

# South Dakota Department of Agriculture

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## Commercial Feed Rule Changes Regarding Prohibited Animal Proteins

In June 1997, the Food & Drug Administration (FDA) published a final rule prohibiting the use of mammalian protein in feeds for ruminant animals. The intent of the rule is to help ensure that Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE), commonly known as Mad Cow Disease, does not become established in the United States and spread through the feed supply to other animals.

As of August 2001, the South Dakota Department of Agriculture (SDDA) adopted new rules to protect the state against the threat of BSE. The rules change the requirements for commercial feed in the state. They apply to any person or business that feeds ruminant animals.

### The new rules establish labeling requirements for ruminant livestock feed manufactured or sold in South Dakota.

- Requirements apply to complete and mixed supplement ruminant feeds.
- If ruminant feed was manufactured in a facility that handles or stores prohibited ingredients, the label must carry the statement, "This product was made in a feed manufacturing facility that handles or stores products containing animal proteins prohibited in ruminant feed."
- If ruminant feed was manufactured in a facility that does not handle or store prohibited ingredients, the label must carry the statement, "This product was made in a feed manufacturing facility that does not handle or store products containing animal proteins prohibited in ruminant feed."
- The label can use the "does not store or handle" statement if prohibited animal proteins are stored in separate buildings or areas physically separated by a wall or similar structure to prevent commingling.

- The statements must be displayed on the primary display panel of the label. In the case of customer formula feeds, the statement must appear on the label, invoice, delivery ticket or other shipping document.
- Alternative methods of communicating the information may be considered if they are submitted in writing and provide an equivalent level of communication.

### The new rules also restrict the manufacturing, handling, storage, transport and disposal of ruminant livestock feeds and feeds containing prohibited animal proteins for further distribution or for a person's own use.

- The same facility and equipment cannot be used to **manufacture or store** both ruminant livestock feeds and feeds containing prohibited animal proteins.
  - Storage may occur in the same facility if a wall or other similar structure separates prohibited and non-prohibited products.
- The same facility and equipment cannot be used to **store or transport** non-packaged bulk ruminant livestock feeds and feeds containing prohibited animal proteins.
  - Storage may occur in the same facility if a wall or other similar structure separates prohibited and non-prohibited products.
- The disposal of any spilled feed materials must be done in an appropriate manner that does not risk contamination of ruminant livestock feeds.

To determine if feed contains animal proteins, look at the ingredient list for the terms *animal protein product, meat and/or bone meal, feather meal, blood meal*, and so on.

Livestock producers can take additional safeguards on their farm or ranch to minimize the risk of cross-contamination. Pet foods often contain prohibited animal proteins and should be stored and fed in areas ruminants don't have access to. Feed that is more than a few years old should also be properly discarded (such as in a landfill). Producers should also be adamant that their feed dealers comply with the new rules.

These rules were designed by the SDDA to protect the South Dakota livestock industry against BSE by ensuring ruminant livestock feeds do not contain prohibited animal proteins.

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