**SQC Mass Balance Guidance Note**

**What is this guidance note for?**

To provide clarity on SQC Standard 3.3 – Mass Balance, why it is required, what is required and how to complete a Mass Balance to satisfy the standard requirements.

**Why do we need to do this?**

Being assessed to this standard ensures that all members of the SQC Scheme are compliant to the Renewable Energy Directive (RED).

RED is an European Directive which needs to be satisfied if any crop is to be exported to the EU. This ensures that scheme members have access to all market opportunities with their produce.

**What is Standard 3.3 – Mass Balance?**

In short:

* All growers must use a mass balance system and retain records for 5 years.
* The record must include actual or estimated weights of crop entering the store or farm.
* The record must include actual or estimated weights of crops leaving the store or farm.
* The record must include if any non-RED compliant crop has entered and left the store or farm.
* The mass balance must be for a 12 month period and updated every 3 months.

The amount of crop moved off farm for biofuel must not exceed the amount of compliant crop brought into store/onto farm.

e.g If you store 100 tonnes of biofuel compliant crop, you cant sell 200 tonnes for biofuel.

**Do you need to do this if you don’t sell any crops for biofuels?**

Yes – This standard applies to all growers.

**How do I complete a Mass Balance?**

A mass balance template has been produced to assist with recording this information.

This template does not need to be completed if all the information is recorded on a different format.

Table

Description automatically generated

Balance every 3 months.

How much taken in less amount taken out

How much crop has moved out of the store. Record crop away for biofuels and crops away for other uses separately.

How much compliant and non-complaint crop has been loaded into store? Estimate or actual amounts

Date crop moved in/out of store. It can be the whole month or a period.

Eg. “July 2022” or “2nd to 10th August”

Totals every 3 months for all columns.

i.e How much compliant crop is still in store after 6 months and how much has been sold.

Member Details