

New Feed Rules and Regulations

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On January 1, 2000, the new Colorado Commercial Feed Law went into effect. The Colorado Department of Agriculture, Division of Inspection and Consumer Services, Feed Program, administers this law. The most significant difference in the new law and the old law is the elimination of individual product registration. This requirement was replaced by a feed manufacturer/labeler registration. Inspection/tonnage fees are collected annually on small package products (primarily pet food) and large package, and bulk deliveries, of livestock feeds. Inspection fees have always been collected on livestock feeds, but previously they were collected twice a year. Under the new law, they are filed one time, at the end of the year. It should be noted that whole grain (corn, oats, barley and wheat), processed or unprocessed, used in customer formula feeds is not subject to the inspection/tonnage fees. The purpose of the inspection fee is to offset the cost of the feed regulatory program. The program is not completely self-sufficient and does depend on some general taxpayer funding.

Other new requirements under the law include mandatory lot or date coding of all feeds, a provision for regulatory action if a feed poses a risk to human health, but not necessarily to animal health, and the authority to issue civil penalties or fines for severe violations of the law or rules and regulations.

The feed law provides a broad overview of the labeling requirements. Specific labeling requirements are delineated in the new feed rules and regulations that went into effect on June 1, 2001. These rules and regulations are based upon the national model regulations devised by the Association of American Feed Control Officials (AAFCO) and adopted by most of the individual states. Two sets of rules and regulations were adopted for Colorado, one set for commercial (livestock) feeds, the other pet foods. In addition labeling requirements differ for standard retail commercial feeds and customer-formula feed.

A customer formula feed is based upon a formula that is built for one customer and only one customer. A label, invoice, delivery ticket, or other shipping document that bears all of the required information must accompany the delivery of a customer-formula feed and be given to the purchaser.

Customer-formula feed must be labeled with the following information:

- The name and address of the manufacturer
- The name and address of the purchaser
- The date of sale or delivery
- The customer-formula feed name and brand name if any
- The product name and net quantity of each ingredient used in the mixture
- The directions for use
- Precautionary statements as required by rule or regulation.
- If a drug is included:
 - The purpose of the medication (claim statement)
 - The established name of each active drug ingredient and the level of each drug used in the final mixture expressed in accordance with the rules and regulations.

Commercial feeds are the products found in feed stores or those purchased from a feed manufacturer's standard stock formulas. They must be labeled with the following information:

- Product name and brand name if any
- If a drug is used:
 - The word "medicated" shall appear directly following and below the product name in type size, no smaller than one-half the type size of the product name. List: The purpose of medication

(claim statement) and an active ingredient statement listing the active drug ingredients by the established name and the amounts.

- Purpose Statement
- Guaranteed Analysis
- Feed ingredient list
- Directions for use and precautionary statements
- Name and principal mailing address of the manufacturer or person responsible for distributing the feed.
- Quantity Statement

Guarantees required on commercial feed labels vary from one animal species to another and from one animal class to another. A commercial branded dairy feed label must contain the following information:

Specify Dairy Animal Class:

- (1) Veal Milk Replacer - Milk Replacer to be fed for veal production
- (2) Herd Milk Replacer - Milk Replacer to be fed for herd replacement calves
- (3) Starter - Approximately 3 days to 3 months
- (4) Growing Heifers, Bulls and Dairy Beef
 - (a) Grower 1 - 3 months to 12 months of age
 - (b) Grower 2 - More than 12 months of age
- (5) Lactating Dairy Cattle
- (6) Non-Lactating Dairy Cattle

Guaranteed Analysis Required for Veal and Herd Replacement Milk Replacers

- (1) Minimum percentage Crude Protein
- (2) Minimum percentage Crude Fat
- (3) Maximum percentage of Crude Fiber
- (4) Minimum and maximum percentage Calcium
- (5) Minimum percentage of Phosphorus
- (6) Minimum Vitamin A, other than precursors of Vitamin A, in International Units per pound (if added)

Guaranteed Analysis for Dairy Cattle Complete Feeds and Supplements

- (1) Minimum percentage of Crude Protein
- (2) Maximum percentage of Equivalent Crude Protein from Non-Protein Nitrogen (NPN) when added
- (3) Minimum percentage of Crude Fat
- (4) Maximum percentage of Crude Fiber
- (5) Maximum percentage of Acid Detergent Fiber (ADF)
- (6) Minimum and maximum percentage of Calcium
- (7) Minimum percentage of Phosphorus
- (8) Minimum Selenium in parts per million (ppm)
- (9) Minimum Vitamin A, other than precursors of Vitamin A, in International Units per pound (if added)

Required Guaranteed Analysis for Dairy Mixing and Pasture Mineral

- (1) Minimum and maximum percentage of Calcium
- (2) Minimum percentage of Phosphorus
- (3) Minimum and maximum percentage of Salt
- (4) Minimum and maximum percentage of total Sodium shall be guaranteed only when total Sodium exceeds the maximum salt guarantee
- (5) Minimum percentage of Magnesium

- (6) Minimum percentage of Potassium
- (7) Minimum Selenium in parts per million (ppm)
- (8) Minimum Vitamin A, other than the precursors of Vitamin A, in international Units per pound

The feed regulatory program provides protection for the consumer and the regulated industry, safeguards the health of man and animals through feed inspection and sampling, and provides a structure for orderly commerce. Should you have any questions on feed regulation, please contact Julie Zimmerman at 3030 477-0081 or by email (julie.zimmerman@ag.state.co.us)