Renewable Energy Directive, came into force in June 2009.



Who we are



Working in support of modern, sustainable, commercial agriculture

Who we work with



Working in support of modern, sustainable, commercial agriculture

Seed – priorities at a glance

Regulation

- Seed treatments
- Plant health and biosecurity
- Derogations

Future UK agriculture

- Post EU Exit policy
- Conservation agriculture - Farming and Countryside Programme
- Changing consumer demand

Precision Breeding

- Precision Breeding Act (2023)
- EU and international approaches
- Research and innovation



Rose Riby
Head of Seed



Gill Barrow
Technical Manager (ESTA)



[WATCH ANIMATION](#)

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What food supply chain businesses need from the next UK Government

General Election Manifesto 2024

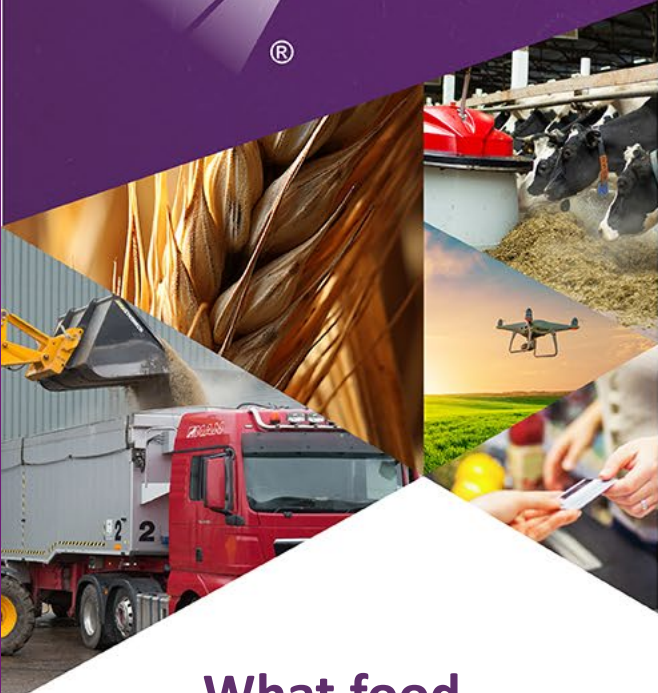
Productivity | Sustainability | Competitiveness



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**What food
supply chain
businesses need
from the next
UK Government**

AIC 3 priorities

- A comprehensive, Government approach to food security and land use
- Improve trade with the EU, and within the UK nations
- A consistent approach to sustainability in the food supply chain

General Election Manifesto 2024

Productivity | Sustainability | Competitiveness

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Meeting
1st July 2024**

What is ESTA?



European Seed Treatment Assurance

Euroseeds (ESA) developed ESTA to meet regulatory & political challenges

Quality assurance system

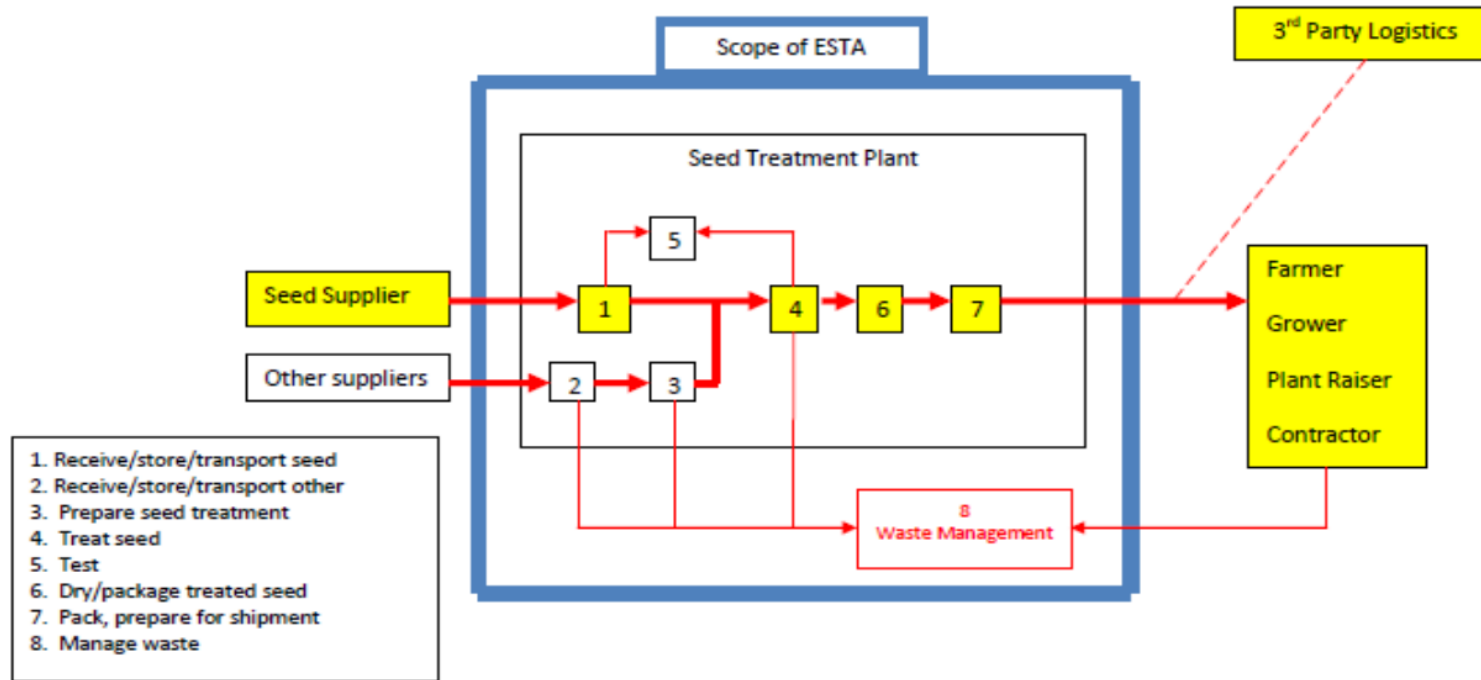
- seed treatment and the resulting treated seed meet requirements defined by legislation and industry

