



REDcert²

System principles for biomass production in the food industry

Version 02

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Introduction

To ensure a constant and safe supply of agricultural raw materials consistent with the principles of sustainable farming, the Sustainable Agriculture Initiative Platform (SAI) was initiated by various globally operating food producers. With the Farm Sustainability Assessment (SPA), standardised criteria were developed to evaluate and report on sustainable farming practices. These criteria are already largely covered by the existing REDcert-EU certification scheme. In addition, other sustainability standards called for by the food industry were set for food made from biomass. These apply for companies along the entire production, processing and supply/trade chain. Every company that produces and supplies biomass for food production must commit to complying with the REDcert² system requirements recognised by SAI.

The REDcert² system requirements were evaluated by the Sustainable Agriculture Initiative Platform (benchmarking) and are considered equivalent to the FSA criteria.

This document describes which additional requirements must be fulfilled - based on the proven REDcert-EU system - to obtain REDcert² certification for producers, sellers and processors of biomass for the food sector.

1 Certification system and definition of terms

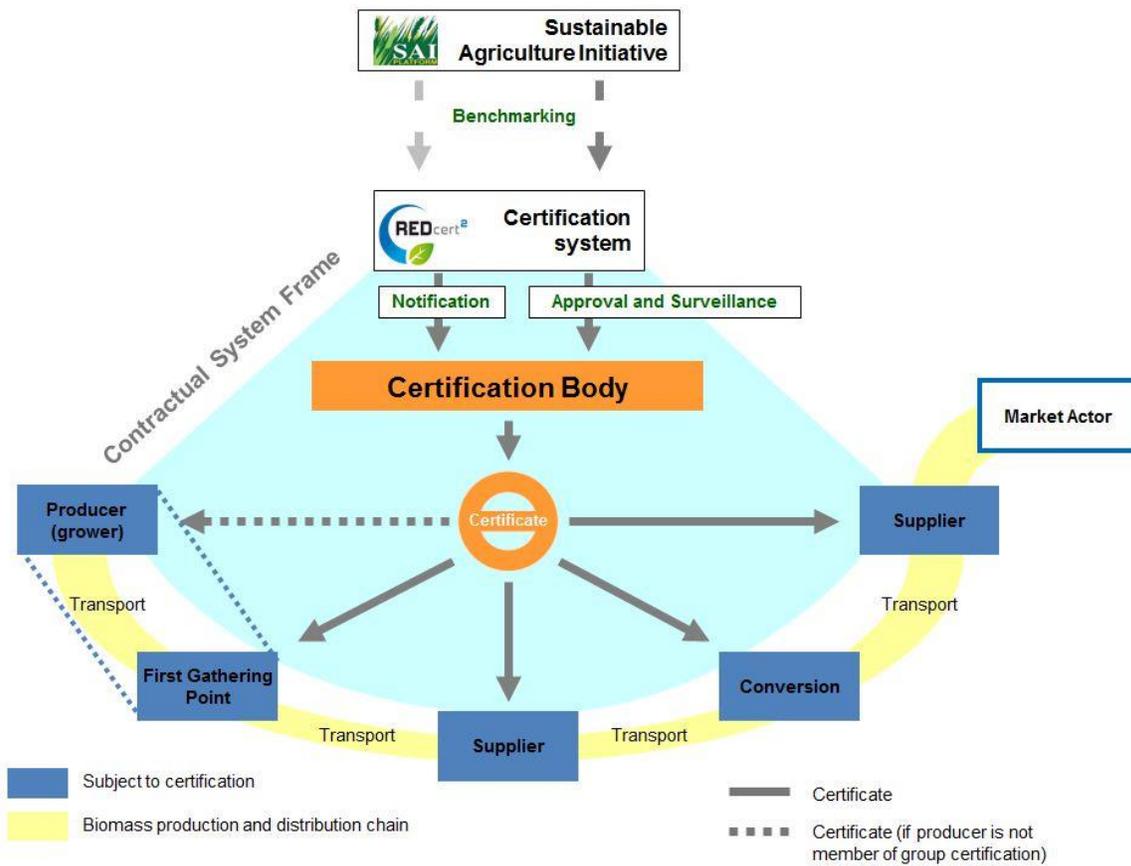
REDcert² system

REDcert² is a certification scheme for sustainable biomass production for the food industry. It can also be expanded to include the steps of processing (conversion) and supply/trade.

Biomass

The term biomass includes exclusively plant-based products (agricultural raw materials) and the products made from them.

The diagram below provides an overview of the structure and function of the REDcert² system principles:



The production and supply chain for biomass for the food industry involves the following actors:

Producer

Producers own and/or use farmland on which biomass is farmed and harvested as a raw material for food production. They are required to provide detailed information on the type, location and size of the fields used to produce sustainable biomass and, if applicable, provide the status of the farm with respect to the requirements and standards under the scope of the provisions under "Environment" in section A, nos. 1-8 and section B, no. 9 of Annex II of DIRECTIVE (EC) 73/2009 from 19 January 2009 (cross compliance criteria). For certification purposes, they also

have to grant access to all data and information related to the production and traceability of sustainable biomass.

First gathering point

First gathering points receive biomass from the producer for resale or further processing. Even if the biomass is supplied on behalf of a first gathering point directly to a storage or conversion facility, the first gathering point is subject to certification as what is known as an "interface".

