



ICAO

**INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION**

**ICAO document**

**CORSIA Default Life Cycle Emissions Values for  
CORSIA Eligible Fuels**



November 2021

**CORSIA**

**Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation**

This ICAO document is referenced in Annex 16 — *Environmental Protection, Volume IV — Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSA)*. This ICAO document is material approved by the ICAO Council for publication by ICAO to support Annex 16, Volume IV and is essential for the implementation of the CORSA. This ICAO document is available on the ICAO CORSA website and may only be amended by the Council.

Table A shows the origin of amendments to this ICAO document over time, together with a list of the principal subjects involved and the dates on which the amendments were approved by the Council.

**Table A. Amendments to the ICAO document “CORSA Default Life Cycle Emissions Values for CORSA Eligible Fuels”**

<i>Amendment</i>	<i>Source(s)</i>	<i>Subject(s)</i>	<i>Approved</i>
1st Edition	Eleventh meeting of the Committee on Aviation Environmental Protection	First edition of the document.	25 Nov 2019
2 <sup>nd</sup> Edition	2020 Steering Group meeting of the Committee on Aviation Environmental Protection	a) new default LCA values for CORSA Sustainable Aviation Fuels (SAFs) produced with new pathways (HEFA Brassica Carinata, and ETJ agricultural residues, forestry residues, Miscanthus, and Switchgrass); and b) editorial amendments that clarify the purpose of the ICAO document.	12 March 2021
3 <sup>rd</sup> Edition	2021 Steering Group meeting of the Committee on Aviation Environmental Protection	a) new default emission values for SAF produced from waste gases (ETJ conversion process) b) new default emission values for SAF from tallow, soybean oil, and used cooking oil co-processed at petroleum refineries; c) specifications for various pathways (agricultural residues-FT and ATJ; corn oil HEFA; palm oil HEFA; corn grain / sugarcane ATJ and ETJ; forestry residues / miscanthus / switchgrass ETJ); d) editorial amendments to improve readability of the document	10 November 2021

**CORSIA DEFAULT LIFE CYCLE EMISSIONS VALUES FOR CORSIA ELIGIBLE FUELS**

**1. ACRONYMS**

ATJ	Alcohol-to-jet
CO <sub>2e</sub>	Carbon dioxide equivalent
ETJ	Ethanol-to-jet
FT	Fischer-Tropsch
HEFA	Hydroprocessed esters and fatty acids
ILUC	Induced land use change
LCA	Life cycle assessment
LS <sub>f</sub>	Life cycle emissions factor for a CORSIA Eligible fuel in gCO <sub>2e</sub> /MJ
MSW	Municipal Solid Waste
NBC	Non-biogenic carbon
POME	Palm Oil Mill Effluent
SIP	Synthetic iso-paraffin

## 2. DEFINITIONS

**Standalone conversion design** – pathway utilizes a facility to produce fuel from an intermediate product (e.g., ethanol/isobutanol) that is not co-located with the facility that produces the intermediate product from the fuel feedstock.

**Integrated conversion design** - pathway utilizes a co-located facility where heat is integrated between the systems to produce the fuel and intermediate products (e.g., ethanol/isobutanol) from the fuel feedstock to minimize energy requirements.

## 3. CORSIA DEFAULT LIFE CYCLE EMISSIONS VALUES FOR CORSIA ELIGIBLE FUELS

Tables 1 to 6 provide the list of CORSIA Default Life Cycle Emissions Values that may be used by an aeroplane operator to claim emissions reductions from the use of CORSIA eligible fuels in a given year.

*Note: The CORSIA Supporting Document “CORSIA Eligible Fuels - Life Cycle Assessment Methodology” describes the methodologies used by ICAO to calculate these Default Life Cycle Emissions Values, as well as the process for requesting the inclusion of a new conversion process, feedstock, and/or region on this table.*

During the CORSIA pilot phase, negative ILUC values, as shown in Tables 1 to 6, will be provisionally allowed to obtain a negative LS<sub>F</sub>. A decision on whether to continue allowing negative LS<sub>F</sub> values, due to reductions from negative ILUC, will be made by the end of the CORSIA pilot phase.

**Table 1. CORSIA Default Life Cycle Emissions Values for CORSIA Eligible Fuels produced with the Fischer-Tropsch Fuel Conversion Process**

Region	Fuel Feedstock	Pathway Specifications	Core LCA Value	ILUC LCA Value	LS <sub>F</sub> (gCO <sub>2</sub> e/MJ)
Global	Agricultural residues	Residue removal does not necessitate additional nutrient replacement on the primary crop	7.7	0.0	7.7
Global	Forestry residues		8.3		8.3
Global	Municipal solid waste (MSW), 0% non-biogenic carbon (NBC)		5.2		5.2
Global	Municipal solid waste (MSW) (NBC given as a percentage of the non-biogenic carbon content)		NBC*170.5 + 5.2		NBC*170.5 + 5.2
USA	Poplar (short-rotation woody crops)		12.2	-5.2	7.0
USA	Miscanthus (herbaceous energy crops)		10.4	-32.9	-22.5
EU	Miscanthus (herbaceous energy crops)		10.4	-22.0	-11.6
USA	Switchgrass (herbaceous energy crops)		10.4	-3.8	6.6

**Table 2. CORSIA Default Life Cycle Emissions Values for CORSIA Eligible Fuels produced with the Hydroprocessed Esters and Fatty Acids (HEFA) Fuel Conversion Process**