Scope – seed treatment chain



ESTA Scheme Components

1. Quality Assurance System
2. Description of processes
3. Risk analysis
4. Procedures
 1. Documents & records
 2. NCs
 3. Corrective/preventative measures
 4. Recall/complaints
5. Competence of personnel
6. Specific requirements for seed/seed treatment





Assurance Scheme

- Quality assurance scheme for the application of plant protection products on seed
- Ensures seed treatments are used professionally & safely applied
- ESTA certified companies accurately treat seed with plant protection products (PPP)
- AIC UK agent
- Independently audited

Benefits of seed treatment



Providing the seed sector with a marque of excellence



SEED TREATMENT ASSURANCE SCHEME

What is ESTA?

- Quality assurance scheme for the application of seed treatments, that include Plant Protection Products, and treated seed
- Provides guidance for the handling and use of treated seed
- It ensures seed treatments are used professionally and safely applied
- The seed treatment and resulting seed meet the required standards
- ESTA certified companies accurately and directly treat seed with plant protection products (PPP), resulting in quality treated seed and is beneficial for the environment
- Independently audited and can be jointly audited with TASC (Trade Assurance Scheme for Combinable Crops) to minimise cost

The voluntary standard of good practice addresses the entire seed supply chain, from seed cleaning to the seed in the field, resulting in quality products for the end user.

Benefits of ESTA

Seed treatments help to secure crop quality, safety and yield whilst using the minimum amount of pesticides.

- | | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Assurance of top quality seed treatment application | Independent auditing to assure customers and the public | Provides added confidence for decision makers when granting future seed treatment approvals | Marque of a professional seed treatment facility, using best techniques available to protect operators and the environment | Acts as one voice for the whole seed treatment industry, supports lobbying to government and Europe |

Aim of the UK ESTA Working Group

- To promote professional, responsible and sustainable seed treatment
- To be aware of and promote industry developments
- Promote best and safe practice for the customer and the environment
- Drive quality improvements
- Raise the profile of ESTA by engagement with government bodies, Euroseeds and regulators

How does it work?

- The standard is based on a quality management system to include specifications, training and HACCP
- The standard also requires the use of a HACCP (Hazard, Analysis, and Critical Control Point) which is a widely adopted form of risk assessment
- All records must be maintained as the standard is auditable
- It can be audited as a standalone audit or in conjunction with TASC (Trade Assurance Scheme for Combinable Crops)

Why ESTA?

Seed treatments can secure crop quality, safety and yield using the minimum amount of pesticides

The seed industry has decided to act in creating a voluntary EU standard of good practice which addresses the entire seed supply chain, from seed cleaning to the seed in the field, resulting in quality products for the end user

It is important that the industry is seen to lead the way in its responsibility for the customer and the environment

Certified treatment facilities may use the ESTA logo on their products to demonstrate compliance

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- environment, health and financially
- lower chemical intensity per hectare
- more environmentally friendly than spraying crops
- seed treatments combine precision and a minimal active ingredient
- maximises the efficacy with minimal environmental impact

Delivering value

sector

ESTA Committees



- European Review Group
- Annual Workshop

90% treated seed – ESTA certified

- AIC Working Group representatives;
 - ESTA certified Participants
 - Product manufacturers
 - Certification Body
 - NAAC (National Association of Agricultural Contractors)
 - Euroseeds – represent European seed sector

ESTA Working Group Aim



- To promote professional, responsible & sustainable seed treatment
- To be aware of & promote industry developments
- Promote best & safe practice for the customer & the environment
- Drive change
- Raise the profile of ESTA by engagement with Government bodies, ESA (European Seed Association) & regulators

European Seed Treatment Assurance scheme animation



Thank you

