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Sampling Guidance Reminder re Minimum Quantity

Following feedback given at the last TAC meeting by the Approved Laboratory representative that on occasion labs were not receiving a large enough quantity for a full suite of tests, and subsequent discussion with the labs regarding the size or quantity of samples received, we would like to remind producers that we have guidance available on this which you can download from our website (below).

As detailed in section 6 of the guidance document, a minimum of 10 litres of compost sample should be prepared for the laboratory for a suite of PAS 100 tests. For re-test samples, the Approved Laboratories should be consulted on the quantity required for specific tests. More information can be found [here](#).

We will also be holding another sampling guidance webinar later in the year, details of which can be found on [our events page](#).

CCS Producers' Forum

The next meeting of the CCS Producers' Forum is being held online on the **17th of May at 12pm to 2:30pm**. This is an opportunity for producers to raise issues, as well as hear updates on the scheme, CQP revision, and work of the Research Hub.

If you are interested in attending the Forum, you can register interest and confirm attendance by contacting Emma Laws at emma@realschemes.org.uk.

If you are not able to attend this meeting but you would like to have an issue raised on your behalf, please contact Gregor Keenan, the CCS Producers' Representative, using gregor@keenanrecycling.co.uk.

The minutes from the previous meeting can be found on our website [here](#).

Scheduling Audits Reminder

The Certification Bodies (CBs) have reported some cases in which audits have been scheduled too late, taking place too close to the certificate expiry date, which has resulted in withdrawn certificates due to non-compliances not having been addressed prior to certificate expiry. As such, REAL would like to remind producers that it is important to schedule their audit as early as possible.

As per the Scheme Rules, audits should take place approximately 3 months prior to the current certificate expiring. Producers will be contacted by their CB to book their audit when the 3 month window is approaching but can contact their CB sooner. It is important that these renewal audits are scheduled with sufficient time to address any non-compliances.

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