The first gathering points are responsible for determining the origin, quality and quantity of the supplied sustainable biomass. They are required to set up a mass balancing system to document all deliveries of sustainable biomass. First gathering points are inspected once a year (12-month period) by a certification body. As part of the annual certification, the operating sites or storage facilities maintained by the first gathering point are also subject to sample inspections (for more information, see the REDcert document "System principles of neutral inspections").

The first gathering points are issued a certificate as proof that they satisfy the system requirements.

Interfaces

Interfaces are economic actors along the production and supply chain that require certification. A distinction is made between:

- First gathering points
- Conversion plants of all types such as oil mills, sugar factories, etc.

Supplier

Many economic actors along the production/supply chain up to the food processing operation are involved in sales or storage of biomass or act as brokers. These economic actors are considered "suppliers" under REDcert².

Suppliers may handle sustainable biomass (storage, mixing) without converting the biomass. This definition also includes intermediate suppliers/phases that do not "physically" handle the biomass.

Conversion plant

Biomass is converted in oil mills, grain mills, malt factories, sugar factories, etc. They are required to set up a mass balancing system in which all deliveries with sustainable biomass are documented before and after conversion

All companies or company groups (producer group) of the conversion facilities mentioned above as examples are issued a certificate to prove that they fulfil the system requirements.

2 Scope of application

The requirements for the GHG savings potential and the respective calculation methods do not apply to the production of biomass for the food industry. This means, unlike the use of biomass for "biofuels, every biomass delivery for the food industry does not have to be labelled for its respective GHG emissions values or the respective disaggregated default value.

The table below links the key elements of the REDcert-EU system to the REDcert² system requirements:

REDcert-EU "Scope and basic system requirements"; chapter	REDcert ²	Reference to the respective law
1 Introduction	✓ (see REDcert-EU scope and basic system requirements; for more information, see the introduction to this document)	
2 REDcert's self-defined role	✓ (see REDcert-EU scope and basic system requirements)	
3 Scope of application	✓ (see REDcert-EU scope and basic system requirements; for more information, see the introduction to this document)	
4 Organisational structure of RED-cert	✓ (see REDcert-EU scope and basic system requirements)	
5 The RED-cert certification scheme	✓ (see REDcert-EU scope and basic system requirements; the exception are the requirements for the GHG savings potential and the calculation methods (5.2))	Directive 2009/28/EC
5.1 Sustainability requirements for farming and producing biomass	✓ (see REDcert-EU scope and basic system requirements)	
5.2 Requirements for the GHG emissions saving and the calculation methods	✗ (not applicable)	
5.3 Requirements for traceability and mass balancing for the continuous proof of origin of biomass	✓ (see REDcert-EU scope and basic system requirements)	

5.4 Documentation requirements	✓ (see REDcert-EU scope and basic system requirements)	
5.5 System function	✓ (see introduction to this document)	
5.6 Registration and certification	✓ (see REDcert-EU scope and basic system requirements)	
5.7 Other certification systems	✗ (currently not applicable)	
6 Measures for transparency and prevention of misuse and fraud	✓ (see REDcert-EU scope and basic system requirements)	
7 Costs for participating companies	✓ (see REDcert-EU scope and basic system requirements)	

3 Requirements for sustainable biomass production

Overview of the requirements for sustainable biomass production

REDcert-EU "System principles for biomass production for the food industry"; chapter...	REDcert ²	Reference to the respective law
3.1 Land with high biodiversity value (Art. 17 (3) of the RED)	✓ (see REDcert-EU system principles for the production of biomass, bioliquids and biofuels)	Article 17 (3) of Directive 2009/28/EC
3.2 Land with high above-ground or underground carbon stock (Article 17 (4) of the RED)	✓ (see REDcert-EU system principles for the production of biomass, bioliquids and biofuels)	Article 17 (4) a), b) and c) of Directive 2009/28/EC
3.3 Land that was peatland in January 2008 (Art. 17 (5) of the RED)	✓ (see REDcert-EU system principles for the production of biomass, bioliquids and biofuels)	Article 17 (5) of Directive 2009/28/EC
3.4 Requirements for biofuels/bioliquids made from waste and residues	✗	Article 17 (1) of Directive 2009/28/EC
3.5 Environmentally responsible biomass production	✓ (see REDcert-EU system principles for the production of biomass, bioliquids and biofuels)	
3.5.1 Groundwater protection	✓ (see REDcert-EU system principles for the production of biomass, bioliquids and biofuels)	List I and II of Directive 80/68/EEC
3.5.2 Fertiliser use	✓ (see REDcert-EU system principles for the production of biomass, bioliquids and biofuels)	Directive 91/676/EEC
3.5.3 Use of sludge	✓ (see REDcert-EU system principles for the production of biomass, bioliquids and biofuels)	Article 2 of Directive 86/278/EEC
3.5.4 Handling and use of pesticides	✓ (see REDcert-EU system principles for the production of biomass, bioliquids and biofuels)	Directive 2009/128/EC
3.5.5 Integrated plant protection	✓ (see REDcert-EU system prin-	Directive 2009/128/EC

