

Mammalian Protein Feeding Ban

The federal rule 21 CFR 589.2000 'Animal Proteins Prohibited In Ruminant Feed' prohibits the use of certain mammalian proteins from ruminant rations in order to prevent the occurrence of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (so-called "mad cow" disease or BSE) in U.S. cattle. The federal rule 21 CFR 589.2001 'Cattle materials prohibited in animal food or feed to prevent the transmission of bovine spongiform encephalopathy' more fully describes those materials which are prohibited. The full text of the two rules can be found in the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations (e-CFR):

589.2000: http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=2e74386daafefce9eda5ba6fc66d4d1d&mc=true&node=se21.6.589_12000&rgn=div8

589.2001: http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=2e74386daafefce9eda5ba6fc66d4d1d&mc=true&node=se21.6.589_12001&rgn=div8

Rendered mammalian protein that contains only pure pork or horse tissues is still allowed to be used in feed intended for cattle and other ruminants. Blood and blood products, gelatin, milk products and non-mammalian protein (such as poultry, feather meal, fish meal, soybean meal, gluten, etc.) are also permitted to be used in ruminant feed. Feed companies that use only non-mammalian protein (e.g.; poultry by-product meal) or non-prohibited mammalian protein (e.g.; pork meal and bone meal) in their feed rations are exempt from the final rule.

Feed mills should consider the following situations:

Situation 1. The mill purchases a rendered product that contains or may contain a prohibited mammalian protein. This rendered product is required to be clearly labeled "Do not feed to cattle or other ruminants."

- a. This ingredient cannot be used in feed for cattle or other ruminants.
- b. A cleanout procedure, such as sequencing or flushing or other means to prevent carryover into feed for cattle or other ruminants must be used. This also applies to trucks and other transportation vehicles and conveying and mixing equipment.
- c. The mill must have a written procedure describing the cleanout or controls used to prevent carryover into ruminant feeds.
- d. A record of sale invoices, purchase records and labels must be retained for one year after purchase of the ingredient.
- e. Finished feeds such as swine and poultry feeds, that may contain prohibited mammalian protein, must be labeled with the statement, "Do not feed to cattle or other ruminants." This labeling is required of branded and custom mix feeds.

Situation 2. The mill purchases a rendered protein that contains mammalian protein such as pure pork meat and bone meal or non-mammalian rendered product from poultry or fish meal. It has been suggested that feed manufacturers get a letter from their supplier confirming the non-prohibited status of the rendered product.

1. These rendered products can be used in feed for all livestock including cattle.

2. No special cleanout procedures are required beyond those normally employed.
3. The cautionary statement is not required on labels of finished feeds or custom mixes.
4. Copy of sales invoices and purchase records shall be retained for one year.

Situation 3. Provided, the feed mill purchases both prohibited and non-prohibited mammalian rendered product and the rendered products are commingled, then they must be handled as prohibited product with procedures outlined in Situation 1. If the prohibited and non-prohibited products are maintained separately in the mill, then the procedures outlined in Situation 1 and 2 apply, respectively.

Feed mills also need to review any premixes or supplements mixed to ensure that if they contain prohibited mammalian rendered product, then appropriate procedures are followed to prevent carryover into feed for cattle or other ruminants.

The label or invoice for all mixed feeds that contain prohibited mammalian protein must clearly state, "Do not feed to cattle or other ruminants."

This document has been adapted from the original authored by Eli Miller in 1997.