



LIVESTOCK NOTES

Animal Derived Proteins Banned In Dairy Feeds—On Farm Records

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has enacted regulation 21 CAR 589.2000 entitled "Animal Proteins Prohibited from Ruminant Feed." This regulation, effective August 4, 1997, was enacted to prevent the potential establishment and spread of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE, also known as "Mad Cow Disease") in the United States through feed. The regulation will reduce risk to animals and humans. It generally prohibits the use of animal proteins in humanist animal feeds, especially proteins from ruminants or mink.

There are exceptions to this prohibition. Pure porcine (swine) or pure equine (horse) protein; blood and blood products; gelatin; inspected meat products, which were cooked and offered for human food, or further heat processed for animal feed use (does not include trimmings from slaughter or butcher operations); milk products (milk and milk proteins); proteins from poultry, marine, and vegetable sources; and, animal tallow and other fat products may be fed to ruminants.

The regulation establishes certain requirements for renderers, protein blenders, feed manufacturers, distributors (including haulers), and individuals and establishments responsible for feeding ruminant animals. This includes your dairy farm!

All products that may contain prohibited materials must be labeled "Do not feed to cattle or other ruminants." Products that do not contain prohibited materials do not have to carry this label. The cautionary statement must be placed prominently on the label. For bulk products the cautionary statement should appear on the invoice accompanying the shipment and on any other labeling.

Requirements for dairy farms:

1. Maintain copies of all purchase invoices for all feeds received that contain animal protein. If a feed intended for ruminants contains animal protein, the protein can consist only of nonprohibited material. The regulation requires maintenance of invoices for all feeds containing animal protein, so that FDA can verify, if necessary, that the animal protein contained in the ruminant feed is from nonprohibited sources.

2. Maintain copies of labeling for feeds containing animal protein products received. The agency recognizes that bulk shipments of feed are commonplace, and that labeling information typically is contained in the invoices for bulk shipments. In those instances, keeping the invoice is sufficient. If the only labeling for a bulk product is on a placard, the placard for each shipment should be retained.

Feed also may be received in bags or other containers that have attached labeling. In those instances, the labeling should be removed and kept. However, keeping only one labeling piece from each shipment that represents a different product is necessary. Finally, if the labeling cannot be removed from the bag or a container cannot feasibly be stored,

retaining a representative bag or a transposed copy of the labeling information from a container will suffice.

3. Make copies of the invoices and labeling available for inspection and copying by FDA.

4. Maintain the records for a minimum of one year. The records should be kept so that they are legible and readily retrievable. The one year requirement means one year from the date of the receipt of the product.

Dairy farm exceptions:

1. Feed and feed ingredients that do not contain animal proteins are non subject to the regulation.

2. On-farm mills are subject to the requirements in Part III of the regulation, "Protein blenders, feed manufacturers, and distributors."

3. Persons who feed or intend to feed prohibited material to ruminant animals are subject to regulatory action under the FFDCA. Regulatory action could include seizure of inventory, an injunction against feeding prohibited material to ruminants, or prosecution.

Biosecurity For Dairy Agents And Dairy 4-H Leaders

Farm tours, farm visits, judging sessions, and barn meetings are parts of extension youth and adult programming. Are they still viable options in an era of increased concern about spread of animal diseases from farm to farm and even from farm animals to people. What's an agent (or leader) to do?

- Avoid obvious high risk situations such as quarantined herds, newly assembled cattle groups, or clinically sick animals.

- Always wear plastic or "clean and cleanable" boots when you're on a farm. When you're conducting a meeting on a farm, supply plastic boots for everyone and collect dirty boots in a garbage bag for disposal.

- Avoid walking in feed alleys or feeding areas.

- If possible, visit young animals first, adult cattle last during your farm visit.

- Information that a farm has had BVD, Salmonella, Johne's, etc., probably does NOT make it a higher risk than other herds, unless these are clinically sick animals at the time of the farm visit. Many herds have these infections but have not confirmed the infections by laboratory diagnosis.

Adults and youth should be encouraged to avoid carrying infectious agents home by removing and/or sanitizing boots at departure from the meeting farm site. Clothes worn at the barn meeting should be washed before wearing them at the home farm.

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FREDERICK, Md. — Maurice Gladhill of Frederick became the new president of the Frederick County Agricultural Society Inc. and The Great Frederick Fair during the board of managers' reorganizational meeting on Dec. 13.

The board's reorganizational meeting followed the agricultural society's annual stockholders' meeting also held that same day.

Nancy Hendricks of Middletown was elected vice president, while James Grimes of Frederick was elected secretary. Treasurer is J.R. Ramsburg Jr. of Thurmont.

Other fair board members re-elected were Joseph Free, Irvin Renn, Julien Delphey, James McCellan, and Robert Frank, all of Frederick; Clyde Crum of Thurmont; and John Bell of Walkersville. During the reorganizational meeting, committee appointments were also made.

Re-elected as legal counsel were Franklin Martz for the Frederick County Agricultural Society and W. Jerome Offutt for The Great Frederick Fair.

"The fair has always promoted education, whether it be for the exhibitors to learn something during the judging process at the fair, or whether the public have the opportunity to learn about the agricultural industry through displays and programs offered by the fair," Gladhill said. "Machinery Row and the City Streets, Country Roads exhibits are two prime examples of what this fair does to educate the public about and industry that affects each and everyone one of us everyday."