<p>3.5.6 Soil erosion prevention</p>	<p>principles for the production of biomass, bioliquids and biofuels; 3.5.12 Use of plant protection agents must also be complied with)</p> <p>✓ (see REDcert-EU system principles for the production of biomass, bioliquids and biofuels)</p>	<p>Regulation (EC) No. 73/2009</p>
<p>3.5.7 Preservation of organic matter and soil structure</p>	<p>✓ (see REDcert-EU system principles for the production of biomass, bioliquids and biofuels; 3.5.13 Soil management must also be complied with)</p>	<p>Regulation (EC) No. 73/2009</p>
<p>3.5.8 Water protection and management</p>	<p>✓ (see REDcert-EU system principles for the production of biomass, bioliquids and biofuels; 3.5.10 Irrigation management must also be complied with)</p>	<p>Directive 2000/60/EC</p>
<p>3.5.9 Social responsibility</p> <p>[✓] [✗] [✓] [✓] [✗] [✗] [✗]</p>	<p>✓ (see REDcert-EU system principles for the production of biomass, bioliquids and biofuels; see also 3.5.9 Social responsibility for this document)</p> <p>3.5.10 Irrigation management</p> <p>3.5.11 Use of seeds/planting stock</p> <p>3.5.12 Use of plant protection agents</p> <p>3.5.13 Soil management</p> <p>3.5.14 GHG-oriented resource and energy use (energy efficiency)</p> <p>3.5.15 Waste management</p> <p>3.5.16 Farm management</p>	<p>International Labour Organization (ILO)</p> <p>Directive 2000/60/EC</p> <p>Regulation (EC) No. 178/2002</p> <p>Directive 2009/128/EC</p> <p>Regulation (EC) No. 73/2009</p> <p>Directive 2009/28/EC and Regulation (EC) No. 1305/2013</p> <p>Directive 2008/98/EC</p> <p>Regulation (EC) No. 1307/2013</p>
<p>3.6. Cut-off date</p>	<p>✓ (see REDcert-EU system principles for the production of biomass, bioliquids and biofuels)</p>	<p>Directive 2009/28/EC</p>
<p>3.7 Documentation requirements</p>	<p>✓ (see REDcert-EU system principles for the production of bio-</p>	<p>Directive 2009/28/EC</p>

	mass, bioliquids and biofuels)	
3.8 Conformity with the RED requirements criteria	✓ (see REDcert-EU system principles for the production of biomass, bioliquids and biofuels)	Directive 2009/28/EC
4 First gathering points	✓ (see REDcert-EU system principles for the production of biomass, bioliquids and biofuels)	Directive 2009/28/EC
5 Suppliers	✓ (see REDcert-EU system principles for the production of biomass, bioliquids and biofuels)	Directive 2009/28/EC
6 Interface / last interface	✓ (see REDcert-EU system principles for the production of biomass, bioliquids and biofuels)	Directive 2009/28/EC
6.2 Issuing sustainability certificates	✗	Directive 2009/28/EC

3.1 Land with high biodiversity value (Art. 17 (3) of the RED)

See REDcert document "System principles for the production of biomass, bioliquids and biofuels".

3.2 Land with high above-ground or underground carbon stock (Article 17 (4) of the RED)

See REDcert document "System principles for the production of biomass, bioliquids and biofuels".

3.3 Land that was peatland in January 2008 (Art. 17 (5) of the RED)

See REDcert document "System principles for the production of biomass, bioliquids and biofuels".

3.4 Requirements for biofuels/bioliquids made from waste and residues

See REDcert document "System principles for the production of biomass, bioliquids and biofuels".

3.5 Environmentally responsible biomass production

In all EU member states, the cross compliance requirements relate to "statutory management requirements" (SMR), to the standards for maintaining arable land in "good agricultural and environmental condition" (GAEC) and the regulations for maintaining permanent grassland. REGULATION (EU) No. 1306/2013 contains the provisions on cross compliance (CC) regulation.

Sustainable biomass farmed in the Community, also biomass that is used to produce biofuels and bioliquids in accordance with DIRECTIVE 2009/28/EC (Renewable Energy Directive), must be produced in accordance with Regulation (EC) no. 73/2009 (direct payment scheme) under the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). The amount of the payments is determined by the extent to which CC requirements are satisfied.

If biomass is produced without taking advantage of direct payments, sustainable production of this biomass must also be assessed for compliance with the SMR, GAEC and CAP requirements.

The details below explain the background and gives information on how to put the respective provisions into operational practice. They thus serve as a guide for producers and auditors to assess conformity with the REDcert² system requirements; but do not claim to be complete.

3.5.1 Groundwater protection

See REDcert document "System principles for the production of biomass, bioliquids and biofuels".

3.5.2 Fertiliser use

See REDcert document "System principles for the production of biomass, bioliquids and biofuels".

3.5.3 Use of sludge

See REDcert document "System principles for the production of biomass, bioliquids and biofuels".

3.5.4 Handling and use of plant protection products

See REDcert "System principles for the production of biomass, bioliquids and biofuels".

3.5.5 Integrated pest management

See REDcert document "System principles for the production of biomass, bioliquids and biofuels".

3.5.6 Prevention of soil erosion

See REDcert document "System principles for the production of biomass, bioliquids and biofuels".

3.5.7 Preservation of organic matter and structure of soils

See REDcert document "System principles for the production of biomass, bioliquids and biofuels".

3.5.8 Water protection and management

See REDcert document "System principles for the production of biomass, bioliquids and biofuels".

