

RTRS Advice Notification

Title:	Laboratory accreditation guideline to carry out tests requested by the RTRS Production Standard V1.0
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Regulation Reference:	Accreditation and Certification Standard for responsible soy production

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Introduction

The RTRS accreditation and certification requirements for responsible soy production are based on the requirements included in the ISO/IEC Guide 65:1996 as well as on the additional requirements set forth by the RTRS in its accreditation and verification system.

Therefore, all Certification Bodies (CB) shall be assessed under the ISO/IEC 65/1996 requirements and the RTRS additional requirements to be accredited.

The ISO/IEC 65/1996 establishes that those laboratories performing trials or sampling must be competent and suitable to perform them.

For that reason, the rule establishes that laboratories shall be either accredited under ISO 17025 or controlled by the certification body to ensure its competence.

I. Scope

This Advice specifies the specific guide for complying with the laboratory accreditation requirement, the ISO 65 requirement and the requirement of the Accreditation and Verification system of the RTRS production standard that will be applied by those Certification Bodies carrying out certification audits for the RTRS Standard for responsible soy Production V1.0, and that will be taken into account by those Accreditation Bodies performing accreditation audits when they verify compliance with this requirement.

II. Effective date

This Advice and its requirements are applicable as from their publication date.

III. References

Document Name	Version	Document reference
RTRS Standard for Responsible Soy Production	1.0	RTRS_STD_001_V1-0_ENG_for responsible soy production
RTRS Accreditation and Certification Standard for responsible soy production	3.1	RTRS_A&C_STD_001_V3-1_ENG_for responsible soy production



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IV. Advice

Those laboratories performing tests required by the RTRS standard for responsible soy production V1.0 (water, soil, among others) shall be either accredited under ISO 17025 or evaluated by the certification body under that rule. However, such accreditation scope is not necessarily limited to water or soil tests; any laboratory accredited under ISO 17025 is considered suitable to carry out tests requested by the standard.

-End of Advice-