Region	Fuel Feedstock	Pathway Specifications	Core LCA Value	ILUC LCA Value	LS <sub>F</sub> (gCO <sub>2e</sub> /MJ)
Global	Tallow		22.5	0.0	22.5
Global	Used cooking oil		13.9		13.9
Global	Palm fatty acid distillate		20.7		20.7
Global	Corn oil	Oil from dry mill ethanol plant	17.2		17.2
USA	Soybean oil		40.4	24.5	64.9
Brazil	Soybean oil		40.4	27.0	67.4
EU	Rapeseed oil		47.4	24.1	71.5
Malaysia & Indonesia	Palm oil	At the oil extraction step, at least 85% of the biogas released from the POME treated in anaerobic ponds is captured and oxidized.	37.4	39.1	76.5
Malaysia & Indonesia	Palm oil	At the oil extraction step, less than 85% of the biogas released from the POME treated in anaerobic ponds is captured and oxidized.	60.0	39.1	99.1
Brazil	Brassica carinata	Feedstock is grown as a secondary crop that avoids other crops displacement	34.4	-20.4	14.0
USA	Brassica carinata	Feedstock is grown as a secondary crop that avoids other crops displacement	34.4	-21.4	13.0

**Table 3. CORSIA Default Life Cycle Emissions Values for CORSIA Eligible Fuels produced with the Alcohol (isobutanol) to jet (ATJ) Fuel Conversion Process**

<b>Region</b>	<b>Fuel Feedstock</b>	<b>Pathway Specifications</b>	<b>Core LCA Value</b>	<b>ILUC LCA Value</b>	<b>LS<sub>f</sub> (gCO<sub>2e</sub>/MJ)</b>
Global	Agricultural residues	Residue removal does not necessitate additional nutrient replacement on the primary crop.	29.3	0.0	29.3
Global	Forestry residues		23.8		23.8
Brazil	Sugarcane	Standalone or integrated conversion design	24.0	7.3	31.3
USA	Corn grain	Standalone or integrated conversion design	55.8	22.1	77.9
USA	Miscanthus (herbaceous energy crops)		43.4	-54.1	-10.7
EU	Miscanthus (herbaceous energy crops)		43.4	-31.0	12.4
USA	Switchgrass (herbaceous energy crops)		43.4	-14.5	28.9

**Table 4. CORSIA Default Life Cycle Emissions Values for CORSIA Eligible Fuels produced with the Alcohol (ethanol) to jet (ETJ) Fuel Conversion Process**

Region	Fuel Feedstock	Pathway Specifications	Core LCA Value	ILUC LCA Value	LS <sub>f</sub> (gCO <sub>2</sub> e/MJ)
Brazil	Sugarcane	Integrated conversion design	24.1	8.7	32.8
USA	Corn grain	Standalone or integrated conversion design	65.7	25.1	90.8
Global	Agricultural residues	Standalone conversion design Residue removal does not necessitate additional nutrient replacement on the primary crop.	39.7	0	39.7
Global	Agricultural residues	Integrated conversion design Residue removal does not necessitate additional nutrient replacement on the primary crop.	24.6	0	24.6
Global	Forestry residues	Standalone conversion design	40.0	0	40.0
Global	Forestry residues	Integrated conversion design	24.9	0	24.9
USA	Miscanthus (herbaceous energy crops)	Standalone conversion design	43.3	-42.6	0.7
USA	Miscanthus (herbaceous energy crops)	Integrated conversion design	28.3	-42.6	-14.3
EU	Miscanthus (herbaceous energy crops)	Standalone conversion design	43.3	-23.3	20.0
EU	Miscanthus (herbaceous energy crops)	Integrated conversion design	28.3	-23.3	5.0
USA	Switchgrass (herbaceous energy crops)	Standalone conversion design	43.9	-10.7	33.2
USA	Switchgrass (herbaceous energy crops)	Integrated conversion design	28.9	-10.7	18.2
Global	Waste gases	Ethanol produced via microbiologic conversion route Standalone conversion design	42.4	0	42.4
Global	Waste gases	Ethanol produced via microbiologic conversion route Integrated conversion design	29.4	0	29.4

**Table 5. CORSIA Default Life Cycle Emissions Values for CORSIA Eligible Fuels produced with the Synthesized iso-paraffins (SIP) Fuel Conversion Process**

Region	Fuel Feedstock	Pathway Specifications	Core LCA Value	ILUC LCA Value	LS <sub>f</sub> (gCO <sub>2e</sub> /MJ)
Brazil	Sugarcane		32.8	11.3	44.1
EU	Sugar beet		32.4	20.2	52.6

**Table 6. CORSIA Default Life Cycle Emissions Values for CORSIA Eligible Fuels produced with the Hydroprocessed Esters and Fatty Acids (HEFA) Fuel Conversion Process co-processed at petroleum refineries**

*Note:* the LS<sub>f</sub> values below refer only to the biogenic fraction of the fuel.

Region	Fuel Feedstock	Pathway Specifications	Core LCA Value	ILUC LCA Value	LS <sub>f</sub> (gCO <sub>2e</sub> /MJ)
Global	Tallow	Maximum of 5% of tallow in volume Feedstock inserted at either the hydrotreater (HDT) or hydrocracker (HYK) points	27.2	0	27.2
Global	Used cooking oil	Maximum of 5% of used cooking oil in volume Feedstock inserted at either the hydrotreater (HDT) or hydrocracker (HYK) points	16.7	0	16.7
USA	Soybean oil	Maximum of 5% of soybean oil in volume Feedstock inserted at either the hydrotreater (HDT) or hydrocracker (HYK) points	40.7	24.5	65.2
Brazil	Soybean oil	Maximum of 5% of soybean oil in volume Feedstock inserted at either the hydrotreater (HDT) or hydrocracker (HYK) points	40.7	27.0	67.7

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