3.5.9 Social responsibility

See REDcert document "System principles for the production of biomass, bioliquids and biofuels" and the following criterion:

The producers are active and dedicated members of their community or township and make a contribution to its development. This can occur in a variety of ways, e.g. through:

- participation in the local council through political involvement and/or church activities
- cultural and/or nature conservation activities
- member of the local fire brigade, emergency services, etc.
- member of and active involvement in sports club, rifle association, etc.
- training as agricultural experts
- etc.

3.5.10 Irrigation management

Legal expectations for irrigation management of a biomass producer are part of the cross compliance (CC) requirements. The legal framework, for example, in Germany is formed by the law on water management (Wasserhaushaltsgesetz (Federal Water Act - WHG) and, at European level, by Directive 2000/60/EC to create a legal framework for EU measures in the area of water policy (Water Framework Directive).

Producers have to create a **water use plan** that is updated at least once a year and documented in writing which aims to, among other things,

- optimise water availability (by making drainage unnecessary, user collaboration, diversification of water resources) and water consumption
- prevent water pollution and the emergence of waste water.

3.5.11 The use of seeds and planting stock

In addition to REGULATION (EC) No. 178/2002, other directives and regulations require traceability of the produced and processed biomass across all the production and delivery phases for food and animal feed.

As a result, the biomass producer has to keep records of the seeds/planting stock used, the information on variety name, dealer, production area, seeding/planting date and applied quantity of seed/planting stock per area. He should ensure that the seed/planting stock can be traced back to the location of the seed/planting propagation. This requirement is satisfied, e.g. for certified seed/planting stock. The selection of the seed/planting stock should be preceded by obtaining information on, e.g. variety resistance/tolerance to common/economically important pests and diseases, soil and crop requirements, fertiliser and water requirements, expected yield, the impacts on adjacent farmland, etc.

3.5.12 Use of plant protection agents

Plant protection agents must be used in accordance with good professional practices.

In Germany, e.g. the relevant authorities at state level can prescribe measures that are required to satisfy this requirement. Violating the prescribed measures can be punished with a fine. The requirement to use good professional practices for pesticides generally apply to all management approaches (e.g. conventional, integrated or ecological farming).

Good professional practices with pesticides are viewed as a set of required activities for individuals who undertake pesticide measures.

Social requirements and requirements related to consumer protection are considered as well as scientific findings in the area of hygiene, the application of pesticides and the protection of certain adjacent land areas. Special priority must also be given to documenting the use of pesticides. These required activities supplement the existing legal regulations such as, e.g. those related to the pesticide approval, the inspection of pesticide devices and a certificate of expertise.

DIRECTIVE 2009/128/EC (Plant Pesticide Framework Directive) creates the framework for the sustainable use of pesticides. Annex III of this Directive

- lists measures to prevent the spread of harmful organisms and to help determine when and whether plant protection measures should be applied and
- stipulates, among other things, that the pesticides applied should be as specific as possible for the target and should have the least side effects and kept to levels that are necessary (application of resistance prevention strategies).

According to the law to protect crops (Crop Protection Act (Pflanzenschutzgesetz - PflSchG), plant protection may only be carried out using good professional practices. This also includes integrated plant protection which is defined as a combination of processes which keeps the application of chemical plant protection agents to the levels necessary taking into account biological, biotechnical, plant breeding, cultivation and crop measures.

3.5.13 Soil management

According to REGULATION (EC) No. 73/2009, the member states have to ensure that all agricultural land is maintained in good agricultural and environmental condition (GAEC). Annex III lists, for example, suitable measures and appropriate machinery that can be used to maintain the soil structure as broad requirements.

These requirements can be satisfied, for example, by:

- preventing intensive land use (livestock) / not driving over fields when weather conditions are damp or wet
- minimising intensive land use (livestock) / driving over fields
- using low-pressure tyres
- preventing "the excessive use of driving corridors"

Based on Annex III, the member states must define respective minimum requirements at national and regional level. For example, in Germany, the law on the protection of harmful changes to the soil and the remediation of contaminated sites (German Federal Soil Protection and Contaminated Sites Ordinance (Bundes-Bodenschutzgesetz - BBodSchG) outlines principles related to soil management in Article 17 Good professional agricultural practices. The principles of maintaining agricultural land in good agricultural and environmental condition are stipulated in the regulation on compliance with basic requirements and standards under the scope of community laws for agricultural payments (Agricultural Payments Obligation Ordinance (Agrarzahlungen-Verpflichtungenverordnung - AgrarZahlVerpflV) as defined in Article 93 of the cross compliance provisions in REGULATION (EU) No. 1306/2013 on the financing, management and monitoring of the common agricultural policy.

3.5.14 GHG-oriented resource and energy use (energy efficiency)

According to DIRECTIVE 2009/28/EC (Renewable Energy Directive), controlling energy consumption in Europe as well as increasing the use of energy from renewable energy sources are, along with energy savings and improved energy efficiency, key elements in the bundle of measures needed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and comply with the Kyoto protocol linked to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and other community and international obligations to lower greenhouse gas emissions beyond the year 2012. These factors also play a key role in strengthening, for example, opportunities for regional development, primarily in rural and remote areas. One of the main goals of the European Community is therefore to improve energy efficiency, i.e. an increase of 20% by 2020. It is the responsibility of the member states to considerably improve energy efficiency in all areas.

