

Quality Assurance. From farm to shop.



QS-REPORT Meat and Meat Products

QS. Ihr Prüfsystem für Lebensmittel.

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Insert: Facts, Figures and Data

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Dear Reader,

The following pages contain facts and figures on QS in 2014, providing a compact review of our joint achievements in the QS scheme. We also report on exchange with other standard owners as well as on the signing of new bilateral agreements. All recognitions have been reviewed and updated to ensure the continued reliability of cross-border quality assurance. You can read more about this at the bottom of the page.

The editorial team would be pleased to receive questions and suggestions on the QS-Report to presse@q-s.de.

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Cross-border quality assurance

When it comes to the cross-border transport of goods, QS scheme participants can rely on compliance with high quality standards and full traceability. Last year, QS further extended its cooperation with other standard owners in order to ensure comparable Europe-wide standards for the quality assurance of meat and feed as well as in the area of livestock management.

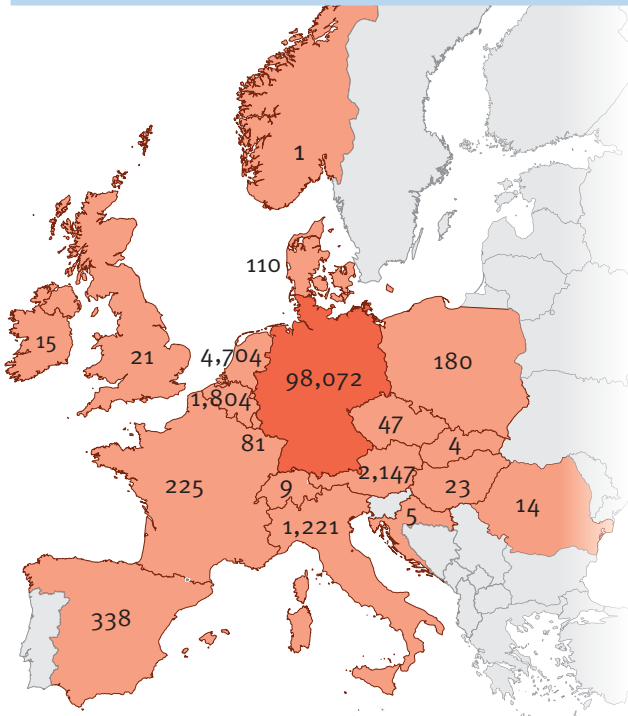


New bilateral agreements were signed and all mutual recognitions thoroughly reviewed. QS currently has contracts with 16 other standard owners in eight European countries. They have now all entered into a commitment to introduce unannounced audits based on the requirements of the QS scheme. In addition, QS successfully lobbied for the introduction of a central incident and crisis management system. The mutual agreements between the standards play a decisive role in ensuring internationally comparable quality assurance,“ explains QS Managing Director Dr. Hermann-Josef Nienhoff. „This underpins the high availability of goods of a secured quality level while avoiding additional costs due to duplicate audit processes.“

Contracting partner audit recognition	Country	Companies authorized to deliver
Feed		
Ovocom/Bemefa (Ovocom-GMP)	Belgium	197 (production, trade, storage, transport)
GMP+ International (GMP+ FSA)	International	4,774 (production, trade, storage, transport)
Agriculture Industries Confederation, AIC (UFAS, FEMAS, TASSC)	United Kingdom	31 (production, trade, storage, transport)
Agrarmarkt Austria Marketing (pastus+)	Austria	31 (production, trade, storage)
Qualimat Transport (Qualimat Transport)	France	14 (transport)
EFISC Aisbl. (EFISC)	International	9 (production starch, oilseeds)
FamiQS (FamiQS Code of Practice)	International	853 (production additives)
Coceral (GTP code)	International	152 (route traders)
Agricultural production and feed sector		
Codiplan vzw. (Codiplan plus)	Belgium	1,630 (pig farming)
DGB B.V. (IKB Nederland Varkens)	Netherlands	1,723 (pig farming)
CBD B.V. (IKB Varkens)	Netherlands	2,617 (pig farming)
Agrarmarkt Austria Marketing	Austria	1,712 (cattle farming)
Danish Agriculture & Food Council (LW: Productstandard, SZ: Global Red Meat Standard)	Denmark	6,820 (pig farming) 11 (slaughtering/deboning)
Belpork (Certus)	Belgium	2,230 (pig farming) 33 (slaughtering/deboning)
Bord Bia (BLQAS)	Ireland	3 (slaughtering/deboning)
QM-Milch (Recognition cows)	Germany	37,055 (dairy cattle farming)

Number of scheme participants increases

23,408 food retail outlets can offer meat and meat products with the QS certification mark.



