

Information on the add-on module QS-Soy^{plus}: Implementation with Donau Soja / Europe Soya certified goods and Donau Soja Protein Partnerships

Vienna, September 2026

Background

Since 01.01.2024 compliance with the add-on module QS-Soy^{plus} will be mandatory for all QS certified feed producers and traders processing or trading soy products.

The German *QS Qualität und Sicherheit GmbH* has recognised selected sustainability standards for the primary production of soya beans, as the soya bean cultivation in the countries of origin is not certified by QS.

The Donau Soja Standard and the Europe Soya Standard are recognised by QS across all supply chain models:

- As a hard identity-preserved (IP) or segregated supply chain model
- As a mass-balance model – referred to as Quantity Equivalence by Donau Soja, meaning controlled joint processing exclusively with European non-GM soya
- As a Book & Claim option – Donau Soja's corresponding product is the European Protein Partnerships

Scope

The scope of the add-on module QS-Soy^{plus} includes **QS certified feed producers and traders**, processing or trading soy products.

Recognition of of Donau Soja / Europe Soya Products

Companies can use the following Donau Soja / Europe Soya as evidence for sustainable soya cultivation within the frame of the add-on module QS-Soy^{plus}:

- Donau Soja or Europe Soya certified goods
- Donau Soja Protein Partnership confirmations

Implementation of the add-on module QS-Soja^{plus} with Donau Soja / Europe Soya certified goods

Companies using Donau Soja / Europe Soya certified goods as evidence for sustainable soya cultivation and wanting to supply to the QS system shall meet the following requirements:

- select in the QS database the standard according to which the companies are certified, in accordance with QS Annex 4.2 to the add-on module QS-Soy^{plus} (e.g. Donau Soja, Europe Soya or QS-Soy^{plus});
- check for the correct declaration of Donau Soja / Europe Soya certified goods on delivery documents of incoming goods and ensure correct declaration of outgoing goods:
 - Declaration Donau Soja respectively Europe Soya (according to Donau Soja / Europe Soya Standard and Guidelines);

- Provide information on the supply chain model of incoming and outgoing goods in accordance with QS requirements on the documents accompanying the goods (e.g. delivery note) or in the corresponding contracts (e.g. with customers and suppliers).
 - **Donau Soja and Europe Soya**
 - the according Chain of Custody Model is „**Mass Balance (MB)**“ (cf. Annex 5 „Quantity Equivalence System“)
 - Additionally, it is possible to indicate the Chain of Custody Model „**Segregation (SEG)**“. In this case, the company shall keep documented evidence, that the supplier of Europe Soya or Donau Soja-certified processed soya products has not applied the Quantity Equivalence System.

The supply chain model of mass balance is generally permitted until further notice, but at least until 31 December 2026.

Implementation of the add-on module QS-Soja^{plus} with Donau Soja Protein Partnerships

Until further notice (at least until 31.12.2026), companies may compensate for soya bean volumes, which have not yet been certified, by purchasing Donau Soja Protein Partnerships (Chain of Custody Model: Book & Claim) within the frame of the add-on module QS-Soy^{plus}.

Companies using Donau Soja Protein Partnerships as evidence for sustainable soya cultivation and wanting to supply to the QS system shall meet the following requirements:

- acquire volume-related Donau Soja Protein Partnership confirmations for all soybeans, feed materials and compound feed that are not QS-Soy^{plus} or Donau Soja / Europe Soya certified;
- document the required amount of soybean equivalent for all steps that result in a change in the raw material volume or weight of the soya (e.g. toasting, processing, drying) using the appropriate conversion factors*;
- Provide information on the supply chain model of incoming and outgoing goods in accordance with QS requirements on the documents accompanying the goods (e.g. delivery note) or in the corresponding contracts (e.g. with customers and suppliers).
 - Donau Soja Protein Partnerships
 - the according Chain of Custody Model is „**Book and Claim (B&C)**“

**Soy calculators, literature values or empirical values may be used for the conversion. Example: compensation of 100 t of soybean meal
The production of 100t of soybean meal requires ~125t of soybeans. Therefore, certificates must be purchased for 125 t of soybeans. (Donau Soja; based on USSSEC <https://ussec.org/resources/conversion-table/>)*

In case of questions contact the Donau Soja quality management team at any time at quality@donausoja.org.

In case of questions regarding the add-on module QS-Soy^{plus} please consider contacting the QS team directly.

Relevant Documents:

- [Donau Soja Standard](#)
- [Europe Soya Standard](#)
- [Add-on module QS Soy^{plus}](#)
- [QS Annex 4.2](#)
- [QS Annex 4.3](#)