

VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL
Legal, Public Protection & Housing



TRADING STANDARDS UNIT



FOOD & FEED HYGIENE

A guide for livestock farmers

CONTENTS

Background	3
Food Hygiene	3
Animal Feed Hygiene	4
Registration	4
Statement of Compliance	5
Specific Requirements	5
• Hygiene Provisions	5
• Records	6
Assurance Schemes	7
Good Animal Feeding Practice	8
• Pasture Grazing	8
• Buildings and Feeding Equipment	8
• Feeding	9
1. Storage	9
2. Distribution	
• Feed and Water	9
• Personnel	9
Scope of Guidance	10
Enforcement and Inspection Visits	10
Further Information and Contact Details	10

BACKGROUND

New **food** and **feed** hygiene regulations were introduced in January 2006 and they come fully into force on 1 January 2008. The regulations are intended to ensure that all those involved in food production at all levels take all appropriate steps to control potential food hazards at all stages of production. They introduce a **farm-to-fork** approach and thus extend basic hygiene requirements to primary production level.

*“**Primary production**” means the production of agricultural products, including in particular growing, harvesting, milking, and rearing of animals prior to their slaughter. It also includes hunting, fishing and the harvesting of wild products.*

This leaflet summarises the key areas of the legislation as they apply to **livestock farmers**. Many of the requirements are common to both food and animal feed hygiene provisions, and in this guidance leaflet those requirements are combined where appropriate to avoid repetition. Many of the requirements of the regulations will already be standard practice for many farmers.

FOOD HYGIENE

The regulations are intended to ensure that you and others involved in food production take all appropriate steps to control potential food hazards at every stage of production.

In summary, livestock farmers should:

- follow basic hygiene procedures
- keep certain records
- follow good practice.



Food hygiene requirements apply not only to primary production, but also to the following associated operations:

- the transport, storage and handling of primary products at the place of production, provided that this does not substantially alter their nature
- the transport of live animals
- the transport of products of plant origin, fishery products and wild game.

ANIMAL FEED HYGIENE

The regulations apply to all feed businesses that make, use or market animal feed. This includes most livestock farmers, and all those who grow, use or sell crops for feed use.

The feed hygiene regulations provide for controls on the feed to be applied throughout the animal feed chain.



safety and on the traceability of animal

The requirements cover:

- the registration of all feed businesses
- hygiene provisions, such as to prevent contamination and spoilage of feed, and to ensure the cleanliness of equipment used for mixing, storing and for transportation
- record keeping
- good practice.

Feed business operators must ensure that all stages of production, processing and distribution under their control are carried out in accordance with Community legislation, compatible national law, and good practice, and they must in particular satisfy the more detailed specific hygiene requirements.

REGISTRATION

All livestock farms involved in primary production must be registered for **food hygiene** and **animal feed hygiene** purposes with their Local Authority.

- Livestock farms that are already registered with the Local Authority as Food Businesses do not need to re-register.
- Livestock farms that are already registered with Rural Payments Wales are already “deemed to be registered” for Food Hygiene purposes.
- With the exception of On-farm mixers (which have needed to be registered for Feed Hygiene since 2006), livestock farms which are registered for Food Hygiene purposes are also deemed to be registered for Feed Hygiene.
- On-farm mixers should ensure that they are registered for Food Hygiene even if they have been registered since 2006 for feed hygiene as the registration for feed hygiene does not automatically provide registration for food hygiene purposes.
- Livestock farms which are not registered should submit an application to Trading Standards. Forms are available from Trading Standards on request.
- When registered, farms must ensure that Trading Standards are provided with up-to-date information, including details of any significant change in activities and closure of an establishment.

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

All livestock farms must comply with the conditions of registration for feed hygiene by 1st January 2008.

Except for those farms which submitted re-registration forms in respect of on-farm mixing before 1st January 2006, **all livestock farms must submit a fully completed and signed Statement of Compliance form to Trading Standards by 1st January 2008.** Statement of Compliance forms are available from Trading Standards on request.

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

Hygiene Provisions

Primary food products must be protected against **contamination**, having regard to any processing that they will subsequently undergo

Producers must comply with appropriate **Community** and **national legislative provisions** relating to the **control of hazards** in primary production and associated operations including:

- measures to control contamination arising from the air, soil, water, feed, fertilisers, pesticides, herbicides, biocides, veterinary products, and waste
- measures relating to plant health, animal health and welfare, and the environment, which all have implications for feed safety or human health, including programs for the monitoring and control of zoonoses and zoonotic agents

Producers must take **adequate measures**, in particular livestock farmers must :

- keep clean, and, where necessary, disinfect, any facilities, equipment, containers, crates, vehicles and vessels, used in connection with primary production or animal feed
- ensure hygienic production, transport and storage conditions for, and the cleanliness of, animal feed
- use potable water or clean water to prevent hazardous contamination
- prevent animals and pests from causing contamination
- store and handle waste and hazardous substances to prevent hazardous contamination
- ensure that packing materials are not a source of hazardous contamination of feed
- take note of the results of any analysis carried out on samples taken from animals, plants, or other samples as appropriate
- use feed additives and veterinary medical products correctly

Procedures employed in the primary production of feed must be carried out in an appropriate manner to prevent, eliminate or minimize hazards with the potential to compromise feed safety

Primary feed products produced, prepared, cleaned, the responsibility of the primary producer must be spoiled



packed, stored and transported under protected against contamination and

Adequate **measures** as appropriate must be taken to:

- ensure the cleanliness of animals going to production animals
- prevent the introduction and spread of contagious by taking precautionary measures when reporting suspected outbreaks of diseases to the
- ensure that the staff handling foodstuffs are in **training** on health risks



slaughter and, where necessary,

diseases transmissible to humans, introducing new animals, and local authority

good health and have adequate

Records

Records relating to measures put in place to control hazards must be kept, in an appropriate manner and for an appropriate period, taking into account the size and nature of the farm.