REGULATION (EU) No. 1305/2013 contains the general conditions for promoting rural development in the European Community which is financed by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development ("EAFRD"). The climate mitigation measures should involve both limiting agriculture and forestry emissions arising from core activities such as animal husbandry and the use of fertilisers as well as preserving carbon sinks and enhancing carbon sequestration with regard to land use, land use change and the forestry sector. Reaching the goals of rural development, which contributes to the Europe 2020 strategy, is being pursued in the following areas:

- improving water management, including fertiliser handling and pest management
- preventing soil erosion and improving soil management
- increasing efficiency of energy use in agriculture
- reducing greenhouse gas and ammoniac emissions stemming from agriculture
- promoting carbon sinks and sequestration in agriculture and forestry

The EAFRD funding is carried out on the basis of the "Development Programmes for Rural Regions" (EPLR) which are created in Germany, e.g. specific to the region for every German federal state.

3.5.15 Waste management

One of the central policies in the area of waste management is DIRECTIVE 2008/98/EC (Waste Framework Directive). It defines key waste-related terms and establishes, among other things, the following waste hierarchy: a) prevention, b) preparation for re-use, c) recycling, d) other recovery, e.g. for energy recovery, e) disposal. The law to promote the closed-loop cycle and ensure environmentally compatible management of waste (Recycling Act (Kreislaufwirtschaftsgesetz - KrWG) transposed requirements set forth in DIRECTIVE 2008/98/EC into German national law and regulations, e.g. Ordinance on the List of Waste Materials (Abfallverzeichnis-Verordnung - AVV) or the ordinance on the reuse of biowaste on soil used for agriculture, forestry or gardens (Biowaste Ordinance (Bioabfallverordnung - BioAbfV). According to Article 22 of DIRECTIVE 2008/98/EC, biodegradable waste should be collected separately and reused sensibly. This waste gives rise to compost and fermentation residues that are suitable for agricultural use. Most agricultural residues, however, are not considered biodegradable waste that needs to be collected separately because it is not disposed of as waste. These kinds of residues are used, e.g. in accordance with agricultural soil use Article 17 Good professional agricultural practices in the law on the protection of harmful changes to the soil and the remediation of contaminated sites (German Federal Soil Protection and Contaminated Sites Ordinance (Bundes-Bodenschutzgesetz - BBodSchG), to improve the soil structure, to maintain and encourage the biological activity of the soil and/or maintain the humus content of the soil typical for the location. Depending on the management method (intensive / conventional or extensive / ecological / organic / alternative) including the respective type of soil cultivation (conventional / turned or not ploughed / not turned / conserved), a certain coherence in the operational cycle is achieved (prevention – reuse – marketing).

3.5.16 Farm management

The support guidelines of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) of the European Community were passed for market-related expenses and direct support as well as the development of rural areas. The CAP goals are both economic as well as social in nature. Because the contractually stipulated goals cannot be fulfilled to the same extent at the same time, legislators have considerable discretionary power to implement current policy priorities. The principles of the CAP are

set forth in DIRECTIVE (EU) No. 1305/2013 (rural development), DIRECTIVE (EU) 1306/2013 (financing and monitoring), DIRECTIVE (EU) 1307/2013 (direct payments) and DIRECTIVE (EU) 1308/2013 (market measures). With, for example, Agenda 2000 and greening, other issues such as policies for rural areas, promotion of environmental measures and food security, cross compliance and modulation for bonus payments, mandatory crop diversification - preservation of permanent grassland and land use to benefit the environment were strengthened.

The central support instrument in the implementation of the shared EU priorities for the development of rural areas is the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD).

Agricultural producers who are subject to the cross compliance requirements and apply for funding (direct payments) must comply with provisions on environmental and animal protection as well as food and animal feed safety, regulations on soil protection, water law and "minimum activity on agricultural land". In all EU member states, the cross compliance regulation includes:

- statutory management requirements, take from 13 laws relevant for agricultural producers (Directives and Regulations) in the area of environmental protection, food and animal feed safety, labelling and registration of animals, animal disease control, the use of pesticides and animal protection.
- standards for maintaining agricultural land in good agricultural and environmental condition (GAEC): they include seven standards that aim to, among other things, reduce soil erosion, prevent the removal of landscape elements, to replant land taken out of production and protect bodies of water.
- cross compliance / greening regulations to preserve permanent grassland

Compliance with these requirements is monitored by the relevant authorities (e.g. veterinarian agencies, nature conservation authorities) or payment offices on site by conducting random payment recipients.

A producer has to take many influencing factors into account to be able to manage operations over the long run. Changes in policies, in regulations and market requirements as well as the cost-effectiveness of the operations (capital, building, technologies, land, animals) are examples of these kinds of influencing factors. A management plan should at least cover the areas of finances, investments, marketing, crop rotation (fertiliser, pesticide and machinery use, etc.) risk

assessment (natural events, price fluctuations, changes in regulations, etc.) and work volume (accounting, application processing, further training, consulting, inspections, special activities, etc.).

A documented and annually updated management plan is used by the producer to furnish evidence that he fulfils the requirements.

Non-CC operations provide proof of compliance with the above CC requirements independently as part of the REDcert² certification process.