As of 1 January 2014, broiler and turkey producers may only raise chicks that come from QS-certified hatcheries. In order to produce QS chicks, hatcheries must procure their hatching eggs from QS-certified breeding poultry businesses.

The QS meat and meat products supply chain comprises 108,935 participants in 21 countries (as of 1 January 2015), an increase of 2,243 scheme participants (+ 2.1 percent) on 2013. The growth in the number of participants was particularly strong in the field of cattle farming (+ 5.4 percent). The number of scheme participants in the area of slaughtering and deboning has also grown significantly (+ 13.4 percent), while the number of scheme participants farming pigs is down slightly (- 0.8 percent). The number of foreign businesses among QS scheme participants in the meat and meat products sector increased by 1,170 in 2014, and they now account for 10 percent of the total.

Number of scheme participants 2014

Stage	Germany 98,072	Other countries 10,863	Total 108,935	Change on 2013 +2,243
Feed sector	2,998	611	3,609	+127
- feed material production ^{1,2}	963	151	1,114	-2
- compound feed production ³	913	307	1,220	+33
- trade, transport, storage ⁴	1,122	153	1,275	+96
Agricultural production	69,679	9,542	79,221	+1,887
• cattle farming ⁵	33,323	1,722	35,045	+1,811
• pig farming ⁶	33,429	6,158	39,587	-332
• poultry farming/hatcheries	2,927	1,662	4,589	+408
Livestock transport	1,608	277	1,885	+140
Slaughtering/deboning	363	103	466	+55
Processing⁷	332	14	346	+34
Food retail⁸	23,092	316	23,408	-

- 1 Further 353 businesses eligible to deliver due to GMP+ certification
- 2 Including 61 additive and premix production
- 3 Including 504 mobile feed milling and mixing plants
- 4 Further 4,156 businesses eligible to deliver due to GMP+ certification
- 5 Further 37,055 businesses eligible to deliver slaughter cows due to QM-milk auditing
- 6 Further 6,820 QSG businesses (DK) and 2,230 Certus businesses (B) with eligibility of delivery due to bilateral agreements
- 7 Including 87 butchery businesses
- 8 Including 143 meat wholesale companies

Independent inspections by trained auditors

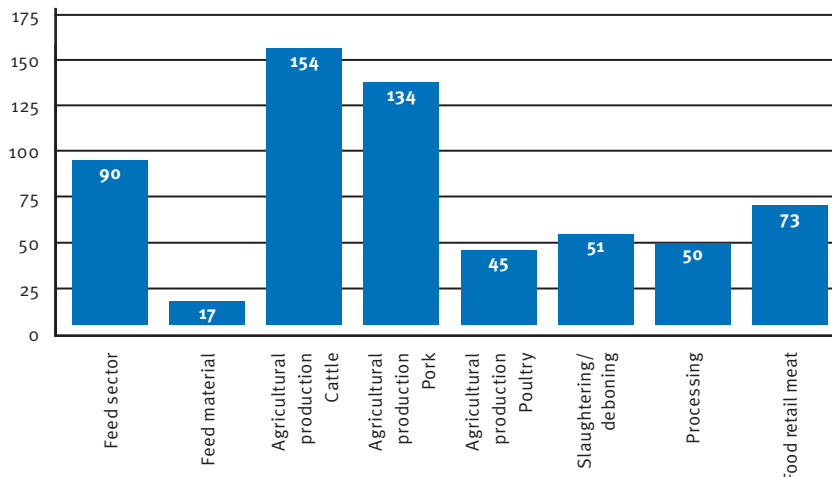
29 certification bodies (previous year: 38) are approved for the meat and meat products supply chain, and four of these bodies are based outside Germany. 381 auditors acting on behalf of these certification bodies possess approvals for the individual stages in the QS scheme.

Annual training courses

1,127 tests were written to renew the stage-specific approvals for auditors. 14 percent of all tests were passed with a mark of > 90 percent. The average failure rate was 12

percent (previous year: 10 percent). Ten auditors were deregistered by the certification body due to failed tests or failure to attend training courses, and 34 approvals were withdrawn by QS.

