



**SCOTTISH
QUALITY CROPS**

NEWS UPDATES

April 2026

A NEW SEASON SPRINGS FORWARD

Welcome to the latest issue of the SQC enews – our chance to keep you up to date with work that is happening within SQC and our Certification Body, FIA, as we continue to enhance the service delivery of audits and certification for all assured growers. Our main focus at the start of this year has been on the SQC Standards Review which has included significant engagement across the industry whilst we pull together all views.

This has not only allowed us to gain important insight into farmers' views on SQC and Standards but to also engage wider across the supply chain and develop new contacts.

It certainly is not an easy road to navigate out there at the moment, so we are working hard to ensure that we deliver a scheme which maintains access to all available markets whilst also looking at potential new opportunities for Scottish crop growers.

SQC Full Standards Review

Following the first phase of the full SQC Standards Review, we have now produced the following documents:

- 📄 SQC Standards Review – Justification of Standards
- 📄 SQC Standards Q&A

The second phase of the review will start at the end of this month. A second Standards Review update will be issued to all growers at this point explaining the process to date, the content of the documents, how to access them via the SQC website and how to provide additional feedback during the next stage of consultation.

We will also be undertaking an additional four weeks of consultation with the wider industry and supply chain before taking all findings to the SQC Board during the summer.

If you have any queries, please get in touch.



Teresa Dougall,
SQC Managing Director



2026 SQC Grain Passports

By now, you will have received an update from our Certification Body, FIA, with a reminder that your passports for this year's harvest will be available only via access to their Auditee Portal.

Remember – you can't use last year's passport – all passports have the issue year at the bottom of the document.

FIA's update clearly indicates what you should do and we would ask that you do this as soon as possible. Here's a quick recap.

If you have already registered and accessed the portal

Please check you can still access it via the below website

<https://saos.intact-platform.com/Login.aspx>

If you have forgotten your log in details, you can reset your username and password within the portal. Refer to attached "How to re-set Password" User Guide for step-by-step guidance.

If you still haven't registered

Please contact the FIA Office on **0131 609 0558** to request FIA Auditee Portal Registration details

AND REMEMBER – HELP IS ON HAND

If you have any additional queries about registering or logging in, please contact the FIA team on:

Telephone: **0131 609 0558**

or email info@foodassurance.co.uk

BOOKING YOUR SQC ASSESSMENTS

When contacted by your SQC assessor it would greatly assist with audit tracking and process if you could agree a date for your audit. This helps us all to better manage the administration process that takes place behind the scenes – ensuring smooth delivery of audits for all – and to work with you to agree a date suitable for both you and the assessor. Some assessors cover quite a distance, so will try to schedule their assessments based on location. At a time when fuel prices are very high – and still on the increase – we are all endeavouring to keep costs to a minimum whilst still working together to organise a time that suits all.

You may also be contacted by a different assessor this year. Due to accreditation requirements, FIA must rotate its assessors to ensure they deliver no more than three consecutive assessments on the same farm and they are now into year 4 of their contract with SQC. We appreciate this may cause some concern or anxiety to growers who will have become used to an assessor. However, this is just part of the requirements that FIA as a Certification Body must adhere to – so please do work with us on this. Remember – all assessors undergo the same calibration training so are assessing against the same SQC Standards and requirements.



LAUNCH OF NEW SQC WEBSITE

Hopefully you will have seen that we recently launched a newly designed SQC website – making it easier to use and navigate – and now with its own search facility. Work continues to improve its content and you may notice some small changes as we make it as easy as possible for you to find all information and documentation.

If you haven't already had a look, why not do so now – just click here.



As always, if you have any suggestions or comments, please do let me know.

Farm Assurance Review (FAR) Update

SQC has now provided additional feedback to the FAR Commissioner and Promar to detail SQC progress on the FAR recommended actions from September 2025 to mid-February 2026. Plus, we have updated our status report on the actions which we have been tasked with taking forward and this can be viewed by clicking here.

If you have any questions on specific actions, please contact me at:

teresa.dougall@scottishqualitycrops.co.uk

CLICK HERE
to review FAR status



**SCOTTISH
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www.sqcrops.co.uk

Click here to follow SQC on LinkedIn 

FIA Contact Details

Telephone: **0131 609 0558** or info@foodassurance.co.uk

Website: sqcrops.co.uk (where you will find an enquiry form) or foodintegrityassurance.co.uk