4 System principles for mass balancing

When the terms "bioliquids/biofuels" are used in the document "System principles for mass balancing", they always also imply the term "sustainable biomass for the food industry".

REDcert-EU "System principles for mass balancing"; chapter	REDcert ²	Reference to the respective law
1 Introduction	✓ (see REDcert-EU system principles for mass balancing)	
2 System principles for mass balancing	✓ (see REDcert-EU system principles for mass balancing; see also the mass balancing period in this document)	
3 Documentation requirements	✓ (see REDcert-EU system principles for mass balancing)	

Contrary to the requirements set forth in the REDcert-EU system, economic actors are free to define a balance period after which the balance is positive (less outgoing than incoming biomass) as long as this period is no longer than 12 months.

The operational mass balance always has to show and provide proof of the property "REDcert²-certified biomass".

5 System principles for GHG calculation

REDcert-EU "System principles for GHG calculation"; chapter...	REDcert ²	Reference to the respective law
1 Requirements for GHG savings potential	☒ (not applicable)	
2 System principles for GHG calculation	☒ (not applicable)	

6 System principles for neutral inspections

It is generally true that when the terms "bioliquids/biofuels" are used in the document "System principles for neutral inspections", they always also imply the term "sustainable biomass in the area of food production".

The documented requirements for neutral inspections relate to both the implementation of the requirements of Directive 2009/28/EC of "bioliquids / biofuels" as well as the supplementary criteria of the REDcert² system to the extent that they are applicable.

Inspection certificates are not issued in the REDcert² system. "Certificates" are only issued to verify compliance.

Economic actors along the entire biomass chain who want to be certified in line with the REDcert² system requirements must register online on the REDcert home page. The company to be certified must become thoroughly familiar with the REDcert² system requirements prior to the inspection.

REDcert-EU "System principles for neutral inspections", chapter...	REDcert ²	Reference to the respective law
1 Inspection system 1.1 Types of inspections 1.2 Inspection process and duration 1.3 Inspection intervals 1.4 Evaluation of the inspection results 1.5 Reporting	✓ (see REDcert-EU system principles for neutral inspections) ✓ (see REDcert-EU system principles for neutral inspections; the evaluation of the inspection results also have to be observed here) ✓ (see REDcert-EU system principles for neutral inspections)	

1.6 Issuing and revoking certificates	✓ (see REDcert-EU system principles for neutral inspections; see also the following provisions in this document)	
1.7 Scope of the inspections	✓ (see REDcert-EU system principles for neutral inspections)	
1.8 Risk management	✓ (see REDcert-EU system principles for neutral inspections)	
2 Group certification	✓ (see REDcert-EU system principles for neutral inspections)	
3 Requirements and responsibilities of certification bodies	✓ (see REDcert-EU system principles for neutral inspections)	
4 Requirements of REDcert inspectors	✓ (see REDcert-EU system principles for neutral inspections; see also the following provisions in this document)	

The templates and forms provided by REDcert must be used to issue certificates. The format and/or language of them may be changed, but not the content. REDcert must be informed if the templates or forms are changed. The translated version of a certificate must indicate that it is a translation which is not legally valid.

The inspectors who conduct the inspections in accordance with the REDcert² requirements must have the necessary knowledge. In all EU member states, the cross compliance regulation includes the "statutory management requirements" (SMR), the standards for maintaining arable land in "good agricultural and environmental condition" (GAEC) and the regulations for maintaining permanent grassland.¹ The REDcert² inspectors shall provide evidence of well-founded knowledge, particularly in the areas of environmental protection, food and animal feed safety and the use of plant protection products primarily for water, soil, biodiversity and landscape.² The basis of this knowledge can be, e.g. agricultural/agrarian training or activities focused on plant production.

¹ <http://www.bmel.de/DE/Landwirtschaft/Foerderung-Agrarsozialpolitik/Texte/Cross-Compliance.html>

² REGULATION (EU) No. 1306/2013, Annex II

In contrast to cash based accounting where operating income and expenses are allocated by cash flow, in agricultural accounting, they are recognised in the respective period of the economic year that they belong to. The accounting obligation for farms is oriented around the revenue threshold. To be able to assess a company's or farm's financial statements (annual report), an inspector needs verifiable general business understanding or special knowledge about agricultural management.

Essentially the particular country specific and actual published benchmark results of the SAI platform apply to the REDcert² performance level according to SAI.³ The evaluation of the REDcert² system requirements in the checklists and the respective number of points are shown in the table below.

Table 1: Evaluation options in the REDcert² system

Evaluation	Declaration	Number of points
A	Complete compliance	20 points
B	Almost complete compliance	15 points
C	System requirements only partially fulfilled	5 points
D	System requirements are not fulfilled	0 points
N/A	System requirements are not applicable (requirements evaluated with N/A must be explained in the inspection report), not all criteria can be evaluated with N/A.	0 points

The publicly viewable REDcert² certificate does not list the individual results. The SAI performance level ('Bronze', 'Silver', 'Gold') can be accessed in a protected area of the REDcert certificate database for registered users after it has been released by the certificate holder.

Depending on the number of points achieved or whether a criterion is evaluated as KO, the inspections are categorised in the following groups:

No non-conformities (100%)

No problems were found, the REDcert-EU requirements are fully satisfied.