Number of approved auditors (multiple approvals are possible)



Subject-specific trainings (amount)	Participants
Agricultural production (8)	179
Feed sector (4)	60
Slaughtering/deboning, processing (3)	53
Food retail (2)	64
Foreign-language training (1)	6



QS requirements under the microscope

Last year, 31,984 audits were carried out at QS-certified businesses in the meat and meat products supply chain. The 130 businesses in the meat wholesale stage are particularly thorough when it comes to implementing the QS requirements, and there were no K.O. assessments at all in this stage. The picture was similar in the other stages - including the feed sector, agriculture, animal transport and processing - where the auditors conducted a successful audit in over 97 percent of all cases.

82 reports from scheme participants, third parties or from the media were processed in the **internal incident and crisis management system**. Roughly 85 percent of the reports were routine cases.

Stage	Number of regular audits (thereof K.O./no approval)	
	2014	2013
Total	31,984 (815)	34,987 (692)
Feed sector	1,193 ¹ (48)	1,309 (41)
Agricultural production	24,026 (483)	26,116 (292)
Cattle farming	10,666 (273)	14,107 (117)
Pig farming	10,534 (190)	10,277 (140)
Poultry farming ²	2,826 (20)	1,732 (35)
Hatcheries	42 (1)	-
Livestock transport	439 (2)	1,243 (10)
Slaughtering/deboning	238 (2)	202 (6)
Processing	193 (5)	154 (2)
Meat Wholesale	138 (-)	113 (-)
Food retail	5,715 (274)	5,850 (341)

¹ Thereof 383 inspections (small scale feed production and mobile feed milling and mixing plant)

² Since 2014 including breeder farming

Random sample audits for animal transports for the first time

In 2014, QS performed 307 unannounced random sample audits. For the first time, animal transports were also inspected at selected abattoirs, where aspects such as hygiene, unloading practice, space allowances, animal labelling or onboard documents were monitored. The results show that the companies in the QS scheme are reliable companies, with around 96 percent passing the additional inspection. Nonconformities that had to be sanctioned with a K.O. assessment were only found in 13 companies.



The requirements with the **most frequent C or D evaluations** include general keeping requirements, veterinarian care contracts, room, equipment and plant hygiene, or the drafting of and compliance with the QS control plan for feed.

Stage	Number of random sample audits (thereof K.O./no approval)
Total	307 (13)
Feed sector	14 (-)
Agricultural production	198 (7)
Livestock transport	20 (1)
Slaughtering/deboning	17 (-)
Processing	6(-)
Meat Wholesale	4(-)
Food retail	48 (5)

Extract K.O. evaluations

- Implementation of feed monitoring
- QS-approval of supplier
- Carrying out self-controls
- Implementation of corrective actions
- Permanent use of hobbles
- Documentation of stock care
- Labelling of pigs
- Temperature control
- Implementation of corrective actions
- Labelling of QS goods
- Implementation of corrective actions
- Incoming good inspection and temperature control
- Evidence of (hygiene) trainings

Stage	2014 (previous year)
Total of sanction procedures	307 (130)
Feed sector	13 (7)
Agricultural production	275 (109)
• Cattle	131 (29)
• Pig	136 (59)
• Poultry	8 (21)
Livestock transport	3(-)
Slaughtering/deboning	2 (3)
Processing/butchery	4 (4)
Food retail	10 (7)

There were **292 additional audits of special purpose**, more than five times the number performed in 2013. In contrast to random sample audits, audits of special purpose are carried out in response to the concrete events or leads.

Sanction Board punishes violations

307 sanction procedures were processed in the meat and meat products supply chain. In 90 cases, the Sanction Board confined itself to issuing a warning, a contract fine was imposed in addition to the warning in 174 cases, and penalties such as bans on deliveries into the QS scheme or increased audit frequencies were issued in 40 cases.

