

FOOD AND FEED SAFETY AND NEW REGULATIONS

Dave Fairfield, Vice President of Feed Services

National Grain and Feed Association

Abstract

Both federal and state agencies oversee the safety and efficacy of commercial livestock and poultry feed and pet food products. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) under authority provided by the Federal Food Drug and Cosmetic Act (Act) promulgates regulations designed to protect the health of humans and animals by requiring that animal feed and pet food be appropriately manufactured and accurately labeled and handled in ways that prevent them from becoming contaminated. As authorized by the Act, FDA officials routinely inspect animal feed and pet food manufacturing facilities to evaluate compliance with applicable regulations. State regulatory agencies also oversee the manufacture and distribution of animal feed and pet food products within their respective states in accordance with state laws. In addition, state agencies establish required label requirements for feed and pet food products. The Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) signed into law on January 4, 2011 significantly expanded FDA's authority to regulate the feed and pet food industry. As mandated by FSMA, most FDA-registered food and feed facilities will be required to implement hazard analysis and critical control point (HACCP) type programs as a preventive approach to minimizing the potential of manufacturing and distributing unsafe or mislabeled products.