

October 11, 2016

Current Policy on Use of Hemp Products in Animal Feed

As the administrator of the Kentucky Feed Law and Regulations (KRS 250.491-250.990, 12 KAR 2.006-2.066, and 12 KAR 3.007-3.042), the feed program of the University of Kentucky Division of Regulatory Services is responsible for the regulation of commercial feed for animals in the state of Kentucky.

The Feed Program of University of Kentucky Division of Regulatory Services does not currently allow the use of any hemp products including hemp seeds, hemp oil or hemp seed meal in products intended for the feeding of animals, with the exception of hemp seed for feeding wild birds. The 2016 Official Publication of the Association of American Feed Control Officials (AAFCO) does not include definitions for any hemp product and Kentucky regulations reference this manual.

The names and definitions for commercial feeds shall be the "Official Definition of Feed Ingredients" adopted by the Association of American Feed Control Officials and published in its Official Publication, except as exempted by an administrative regulation promulgated by the director. (12 KAR 2:006(Section 1))

The terms used in reference to commercial feeds shall be the official feed terms adopted by the Association of American Feed Control Officials and published in its Official Publication, except as exempted by an administrative regulation promulgated by the director. (12 KAR 2:006(Section 2))

The name of each ingredient or collective term for the grouping of ingredients, if required to be listed, shall be the name as defined in the "Official Definitions of Feed Ingredients" as published in the Official Publication of the Association of American Feed Control Officials, the common or usual name, or one approved by the director. (12 KAR 2:026(1))

Hemp processors wishing to introduce hemp products into the Kentucky animal feed market can pursue a new ingredient definition through AAFCO (http://www.aafco.org/Portals/0/SiteContent/Regulatory/Committees/Ingredient-Definitions/definition_request_guidelines_020112.pdf). The Food and Drug Administration's self-affirmed GRAS (generally recognized as safe) program is another avenue for hemp products to potentially reach the animal feed market (<http://www.fda.gov/AnimalVeterinary/GuidanceComplianceEnforcement/ComplianceEnforcement/ucm229734.htm>). Our feed program does review self-affirmed GRAS determinations.

We acknowledge that industrial hemp production in Kentucky may produce products suitable for animal feed. However, based on the lack of ingredient definitions reviewed and approved by AAFCO and without an accepted self-affirmed GRAS submission, we are not accepting hemp products as single ingredients or as a component of any animal feed including pet foods at this time. We are open to reviewing this policy in the future.

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