

Good Animal Feeding Practice

Many of the provisions in the previous sections will apply with regard to storage of feed and equipment used in feeding.

In addition you need to:

1. If appropriate observe rest periods before allowing grazing on pastures/crops to minimize biological cross-contamination from manure
2. Ensure withholding periods for agricultural chemical applications are observed
3. Ensure buildings and feeding equipment are kept clean
4. Clean feeding troughs frequently to prevent mould growth and other contamination
5. Change or freshen bedding frequently to remove manure and prevent mould growth
6. Ensure distribution of feed on the farm is managed to prevent mistakes, ensure there is no cross contamination, and vehicles and equipment cleaned periodically
7. Ensure water is of appropriate quality and water systems cleaned and maintained regularly where possible.
8. Store seed so that it is not accessible to animals

FURTHER ADVICE IS AVAILABLE FROM:

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The Feed (Hygiene & Enforcement)(Scotland) Regulations 2005

— A Guide for Farmers —

The Feed (Hygiene & Enforcement)(Scotland) Regulations 2005 exist to ensure that the food chain is further protected; firstly, by making sure that additives, premixtures and the feeding stuffs which incorporate them are manufactured under controlled conditions and secondly, by ensuring that the supply of such products can easily be traced in the unlikely event of a problem. In addition it lays down rules for production of primary products such as grain and good animal feeding practice.

If you are a feed business then your premises are required to be registered or approved with Trading Standards. The definition of feed business is wide and includes most farms producing crops for feed and livestock farms storing feed, as well as producers, hauliers and agricultural merchants. In addition to registration, you are also required to meet a number of conditions. These conditions are largely down to common sense and 'good housekeeping'. Extra steps do have to be taken however, to ensure that there are sufficient records for traceability purposes.

We are required to keep a register of all feed businesses. It is our duty to inspect these premises at regular intervals, the frequency of which is determined by the possible risks that an establishment may pose to the food chain should problems arise. As a department we aim to assist those of you affected by these regulations by providing help and advice on how best to comply with the conditions that have been introduced.

Aberdeenshire
COUNCIL



Trading Standards

Farmers mixing feeds for their own use, whether or not incorporating additives such as copper, selenium, Vitamins A or D

You must comply with the following:

1. Register with us if you have not already done so
2. Only use feed bought from an approved or registered supplier
3. Ensure that the equipment that you use to mix the feed is:
 - suitable for mixing feeds
 - located away from any sources of contamination
 - protected from vermin, and
 - kept clean and well maintained.
4. Ensure that the feeds are stored in such a way as to prevent confusion between different types. They should be kept clean, dry and protected from vermin. If any feed contains vitamins it is advisable to store it out of direct sunlight. Care should also be taken to ensure that feed materials are not at risk of contamination from other substances such as chemicals. If you are using medicated feeds it is particularly important to make sure they are stored separately from non-medicated feeds.
5. Any vehicles used for transporting feed shall also be kept clean and steps taken to prevent cross contamination
6. Designate one person to be responsible for mixing the feeding stuffs and ensure they have sufficient experience or are given appropriate training. It is **good practice** to have a procedure for mixing the feed. It should include:
 - details of the equipment to be used
 - the recipes to be followed when producing the feed
 - instructions on how the feed should be mixed
 - where and how the ingredients are stored, and
 - a programme for cleaning and maintaining the equipment used.
7. You must keep records showing the following:
 - name of the supplier of each feed material and the quantity purchased, particularly if you use a compound feed containing additives
 - the date purchased and the batch number if appropriate
 - the amounts of those products used in the mix along with their batch number, the type of feed produced and its date of manufacture
 - Results of any analyses on samples which have implications for feed safety
 - Any other measures put in place to control hazards

Product name	Batch number	Type of mix	Dates when used in mix	Amount used (per mix)	Frequency of mixing
Joe Bloggs general purpose mineral	987140	Beef cattle feed	01/01/2001 to 28/02/2001	12.5kg	Every day

You can meet these requirements by simply keeping the labels from feed materials and invoices from your suppliers.

Samples

Although not compulsory, it is **good practice** to take samples of your finished mix. These should be retained for 2 weeks after the batch has been used or as appropriate to the use of the feeding stuff. The samples should be 500g in quantity and be kept in a sealed container in cool, dry conditions.

NB Due to the likelihood of deterioration it is not currently recommended you sample moist or liquid feeds.

Farmers not mixing feed

You must also comply with all the above provisions that are relevant to your operation.

i.e. You must be registered with us, only buy feeds from a registered supplier, ensure all storage, equipment and vehicles used for feed are clean and protected from vermin and keep records of bought in feed and when it was used.

Farmers undertaking primary production of feed

If you grow crops which are used or sold for animal feed you must comply with the following:

1. Seed bought in must be from reputable dealers and stored in good conditions.
2. Fertilisers, pesticides and herbicides should be used only as directed to ensure there is no undesirable contamination of the crop.
3. Fields where crops are grown should be kept clear of household rubbish which could contaminate feed. E.g. glass, chemicals, car batteries etc.
4. Records must be kept of:
 - Any use of pesticides and biocides
 - Use of genetically modified seed
 - Any occurrences of pests or diseases affecting the safety of feed
 - Destination and quantity of any feed sold

These notes have been prepared by Aberdeenshire Council Trading Standards. They are provided for the guidance of traders and are not intended to be a definitive statement of the law. Only the courts can give an authoritative interpretation of legislation.