



ABP Regulations and Biogas Plants

Regulatory Overview and common pitfalls
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Overview

- ▶ What are ABPs, examples and why DAFM regulate them
 - ▶ ABP Regulations and how they apply to Biogas
 - ▶ Plant approval process
 - ▶ Plant types and feed stocks allowed
 - ▶ Organic fertilizer and soil improver
 - ▶ Common pitfalls
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Introduction

- ▶ DAFM supports development of quality AD industry with safe use of ABPs
- ▶ Environmentally friendly, sustainable process
- ▶ Agriculture a prime source of material for AD



What is ABP

- ▶ Animal By Product is defined under EU regulation as “bodies or parts of animals or products of animal origin.....not intended for human consumption”
- ▶ Risk categorisation



Examples of ABP

- ▶ Category 1 – brain, spinal cord (for disposal only)
 - ▶ Category 2 – fallen animals, manure, contaminated milk (not for human consumption)
 - ▶ Category 3 – catering waste, former foodstuffs, brown/black bin waste etc.
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Category 3

- ▶ **Catering waste** – all waste food including used cooking oil originating in restaurants, catering facilities and kitchens, including central and household kitchens (not international)
- ▶ **Former foodstuffs** – containing products of animal origin no longer intended for human consumption for commercial reasons or due to problems of manufacturing or packaging defects from which no risk to public or animal health arises

Why regulate use of ABP

- ▶ Disease control (BSE, FMD etc.)
- ▶ Avoid contamination of food chain
- ▶ Protect “brand Ireland”
- ▶ Protect farming industry, especially as Ireland exports over 90% of farming produce



ABP regulations

- ▶ EU1069/2009 – ABP and derived products
- ▶ EU142/2011 – implementing regulation
- ▶ SI187/2014 – ABP regulation



ABP regulations

- ▶ Collection
- ▶ Transport
- ▶ Storage
- ▶ Handling
- ▶ Processing
- ▶ Use and disposal

To prevent these ABP products presenting a risk to animal or public health

ABP Regulation Requirements

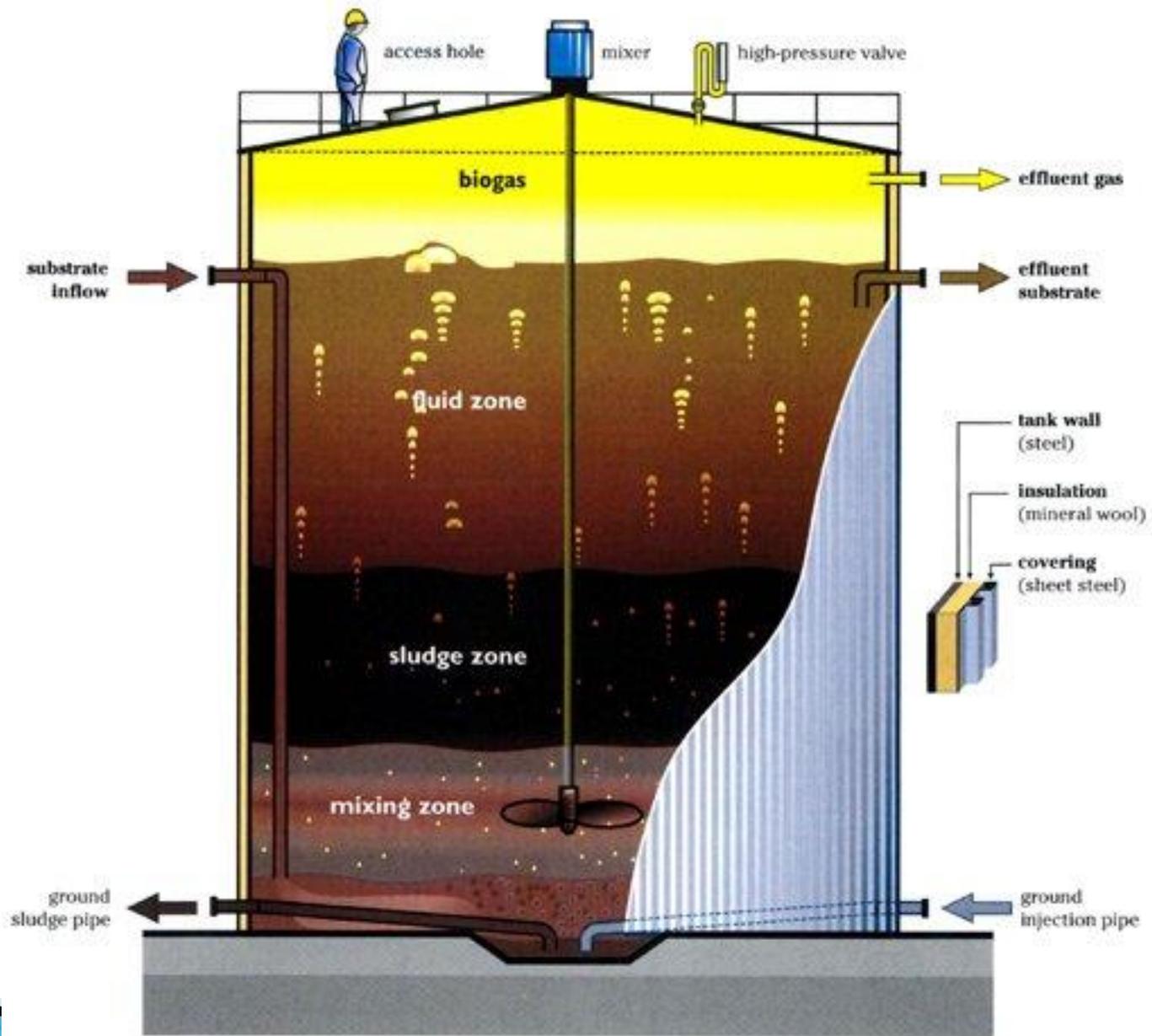
- ▶ HACCP
- ▶ Biosecurity, plant structure, hygiene, transport
- ▶ Intake
- ▶ Processing/transformation
- ▶ Storage, dispatch, traceability
- ▶ End-Use



