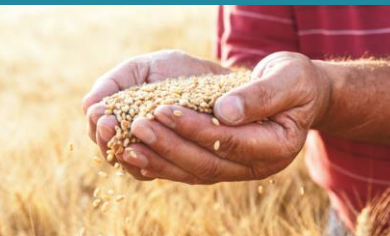


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International Federation of Inspection Agencies

AGRICULTURAL SUPERINTENDENT CERTIFICATION PROGRAMME

OILS AND FATS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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INTRODUCTION

The Agricultural Superintendent Certification Programme was introduced in 2014 as an international scheme to provide a uniform standard to be met by individual agricultural superintendents. Certification includes an independently monitored examination together with confirmation of the training and experience provided by the employer. To date, over 500 agricultural superintendents all over the world have been registered for the programme.

By providing certification for individual superintendents, the IFIA programme compliments FOSFA certification which applies to the superintending companies. FOSFA support the programme and provided assistance in its development.

The Agricultural Superintendent Certification Programme is open to IFIA members and to non-member organisations who can register for the programme. Its main objective is to set a standard of attainment for individual superintendents such that clients can be confident that superintendents attending their cargos have the necessary knowledge and skills to perform their duties. The programme also provides the first and only recognised qualification for superintendents, providing individual incentive and helping to harmonise the skills and competences of agricultural superintendents worldwide.

The programme is overseen by the IFIA Agricultural and Vegetable oils committee who carry out regular reviews and updates of the programme content to ensure that it remains current and with the aim of continually improving standards.

REQUIREMENTS

TRAINING

To qualify for the programme, superintendents must have a minimum of six months' work experience and have completed a series of specified training tasks.

Model training record books are provided which may be used to record training activities and these books, or internal company records, are requested by IFIA at random for audit. All individual applications are subject to review and approval by IFIA.

EXAMINATIONS

A set of approximately 500 test questions has been developed to cover all aspects of oils and fats cargo inspection. These are provided for download from the IFIA website for training and examination preparation. The examination is conducted in the English language but translations will be provided in the future in line with demand (the Petroleum Inspector examination is available in five languages).

Candidates sit a single examination of 100 questions selected semi randomly from the question set. The selection ensures that each examination contains questions covering all topics and that examinations are of equal difficulty. The pass mark is 75%.

All examinations are computer-based, and can be taken at a local test centre, IFIA works with the independent examination platform provider, PearsonVUE, to ensure easy access and worldwide coverage. The USA and Canada can submit candidates at any time. Other global regions have one month every six months during which candidates can be submitted. Examination schedules are available on the IFIA website.

RESULTS & CERTIFICATES

Examination scores and certificates for successful participants, are issued electronically.

Certificates are valid for a period of five years, following which it is necessary for superintendents to be re-examined. This is to ensure that superintendents' knowledge remains current. The examinations are regularly updated to reflect any changes in legislation or practice.

Each superintendent is given a unique superintendent number and his or her examination record, along with this number, is entered onto a database. The database enables IFIA to provide information on the certification status of any superintendent should employers or clients wish to assure themselves that the superintendent is in possession of a valid certificate.

INDUSTRY ADOPTION

A similar certification programme for petroleum inspectors was introduced in 1998. This is now accepted internationally by independent inspection companies (IFIA members and non-members) and by oil company clients who regularly include a requirement in contracts for inspection companies or branches to employ a minimum percentage of certified inspectors (the requirement for work experience before certification makes it unrealistic to demand 100%). It is expected that the Agricultural Superintendents Certification programme will achieve similar levels of support and acceptance, allowing continued improvement of global standards.

For additional information, please visit the dedicated section on our website; <http://www.ifia-federation.org/content/ifia-inspector-and-superintendent-certification-programmes/> or contact us at exams@ifia-federation.org. Tel: +44 1694 731120.