⇒ Certificate can be issued:

³ <http://www.fsatool.com>

- for interfaces
- at the agriculture process step which fulfil the target SAI requirements ('Bronze', 'Silver', 'Gold')

Minor non-conformities (75–99%)

The REDcert-EU system requirements are not fully satisfied but the non-conformities found do not put the system integrity at risk. The corrective measures agreed with the inspection body must be implemented by the dates specified. The inspector responsible has accepted the corrective measures and deadlines for their implementation proposed by the operation.

⇒ Certificate can be issued:

- for interfaces
- at the agriculture process step, the
 - 'Bronze' level is reached when the system principles or additional requirements for non-CC operations and the standards for social responsibility have been completely met. This applies only to those countries which have been benchmarked by SAI and has reached the performance level of 'Bronze'.
 - 'Silver' level is reached when the system principles or additional requirements for non-CC operations and the standards for social responsibility have been completely met. This applies only to those countries which have been benchmarked by SAI and has reached the performance level of 'Silver'.
 - 'Gold' level is reached when the system principles or additional requirements for non-CC operations and the standards for social responsibility and the SAI *basic* and *advanced* requirements are completely satisfied.

The prerequisite for reaching the SAI 'Gold' or 'Silver' level is satisfying the system requirements or additional requirements for non-CC operations as well as standards for social responsibility. If they or the *basic* requirements are not fulfilled, the SAI 'Gold' level is not reached even if the *advanced* requirement is completely satisfied.

Major non-conformities (< 75% and/or KO evaluation/s)

Major problems were found in the fulfilment of the REDcert² system requirements or depending on the respective SAI level which corresponds to the SAI requirements of the 'Silver' or 'Gold' level. System integrity is not assured.

⇒ No certificate. The problems found are tracked and sanctions introduced in accordance with the REDcert sanction system.

If major non-conformities are found, the certification body is required:

- to inform REDcert within 24 hours (i.e. send the inspection report to REDcert in electronic form)
- to agree to corrective measures with the system participant and

to define an appropriate timeframe or a deadline by which the operations have to verify implementation of the corrective measures – usually through another on-site inspection (follow-up inspection).

7 Sanction system

REDcert-EU "Sanction system", chapter...	REDcert ²	Reference to the respective law
1 Introduction	✓ (see REDcert-EU sanction system)	
2 Procedure	✓ (see REDcert-EU sanction system)	
3 Special requirements	✓ (see REDcert-EU sanction system)	

Relevant documents

The documentation structure of the REDcert² system principle includes the following:

No.	Document	Published/revised
1	REDcert scope and basic system requirements	The current version of the REDcert ² principles is published on the web site www.redcert.org .
2	REDcert ² system principles for biomass production for the food industry	
3	REDcert - System principles for mass balancing	
4	REDcert – System principles for GHG calculation	
5	REDcert - System principles for neutral inspections	
6	REDcert - Sanction system	
7	Checklist for inspecting producers	
8	Checklist for inspecting interfaces, warehouses and suppliers	

Annex 1

Application for registration of a certification body under the REDcert² certification system

(The certification body sends the application electronically to REDcert. The certification body is also responsible for the content of the application and for reviewing this information.)

(1) Master data of the organisation	
<input type="checkbox"/> See application for registration of a certification body under the REDcert certification system	
Name and legal form of the organisation	
Name of the person responsible (the person responsible has to be authorised to legally represent the certification body)	
Name of the REDcert² contact (the REDcert ² contact person is responsible for communicating with REDcert and providing information externally/internally under the REDcert certification system.)	
Address (Street address, PO box)	
Postal code, city	
Country	
Mailing address (if different)	
Postal code, city (if different)	
Country (if different)	
Tel. no.	
Fax no.	
E-mail	
(2) Status and scope of recognition by the competent authority	
<input type="checkbox"/> See application for registration of a certification body under the REDcert certification system	
Certification body approved by the competent authority	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes / <input type="checkbox"/> No (please check the item that applies)

The registration number is:	
Is approval limited to individual countries or states?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes / <input type="checkbox"/> No (please check the item that applies; if Yes , please explain)
Is approval limited to individual areas of application?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes / <input type="checkbox"/> No (please check the item that applies; if Yes , please explain)
Is approval limited to individual types of biomass?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes / <input type="checkbox"/> No (please check the item that applies; if Yes , please explain)
(3) QM system and documentation of the certification body	
<input type="checkbox"/> See application for registration of a certification body under the REDcert certification system	
Description of the certification process (schematic diagram of workflow)	(To be included as an annex)
Description of the process for issuing certificates	(To be included as an annex)
List of inspectors and people in the certification body who decide about certification including application for approval of an inspector (see respective annex).	(To be included as an annex)
Measures for transparency and prevention of misuse	(To be included as an annex)
Process for handling complaints and claims	(To be included as an annex)
Process for revoking and reinstating certificates	(To be included as an annex)

Place and date:

Name and signature of the person responsible at the certification body:

Annex 2

Application for registration of an inspector in the REDcert² certification system

(The REDcert contact person of the respective certification body submits the application electronically to REDcert. The certification body is responsible for the content of the application and for reviewing this information.)

