WHAT IS BSE AND WHY IS IT SUCH A CONCERN?

Bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), also known as "mad cow disease," is a slow, progressive, fatal disease of the nervous system of cattle. It typically occurs in cattle 5 years of age or older. BSE has been found in cattle native to the USA and Canada. Scientific evidence suggests BSE is associated with a rare human disease called variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (vCJD).

Diagnosis of BSE is difficult because there are no live animal tests. **PREVENTING** transmission of the BSE agent is the **ONLY** safeguard available because there are no treatments and no vaccines available.

WHAT CAUSES BSE AND HOW DO CATTLE BECOME INFECTED?

The causative agent of BSE is believed to be an unconventional transmissible prion protein. These proteins accumulate in brain tissue, causing changes in behavior that progress to dementia and death.

It is widely believed cattle become infected by eating feed contaminated with BSE-infective material. The suspected source of infectivity is rendered proteins derived from ruminants.

WHAT IS THE USA DOING TO PREVENT BSE TRANSMISSION IN CATTLE?

The USDA regulates the importation of animals from countries with BSE, and actively tests cattle for the disease. FDA's "Mammalian Protein Ban", in place since 1997, prevents livestock producers from feeding prohibited materials to ruminants. The FDA's Feed Ban Enhancement of 2009 prohibits the use of certain cattle material in **all animal feed.**

Cattle Material Prohibited in Animal Feed (CMPAF) includes, but are not limited to, the brains and spinal cords from cattle 30 months of age and older.

Prohibited materials for ruminants are protein-based materials, including meat and bone meal, derived from ruminants.

Ruminant animals are any animals with a four-chambered stomach including, but not limited to, cattle, sheep, goats, buffalo, elk, and deer.

Consequences of commingling or cross contamination of feed:

- Possibility of spreading BSE-infected material among cattle
- Potential negative effects on our economy
- Potential responses to a violation of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act include, but are not limited to, written notification of violation (such as untitled or warning letters), seizure, injunctions, and other civil or criminal penalties.

For more information:

Contact the Nebraska Department of Agriculture to find out more about feed manufacturing regulations. 402.471.2351

Additional Resources:

USDA - Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
http://www.aphis.usda.gov

Nebraska Department of Agriculture
http://www.agr.ne.gov

Food and Drug Administration - Center for Veterinary Medicine
http://www.fda.gov/AnimalVeterinary/default.htm

University of Nebraska Veterinary Extension
http://vetext.unl.edu

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Nebraska Lincoln EXTENSION

"BSE Prevention Includes YOU!"

2009 Feed Ban Enhancement

FEED MANUFACTURERS YOUR role in preventing BSE

BSE: Your Actions Matter

Does the FDA's 2009 Feed Ban Enhancement apply to you?
If you handle tallow or fat products containing tallow - YES!

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

- Feed Manufacturers' are required to exclude Cattle Material Prohibited in Animal Feed (CMPAF) from the feed of all animals
- If you manufacture feed using tallow products or fat products containing tallow you must comply with these regulations
- Fats and oils not derived from cattle are exempt from these tallow regulations

1. DID YOU KNOW?

- Tallow is defined as the animal fat from cattle
- Tallow for RUMINANT feed must contain no more than 0.15% insoluble impurities
- Tallow over 0.15% insoluble impurities can only be fed to NON-RUMINANT animals

2. FOLLOW LABELING REGULATIONS

- Tallow ≤ 0.15% insoluble impurities can be labeled for all animals
- Tallow > 0.15% insoluble impurities must be prominently labeled:

"DO NOT FEED TO CATTLE OR OTHER RUMINANTS"

3. MIXING AND HANDLING

- Prevent cross contamination of prohibited and non-prohibited tallow with separation and/or cleanout
- Products containing tallow AND other animal fats or oils may contain > 0.15% insoluble impurities and NOT need the caution statement IF when the products were mixed the tallow had ≤ 0.15% insoluble impurities

4. KEEP RECORDS

- Document receipt, processing, and distribution of products containing prohibited tallow
- Maintain records of tallow insoluble impurity levels
- If prohibited and non-prohibited tallow are used, keep records of separation and/or cleanout
- Keep records for at least ONE YEAR

Source of Tallow	Insoluble Impurities Level	Feed Use	Caution Statement Required
Any Source (CMPAF or non CMPAF)	≤ 0.15%	Allowed in feed of all animals	None
non-CMPAF	> 0.15%	Allowed in all but ruminant feeds	"Do not feed to cattle or other ruminants"
CMPAF	> 0.15%	Not allowed in animal feed	"Do not feed to animals"