In particular records must be kept in respect of:

- the nature and origin of the feed fed to livestock
- any treatments including veterinary products, date of administration and the withdrawal period
- results of any analysis carried out on samples taken from animals for diagnostic purposes that have importance to human health
- any relevant reports on checks carried out on animals or products of animal origin
- the use of any plant protection and biocides
- genetically modified seeds used
- the occurrence of pests or diseases that may affect the safety of primary products
- the results of any relevant tests carried out on primary products or other samples for diagnostic purposes
- the source and quantity of each input of feed and the destination and quantity for each output of feed

Professional personnel (e.g. veterinarians, farm technicians, etc.) may assist farmers with the keeping of records relevant to the activities they carry out on farms

All of this information must be made available to **local authority** inspectors on request

ASSURANCE SCHEMES

A number of farm assurance schemes have been evaluated against the requirements of the legislation and the ones listed below are considered to meet those requirements. Membership of one of these schemes, and conformance with the scheme's standards, is considered to provide relevant evidence of compliance with the requirements of the food and hygiene regulations, and will be taken into account in the application of official controls.

Assured Food Standards and LACORS (a co-ordinating body for local authority enforcement services) have agreed to co-operate on sharing membership data.

The farm assurance schemes recognised for this purpose are:

- Assured British Meat (ABM)
- Assured British Pigs (ABP)
- Assured Chicken Production (ACP)
- Assured Combinable Crops Scheme (ACCS)
- Assured Produce (AP)
- Genesis Quality Assurance (GQA)
- Quality Meat Scotland (QMS)
- Farm Assured Welsh Livestock (FAWL)
- Northern Ireland Beef/Lamb Farm Quality Assured Scheme (NIBLFQAS)

GOOD ANIMAL FEEDING PRACTICE

Pasture Grazing



The grazing of pastures and croplands must be managed in a manner which **minimises the contamination** of food of animal origin by physical, biological or chemical hazards.

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

Buildings and Feeding Equipment

- livestock buildings must be designed so that they
- the animal production unit and feeding equipment regularly to prevent any build up of contamination
- chemicals used for cleaning and disinfecting must and stored away from feed and feeding areas
- a pest control system must be put in place to animal production unit with a view to minimizing feed and bedding materials
- buildings and feeding equipment must be kept place to regularly remove manure, waste material contamination
- Feed and bedding material used must be allowed to become **mouldy**.



can be adequately cleaned
must be cleaned thoroughly and e.g. manure
be used according to instructions



control the access of pests to the the possibility of contamination of
clean. Systems must be put into and other possible sources of feed



frequently changed and not

Feeding

1. Storage

- feed must be stored separately from any chemicals and other products prohibited from animal feed
- storage areas and containers must be kept clean and dry and appropriate pest control measures implemented where necessary
- storage areas and containers must be cleaned regularly to avoid unnecessary cross-contamination
- seed must be stored properly and must not be accessible to animals
- medicated feed and non-medicated feed must be stored to reduce the risk of feeding to non-targeted animals

2. Distribution

- feed must be handled appropriately to avoid
- non-medicated feeds must be handled prevent any contamination



contamination
separately from medicated feeds to

- farm vehicles used for transportation and feeding, must be **cleaned** periodically, particularly when used to deliver and distribute **medicated feed**

Feed and Water

Animals being produced on the farm should have an adequate amount of good quality water

Where there is cause for concern regarding contamination, measures should be taken to minimize the hazards

Feeding and watering equipment should be designed, constructed and positioned so as to minimize contamination



designed, constructed and positioned so as

Watering systems must be cleaned and maintained

regularly

Personnel

Those responsible for feeding and handling livestock, should have **good knowledge** and be **competent** in their work.

SCOPE OF GUIDANCE

The guidance contained in this leaflet is aimed only at those involved in the production and rearing of livestock and does not therefore deal with the regulations as they apply to arable farming for food use.

Other more detailed requirements apply to farmers who mix feeds for their own animals using premixtures or certain additives, and also the use of medicated feeds, which this guidance does not specifically cover. For further information, please see contact details below.

ENFORCEMENT AND INSPECTION

Local Authorities are already responsible for enforcing a range of legislation on farms and will also be responsible for enforcing the new food and feed hygiene regulations. This role will be undertaken by the Trading Standards Unit.

The objective of inspection visits is to ensure compliance with the requirements of the regulations, to promote best practice, and to help to maintain and to increase consumer confidence. Local authorities are empowered to take enforcement action where necessary to secure compliance with the regulations. These include powers to issue improvement notices and prohibition notices.

FORMS and FURTHER INFORMATION

If you require any further information or advice regarding the new food or feed hygiene requirements, or copies of forms for Food Business Registration or Statement of Compliance, please contact Trading Standards:

- by phone [01446 709105](tel:01446709105)
- or e-mail animalhealth@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk
- or by post to

[Trading Standards](#)
[Vale of Glamorgan Council](#)
[Civic Offices](#)
[Holton Road](#)
[Barry](#)
[CF63 4RU](#)

Further information regarding food and feed hygiene for primary producers is available on the Food Standards Agency website: www.food.gov.uk