1. General information about the inspector			
Name			
First name			
Form of address/title		<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs./Ms./Miss	
Date of birth			
Area of application:			
<input type="checkbox"/> Biomass production (<input type="checkbox"/> cross compliance CC farm / <input type="checkbox"/> non-CC farm)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Biomass gathering (gathering point/operating sites, group or farms)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Biomass conversion (<input type="checkbox"/> oil mill / <input type="checkbox"/> grain mill / <input type="checkbox"/> sugar factory / <input type="checkbox"/> malt factory / <input type="checkbox"/> other)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Biomass trade			
2. Inspector's education			
<input type="checkbox"/> See application for registration of an inspector under the REDcert certification system			
Type of education (by school degree, chronologically)	Duration	Subject	Degree (diploma, certificate)
	from to		
	from to		
	from to		
3. Professional experience of the inspector			
<input type="checkbox"/> See application for registration of an inspector under the REDcert certification system			
Company	Duration (number of years)	Industry/main focus of company activities	Position in the company (including description of activity)

4. Relevant training of the inspector					
<input type="checkbox"/> See application for registration of an inspector under the REDcert certification system					
Training and experience	When (Date of the training/seminar, etc.)	Comments (brief description of the experience)			
1. Practical experience of the inspector					
(description of the inspections conducted)					
<input type="checkbox"/> See application for registration of an inspector under the REDcert certification system					
<p>All information is handled confidentially and is only used to check the experience as an inspector. The inspector must furnish proof of at least 2 years of professional experience and have performed 5 inspections in the applicable area.</p>					
Type of inspections (e.g. REDcert, ISO, GMP, QS, organic inspections)	Date of the inspection	Duration (days)	Name of the company inspected	Scope of the inspection	Position (Lead/co-inspector, observer)
2. Confirmation by the certification body					
<p>The certification body hereby confirms that the data provided here by the inspector has been checked.</p>			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes / <input type="checkbox"/> No (please check the item that applies)		
<p>The certification body confirms that a contract with the inspector exists and that all proof of the skills and expertise of the inspector is kept in the office of the certification body.</p>			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes / <input type="checkbox"/> No (please check the item that applies)		
<p>Note: Please use this template only to apply for registration of REDcert² inspectors. Other templates will not be accepted by REDcert.</p>					

Date:

Name and signature of the person responsible at the certification body:

Annex 3

Self-declaration

of the farm _____

Street: _____ Country _____

Postal code, city _____ NUTS II region* _____

for sustainable biomass in accordance with Directive 2009/28/EC or the German Biofuels Sustainability Ordinance (Biokraft-NachV) and the German Biomass Electricity Sustainability Ordinance (BioSt-NachV) as well as the REDcert² requirements

Recipient: _____

The biomass grown and supplied by me and described in more detail under item 1 which was harvested in the year _____ fulfils the requirements of Directive 2009/28/EC (or the Sustainability Ordinances) as well as the REDcert² requirements if applicable; the respective verification is available. (Please check the items that apply)

1.	<input type="checkbox"/> or <input type="checkbox"/>	The declaration applies to all crops (e.g. rapeseed, wheat) produced on my farm. The declaration is submitted for the following types of crops: _____ _____ (please list!) Areas to be excluded, plot designation (item 2): _____ _____
2.	<input type="checkbox"/>	The biomass originates from cropland that was already classified as such prior to 01.01.2008. It also does not originate from protected areas (Art. 17 of Directive 2009/28/EC or Art. 4-6 of the Sustainability Ordinances) that were converted to cropland after 01.01.2008. If permissible land-use changes were made after 01.01.2008, the respective areas were either explicitly excluded under item 1 or the resulting emissions were included in our own greenhouse gas calculations (default values can then not be used).
3.	<input type="checkbox"/>	The biomass originates from land within protected areas (nature conservation areas only – not water conservation areas) where farming is permitted. The requirements for protected areas have been complied with.
4.	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	I am subject to cross compliance as a recipient of payments from direct support schemes. The biomass thus satisfies the requirements for agricultural management (Article 17 of Directive 2009/28/EC and Articles 7 and 51 of the Sustainability Ordinances). I participated in EU direct support schemes during the last calendar year. The notification of participation in such schemes is available. I will apply to receive payments from a direct support scheme this calendar year.
5.	<input type="checkbox"/> or <input type="checkbox"/>	The documentation on the location of biomass cultivation (verification by means of polygon pursuant to Article 26 of the Sustainability Ordinances or similar verification of the area via field blocks, plots or parcels) is available with me and can be viewed at any time. is kept by the first gathering point of the biomass I supply.
6.	<input type="checkbox"/>	The default value (Art. 17/19 of Directive 2009/28/EC or Art. 8 and Annex 2 of the Sustainability Ordinances) - if there is one -, the officially approved estimate or the NUTS2 value should be used to calculate the greenhouse gas balance.
7.	REDcert ² <input type="checkbox"/>	For sustainably farmed biomass, documentation can be provided that this biomass meets the REDcert ² system requirements.

Note: With this declaration, the farmer acknowledges that inspectors of accredited certification bodies may verify whether the relevant requirements stipulated in Directive 2009/28/EC or the Sustainability Ordinances and the REDcert² requirements have been satisfied. It must be kept in mind that the inspectors of the certification bodies may be accompanied by BLE inspectors who monitor their activities.

Place, date

Signature

Creation: 31.01.2016

Version: RC² 02

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Valid from: 01.02.2016

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