

Kentucky Guidelines for Including Chondroitin Sulfate and Glucosamine Hydrochloride in Animal Feeds

Chondroitin sulfate and glucosamine hydrochloride are ingredients used in animal and human food supplements. These ingredients have developed name recognition among consumers based on their increased availability in supplement products. Currently, we have received no consumer complaints to suggest a safety concern. Based on their use as dietary supplements for humans, history of use in equine supplements, no indication of a safety concern, and an obvious desire of consumers for supplements containing these ingredients, products containing chondroitin sulfate and glucosamine hydrochloride may be registered for distribution in Kentucky.

The following are guidelines for registrations:

1. Labeling must follow the format and requirements of the Kentucky Commercial Feed Law.
2. No performance claim will be permitted on the label that would cause the supplement to be declared a drug or food additive unless the claim has been approved by FDA.
3. If the label makes special reference to the presence of chondroitin sulfate or glucosamine hydrochloride, or the product's primary purpose is to provide one of these ingredients, then the amount of ingredient present must be guaranteed in the guaranteed analysis. Guarantees should be expressed as a minimum quantity in appropriate units, such as grams/ounce, milligram/ounce, or other unit consistent with the feeding directions. The guarantee should be verifiable by laboratory analysis.
4. The ingredient guarantee must be denoted with an asterisk, such as:
Glucosamine, minimum* 100 mg/ounce
Chondroitin sulfate, minimum* 50 mg/ounce

The following or similar qualifying statement should appear immediately after the last such guarantee in the same size type as the guarantees.

- **For dog and cat supplements**, we require the use of the following AAFCO statement:

***Not recognized as an essential nutrient by the AAFCO Dog (or Cat) Food Nutrient Profiles.**
- **For specialty pets, equine, and other specie supplements** we suggest.

***Not recognized as an essential dietary nutrient.**

Note: If the product contains prohibited mammalian protein as defined under the BSE rule and is for a species other than dogs or cats, then the label must bear the following caution statement:

Do not feed to cattle or other ruminants

5. The manufacturers may list the specific source of chondroitin sulfate or glucosamine in the ingredient statement, for example, "chondroitin sulfate from bovine trachea."

Note: This is an interim policy applicable only for Kentucky. It has no application in other states and does not alter existing AAFCO requirements or FDA statutory authority or preclude action by other regulatory agencies. This policy will be utilized as the basis for Kentucky registration and labeling pending development of national requirements that will supercede this policy.

Questions pertaining to this policy should be directed to the Feed Program Coordinator or Product Registration Specialist at 859-257-5887 or 859-257-4496, respectively, with the Division of Regulatory Services at the University of Kentucky.

****The Policy was updated on December 22, 2015 and replaces the one published on March 25, 2003**