Monitoring programmes in the QS scheme

Safe feed – safe food

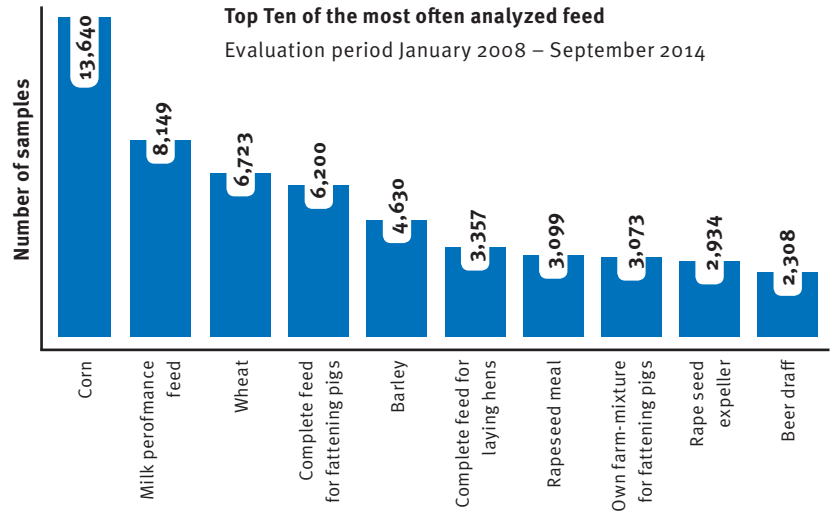
5,302 feed companies had 25,794 samples tested in 2014 within the framework of feed monitoring. The number of entered test results is slightly higher than in the previous year at 434,031 (+ 8.3 percent). Exceedances were only found in 36 cases.

The entire database for QS feed monitoring was systematically evaluated in 2014 for the first time and summarised in the **Monitoring Report Feed**. In future, the report will be published every autumn. It can be viewed and downloaded at www.q-s.de.

110 abattoirs and **more than 500 veterinarians** are registered as samplers for salmonella monitoring.

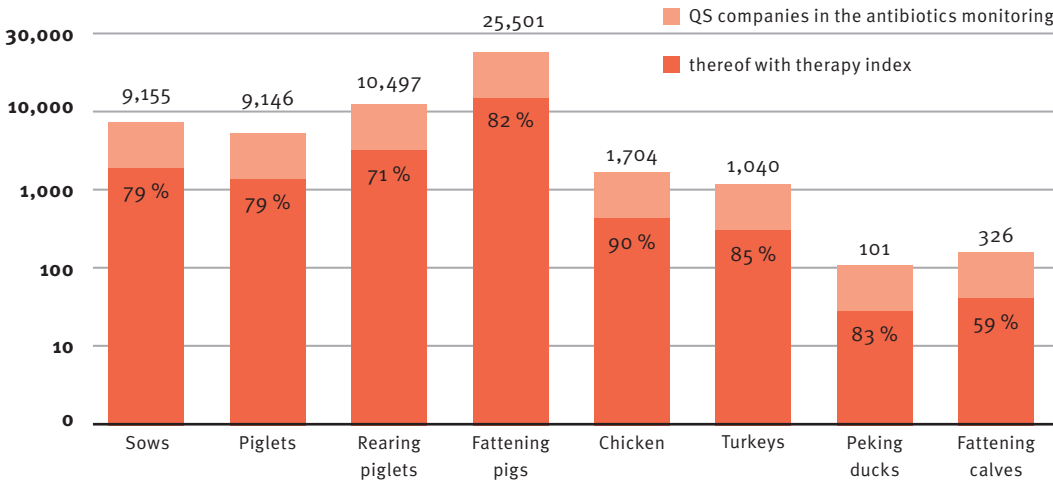
Reducing the salmonella risk

23,756 pig fattening businesses in Germany were subject to mandatory salmonella monitoring. A total of 1.62 million samples were taken for salmonella antibody testing. The percentage of positive samples was in the order of 14.5 percent, down by 0.7 percent on the previous year. As a result of the major efforts in livestock management, the number of cases of salmonellosis in humans has fallen significantly in recent years (by 56 percent since 2000 according to the Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR)). Nevertheless, all those involved in meat production must continue to do all they can to reduce the risk of salmonella.



Up to the cut-off date on 14 January 2015, QS transferred **more than 167,000 data records on antibiotics administration to the HIT database** on behalf of 17,900 businesses. This ensures that data are only documented once in QS and used to meet further reporting obligations.

QS companies in the antibiotics monitoring 2014



Optimising the use of antibiotics

In 2014, the data from 753,388 treatment notes was entered in the antibiotics database. It was possible to reliably calculate the therapy index for the majority of businesses. This means the livestock farmers can evaluate the use of antibiotics at their locations. The therapy index can only be determined for businesses for which the data is fully available for a period of 6 months.

In 2015, the focus is on the use of so-called reserve antibiotics (fluorchinolones, cephalosprins of the 3rd and 4th generation). A separate therapy index is to be computed, and livestock farmers and veterinarians provided with targeted information on the use of these antibiotics, which are also of importance in the field of human medicine.

65 QS-approved laboratories perform tests within the framework of **QS feed monitoring** and **26 laboratories** are approved for testing for **salmonella antibodies**.

Current numbers of the QS scheme can be found in the internet at www.q-s.de under „Publications“.

Imprint

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