Anaerobic Digestion/Biogas

- ▶ Biogas – ABP are at least part of the material subjected to biological degradation under **ANAEROBIC** conditions.





Plant Approval and Validation

- ▶ 1st Stage Application – 1st stage approval in principle
 - ▶ 2nd Stage Application – Conditional approval to operate
 - ▶ Full Approval
 - ▶ Regional expert veterinary team oversee process to full approval, biannual inspections thereafter
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Plant Types and Feedstocks Allowed in Each

See DAFM website for full details

- CN11 Approval and Operation of Biogas Plants Transforming ABP in Ireland
- CN9 Approval and operation of On-Farm Biogas Plants....

Type 1 plants

- ▶ EU transformation parameters (Pasteurisation)
 - 70 degrees
 - 60 continuous minutes
 - <12mm
 - Location off-farm



Type 1 plants

- Category 2 feedstocks
 - MDM (cat 2 manure, cat 2 digestive tract content, cat 2 and cat 3 milk and milk products)
 - Colostrum
 - Eggs
 - Aquatic material
 - Category 3 feedstocks
 - Derived products (sterilised/pasteurised in separate DAFM approved plant)
 - Non-ABP feedstock
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Type 1 plants

- ▶ End use
 - Can be supplied for use in Ireland and EU as OFSI
 - ABP digestate still under control of ABP regulations until final use (land spreading)



Type 3 plants

- ▶ No specific transformation parameters
- ▶ No time, temperature or particle size required
- ▶ Location off-farm



Type 3 plants

Feedstocks

- ▶ Own ABP (manure, colostrum, milk and milk products derived from animals on the same holding as biogas plant)
- ▶ Derived products (sterilised elsewhere)
- ▶ Non-ABP
- ▶ External MDM – max 5000 tonnes per annum (external manure may only come from **one** source herd)

Type 3 plants

End use

- ▶ Operator required to communicate that digestate is UNPROCESSED with associated risks
- ▶ Digestate supplied for land spread in Ireland
 - Pig manure, no extra requirements
 - Poultry manure, no extra requirements (DAFM guidance note should be followed)
 - Cattle manure, digestate only allowed to be spread on suppliers or arable land

Type 9 plants

On-farm biogas plants

- No transformation parameters required
- Feedstock permitted
 1. Own ABP
 2. Non-ABP from the farm where plant located
 3. Non-ABP from outside the holding



Type 9 plants

On-farm biogas plants

- ▶ Intake log required
- ▶ Wheel washing require if off-farm non-ABP taken in
- ▶ Dispatch log required
- ▶ Other requirements see CN9
- ▶ HACCP not required
- ▶ Digestate may only be used for direct landspread within the Republic of Ireland.



Organic Fertilizers/Soil Improvers

– Digestate

- ▶ If farmed animals present, grazing restrictions and herbage usage apply and end user must be registered with DAFM
- ▶ If no farmed animals present (tillage, landscapers), no registration required



Common Pitfalls

- ▶ Incomplete or lacking detail applications
 - ▶ Location
 - ▶ Permitted feedstocks for type of plant
 - ▶ Applying to DAFM early in the process, preferably BEFORE applying for planning permission is essential to avoid problems/delays
 - ▶ Remember – DAFM are here to help
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Thank you for your attention



Trim Castle

