BSE: Your Actions Matter

Do the FDA's feed regulations apply to you?
If you feed ruminants, YES!

What do I need to do to comply with the FDA's feed regulations?

- You **CANNOT** feed ruminants prohibited animal proteins

- You **MUST** keep copies of labels and invoices for all purchased feeds that contain animal proteins, whether they contain prohibited material or not, for at least one year

1. FEEDING

Cattle may become infected by eating BSE-contaminated feed

"Read Before You Feed!"

- **READ** your feed labels and invoices to ensure feeds for ruminants do not contain prohibited materials

- **IF** you only feed ruminants, **TELL** your supplier that you require feeds that are approved for use in ruminants

- **BE SURE** feeds containing prohibited materials are labeled with the warning: **DO NOT FEED TO CATTLE OR OTHER RUMINANTS**

- *Store and handle feeds* intended for ruminants **SEPARATELY** from feeds for non-ruminants to avoid confusion and cross-contamination

2. MIXING FEED ON THE FARM

Use *separate equipment to mix* and *deliver* ruminant feeds and non-ruminant feeds containing **PROHIBITED MATERIAL**. If this is not possible, then thoroughly clean the equipment between feeds to avoid cross-contamination.

3. RECORD KEEPING

- Purchased feeds containing **ANIMAL PROTEIN**, prohibited or not, should include the supplier's name and address, the date of purchase or delivery, and identification of the product and amount. Keep these records for at least **ONE YEAR**

- When mixing feeds containing **PROHIBITED MATERIAL** for non-ruminants, *keep records* of the procedures used, date of manufacture, the formulations and batches mixed for all feeds, and the actions adopted for cleaning equipment

4. REPORTING

The clinical signs of BSE are variable and may not include typical "mad cow" behavior. Most cattle with BSE show a **GRADUAL DEVELOPMENT OF SIGNS** over weeks or months, although some can deteriorate very rapidly.

Call your veterinarian if you observe cattle showing:
- Changes in behavior (e.g. nervousness or aggression)
- Abnormal posture or incoordinated movement
- Progressive loss of condition or milk yield