By next year's fair, Gladhill said the fair will have a new permanent milking facility completed on the fairgrounds in the dairy cattle barns area. "This is going to be yet another great educational tool for the public, as well as provide a service to our dairy exhibitors," he said. The flat milking facility will have six stalls and will be open fronted so that the public can watch the cow milking process.

"Far too many people believe that a gallon of milk comes from the local grocery store shelf," Gladhill said. "This facility will help to show them that milk at the start comes from a cow. The milking facility will have an observation area for the public to view the milking process. Throughout fair week it will be staffed by knowledgeable spokespersons who can relate the ongoing process to the public and answer their questions."

Gladhill has been involved in his family's John Deere business most of his life, assuming total ownership of Gladhill Tractor Mart in 1982. His family has owned and operated farms in the area since the 1800's, and his family has held a John Deere agreement since 1937.

Gladhill serves on numerous local boards, including the Frederick YMCA, the Central Maryland Farm Equipment Dealers Association and the F&M Bancorp and Farmers & Mechanics National Bank.

During the Frederick County Agricultural Society's annual 250-member stockholders' meeting, outgoing president Robert Frank detailed many of the progresses made over the past year, including gate entrance upgrades, life member gate upgrades, building and road improvements and computerization upgrades.

"Just as the coming year will be exciting, these past several years have also been rewarding and challenging," said Frank, who served as president for the past two years. "We've made a lot of advancements and we still have more to come, but I believe we're moving in the right direction."

The Great Frederick Fair won two national awards during the International Association of Fairs and Expositions Convention in Las Vegas, Nev. in early December.

The fair's City Streets, Country Roads Agriculture Education Awareness Exhibit won the overall award for outgoing public education focusing on agriculture.

The second award received by the fair was for its Ag-Stravaganza '97 celebration held Wednesday of fair week for a specific activity geared to the public on agriculture education. The program was judged based on a five minute video produced for the activity.

"We are very proud and honored that two such highly acclaimed awards have been brought home to The Great Frederick Fair," said Frank. "There has been a lot of hard work and effort put into both of these programs. The City Streets, Country Roads exhibit has been a natural for The Great Frederick Fair...we have been so fortunate to have the support from so many individuals and agricultural groups and organizations to make this exhibit be the success that it is."

Frank said, "the Ag-Stravaganza celebration was also a milestone in itself for the positive educational value it supplied to the general public and the heightened awareness it brought to the 4-H livestock program. When you have 2000-plus people watching and participating in program such as that, it's bound to have a significant impact on everyone. The program was put on for the 4-H'ers to bring them more recognition for their hard work and accomplishment."

"This is what fairs today have to be all about...educating and heightening the awareness about the agriculture industry," he said.

During the annual stockholders meeting, The Great Frederick Fair's theme for 1998...Agriculture's Kaleidoscope ... was kicked off. The 136th Great Frederick Fair will be held Sept. 18-26.

"The theme is all encompassing of the agriculture industry, just as the fair is supportive of all segments," said Gladhill. Royal purple and gold will be the fair's featured colors.

"Next year will certainly be an exciting year for the fair, though it may be hard coming off of such a successful year in 1997," he said. "But there are a lot of activities in store that I believe will help keep moving this fair forward into a positive and exciting era, especially as we draw closer to the year 2000."

The new theme will soon be kicked off on the fair's website at www.thegreatfrederickfair.com. The themed logo features the various facets of the agriculture industry, and like a kaleidoscope, it will have the changing effect on the fair's homepage.

"We've come into a whole new era, just with the Internet and our presence and exposures with our own website," Gladhill said. During the fair week, there were 19,000 visitors to the fair's website.

"With that kind of exposure, we have a lot of opportunity to educate, promote, and make people aware of who we are and the kinds of programs and events featured during our fair and off-season," he said.

Meanwhile, the board of managers announced the full-time staff addition of Robert Fogel of Walkersville who will assist with office responsibilities as well as help to oversee the fair's computer operations.

Fogel, 26, has worked on a part-time basis with the fair since 1996, and has been effective in getting in the fair completely computerized with entry taking and the recording of judging results and premium check issuance.

This past year when the fair automated its grandstand performance ticket sales, Fogel worked closely in helping to oversee that operation.

"We are fortunate to have Bobby join our staff and help in overseeing some of these various operations," said Frank. He will work closely with Becky Brashear, the fair's executive assistant, to help carry out many of the programs.

"Also with our busy off-season rental schedule and the overall planning that goes into the fair, it is really a bit more than one person can handle," Frank added. Fogel also oversees the fair's landscapers contest, helps with organizing the City Streets, Country Roads exhibit, and special promotional activities.

Fair Board Elects President

Miller Becomes President Of Retail Dealers Association

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — Kenneth R. Miller of Miller's Equipment, Fairmont City, was recently elected as president of Penn-Jersey Equipment Dealer's Association.

Ken and his wife, Joan, are the owners of Miller's Equipment. They are a John

Deere Consumer Products and Agriculture dealership that was established in 1964.

According to Ken, the dealership was established to serve the needs of the agriculture and consumer products community in Clarion County and the surrounding communities.

Miller has been a member of Penn-Jersey Equipment Dealers' Association since 1972 and has served on the board of Directors since 1990.

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