



An Roinn Talmhaíochta,
Bia agus Mara
Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine

Trader Notice No. 01/2021

12 February 2021

RE: Responsibilities of Feed Business Operators

To: Manufacturers of additives, silage additives, mineral mixtures, premixtures, nutritional supplements, feed materials, compound feed for sale and petfood
Suppliers of surplus food and by-products
Wholesalers, Retailers and Importers
Irish Grain and Feed Association

Feed Business Operators are reminded of their responsibilities, including but not limited to the issues outlined below:

- Feed business operators (FBOs) at all stages of production, processing and distribution within the businesses under their control must ensure that feed satisfies the legal requirements that are relevant to their activities and must verify that such requirements are met. (*Article 17, Reg 178/2002*).
- **Feed must not be placed on the market or fed to food-producing animals if it is unsafe.** Feed will be considered unsafe if it will have an adverse effect on human or animal health or make the food derived from food-producing animals that were fed this feed unsafe. (*Article 15, Reg 178/2002*).
- Please note that a **FBO must immediately inform** the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) if it considers, or has reason to believe, that a feed, which it has imported, produced, processed, manufactured or distributed **does not satisfy the feed safety requirements**. DAFM must be informed of the action taken to prevent risk arising from the use of that feed. Feed business operators must collaborate with DAFM on action taken in order to avoid risks posed by a feed, which they supply or have supplied (*Article 20, Reg 178/2002*).

DAFM can be contacted by emailing: FFGPDfeedinspectors@agriculture.gov.ie

- Where a feed that is unsafe is part of a batch/consignment, all of the feed in that batch/consignment is considered to be unsafe (unless following a detailed assessment there is no evidence that the rest of the batch/lot/consignment is unsafe) (*Article 15, Reg 178/2002*)
- Where the feed batch/lot/consignment is considered to be unsafe (i.e. it does not meet the feed safety requirements), that feed must be destroyed, unless DAFM is satisfied otherwise.
- The FBO must inform users of the feed, the reason for its withdrawal/recall. (*Article 20, Reg 178/2002*)
- The FBO responsible for retail or distribution activities must initiate procedures to withdraw from the market products not in compliance with the feed-safety requirements and shall participate in contributing to the safety of food by passing on relevant information necessary to trace a feed, cooperating in the action taken by producers, processors, manufacturers and/or the competent authorities. (*Article 20, Reg 178/2002*)

Traceability Requirements (Article 18)

- FBOs, at all stages of production, processing and distribution, must be able to identify any person from whom they have been supplied a feed, or any substance intended to be incorporated into a feed.
- FBOs must also have systems and procedures in place to identify the other businesses to which their products have been supplied.
- Feed that is placed on the market, or is likely to be placed on the market, must be adequately labelled or identified in accordance with EU Reg 767/2009 to facilitate its traceability.
- FBO must be able to demonstrate their traceability procedures and systems and these must be made available to DAFM on request
- The labelling, advertising and presentation of feed must not mislead consumers. (Article 16, Reg 178/2002)
- **The following FBOs must put in place, implement and maintain a permanent written procedure, based on the Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) Principles (Article 6, Reg 183/2005):**
 - primary producers mixing of feed for the exclusive requirements of their own holdings when using additives or premixtures of additives (with the exception of silage additives,)
 - Retailers of animal feed
 - Wholesalers of animal feed
 - Importers/ exporters of animal feed
 - Distributors of animal feed
 - Manufacturers of animal feed

Guides to good practice are a valuable instrument to help FBOs at all levels of the feed chain comply with feed hygiene rules and with the application of HACCP principles, there are various published guides available at the following link:

https://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/animal-feed/feed-hygiene/guides-good-practice_en

There is also an online training course in HACCP available through Macra Skillnet/ IGFA for retailers and wholesalers of animal feed (Please note that membership of IGFA is not necessary to avail of the course) For more details please contact cornelia.oconnell@eorna.ie

If you require any further information in relation to this Trader Notice, please email Feedenquiries@agriculture.gov.ie

Yours sincerely,

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