

Producing and Using Animal Feeds On-Farm

EC Feed Hygiene Regulation (183/2005)

The Feed Hygiene Regulation (183/2005) came into effect on the 1st January 2006. It applies to businesses that make, use or market animal feeds. This includes most livestock farms and arable farms that grow, use or sell crops for feed use, and includes fish farms.

# What are the Requirements of the Regulation?

The Regulation requires that those engaged in “feed business activities” (activities related to the growing, production and use of animal feeds) are registered or approved as feed businesses by an appropriate body.

Feed businesses must follow basic hygiene procedures when conducting these activities and ensure that feed hygiene hazards are properly identified and controlled. These requirements cover primary feed production (producing crops etc. for use in feed), on-farm mixing of feed, feed storage and feed use.

The conditions are to ensure that feed is safe and can be traced in the event of a feed safety incident.

# What do Farmers Need to Do?

Farms not registered before the 1 January 2006 under the Feeding stuffs (Establishments and Intermediaries) Regulations 1999 need to register with Trading Standards and make a statement of their compliance with the requirements of the Regulation. If you have not done this, then you should ask us for an application form to register as a feed business (our reference number for this form is TS7010).

When making, storing and using feed you will need to meet the conditions contained in the Regulation. These are:

* Annex I - Requirements for feed businesses at the level of primary production of feed — this includes both arable production of crops intended for feed and the mixing and using feed *not containing* additives for your own holding. If you need further information on these requirements please ask.
* **Annex II** - Requirements for feed businesses other than at the level of primary production of feed – this includes mixing, storing and using feed. If you need further information on these requirements please ask
* **Annex III** - Good Animal Feeding Practice (attached)

# Are any Activities Outside the Scope of the Regulation?

Some activities are not controlled by the Regulation. If you are carrying out *only* these activities, you do not need to make a statement of compliance or meet the conditions in the Regulation. The activities are:

* The private domestic production of feed for food-producing animals kept for private domestic consumption and for animals not kept for food production.
* The feeding of food-producing animals kept for private domestic consumption.
* The direct supply of small quantities (less than 20 tonnes) of primary production of feed at local level by a producer to local farms for use on those farms.
* The direct supply, by the producer, of small quantities (less than 20 tonnes/annum) of primary products (products of the soil, of stock farming, of hunting and fishing) to local establishments (sales within the supplying establishments own county plus the greater of either the neighbouring county/ies or 30 miles/50 km from the boundary of the supplying establishments county) directly supplying the final consumer (e.g. farms).
* The feeding of horses that have been signed out of the food chain in their passport.

“Small quantities” is taken to be less than 20 tonnes per year.

#### Is there any Guidance on Complying with the Regulation?

The Assured Food Standards Industry Code of Practice for On Farm Feeding covers all aspects of on-farm feeding, including producing feed on-farm. The Code is available in the "Standards" section of the Assured Food Standards website:

<http://www.redtractor.org.uk>

The Advisory Committee on Animal Feeding stuffs Review of On-farm Feeding Practices includes information on identifying hazards and minimising risks in the use of feed at farm level. The report is available here:

<http://www.food.gov.uk/multimedia/pdfs/farm.pdf>

The Food Standards Agency has guidance for farmers on the Feed Hygiene Regulation:

<http://www.foodstandards.gov.uk/foodindustry/guidancenotes/hygguid/guidfarm>

#### Can Trading Standards Help Me?

Trading Standards have the duty to enforce the Regulation. This means that we can offer you help in establishing whether or not you currently comply with the various requirements and advise you as necessary should you need it.

**Annex III – Good Animal Feeding Practice**

## Pasture Grazing

The grazing of pastures and croplands shall be managed in a way that minimises the contamination of foods of animal origin by physical, biological or chemical hazards.

Where appropriate, an adequate rest period shall be observed before allowing livestock to graze on pasture, crops and crop residues and between grazing rotations to minimise biological cross-contamination from manure, where such a potential problem exists, and to ensure that the withholding periods for agricultural chemical applications are observed.

## Requirements for Stable and Feeding Equipment

The animal production unit shall be designed so that it can be adequately cleaned. The animal production unit and feeding equipment shall be cleaned thoroughly and regularly to prevent any build-up of hazards. Chemicals used for cleaning and sanitising shall be used according to instructions and stored away from feed and feeding areas.

A pest control system shall be put in place to control the access of pests to the animal production unit with a view to minimising the possibility of contamination of feed and bedding materials or animal units.

Buildings and feeding equipment shall be kept clean. Systems shall be put in place to regularly remove manure, waste material and other possible sources of contamination of feed.

Feed and bedding material used in the animal production unit shall be frequently changed and not allowed to become mouldy.

## Feeding

### Storage

Feed shall be stored separately from chemicals and other products prohibited for animal feed. Storage areas and containers shall be kept clean and dry and appropriate pest-control measures implemented where necessary. Storage areas and containers shall be cleaned regularly to avoid unnecessary cross-contamination.

Seed shall be stored properly and in such a way that it is not accessible to animals.

Medicated feed and non-medicated feed intended for different categories or species of animals shall be stored such as to reduce the risk of feeding to non-target animals.

### Distribution

The on-farm feed distribution system shall ensure that the right feed is sent to the right destination. During distribution and feeding, feed shall be handled in such a way as to ensure that contamination does not occur from contaminated storage areas and equipment. Non-medicated feeds shall be handled separately from medicated feeds to prevent contamination.

On-farm feed transport vehicles and feeding equipment shall be cleaned periodically, in particular when used to deliver and distribute medicated feed.

### Feed and Water

Water for drinking or for aquaculture shall be of appropriate quality for the animals being produced. Where there is cause for concern about contamination of animals or animal products from the water, measures shall be taken to evaluate and minimise the hazards.

Feeding and watering equipment must be designed, constructed and placed in such a way that contamination of feed and water is minimised. Watering systems shall be cleaned and maintained regularly, where possible.

### Personnel

The person responsible for the feeding and handling of animals shall possess the requisite ability, knowledge and competence.

**Where to Find More Information**

Food Standards Agency Animal Feed Home page –

<http://www.food.gov.uk/foodindustry/farmingfood/animalfeed/>

If you have any questions please CONTACT US

via email :TSEnquiries@worcestershireTS.gov.uk

Or call 01905 822799

