

Feed and Food Hygiene for Farmers and Growers

Agri-food Inspection Branch



[The Animal Feed \(Hygiene, Sampling etc. and Enforcement\) Regulations \(Northern Ireland\) 2016.](#)

[The Animal Feed \(Composition, Marketing and Use\) Regulations \(Northern Ireland\) 2016.](#)

[The Food Hygiene Regulations \(Northern Ireland\) 2006.](#)

[Regulation \(EC\) No 183/2005 \(as amended\) laying down the requirements for feed hygiene.](#)

[Regulation \(EC\) No 852/2004 \(as amended\) on the hygiene of foodstuffs.](#)

[Regulation \(EC\) No 178/2002.](#)



Department of
**Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs**

www.daera-ni.gov.uk



**Food
Standards
Agency**
food.gov.uk

Feed Hygiene Regulations for Primary Producers

[Regulation \(EC\) 1831/2005](#) (as amended).

Feed Hygiene Regulations apply to **all** farms that feed animals and to **all** farms that produce crops for animal feed.

Their purpose is to ensure feed safety for food producing animals. In practical terms the requirements for farmers and growers amount to the application of simple hygiene procedures to ensure hazards are controlled appropriately.

This regulation requires all feed business operators to be registered with DAERA. Any significant changes to your feed activities such as selling or mixing of additives or premixtures directly on farm should be communicated to DAERA using the contact details provided in this leaflet.

To comply with the regulations all farmers must:

Properly store and handle feed to:

- prevent hazardous contamination, for example from chemicals, pesticides, fertilisers and so on;
- prevent animals, vermin and pests from causing contamination;
- prevent feed spoilage for example due to moulds or contact with animal waste;
- keep medicated feed separate from other feed;
- keep pet food, especially any containing meat product, separate from other feed.

Keep accurate records including:

- source, type, quantity and date received for animal feeds and the animals they are fed to;
- destination, type and quantity for feed material sold;
- details of crop protection products and biocides used;
- results of any relevant tests carried out.

Keep facilities/equipment used for mixing, storing or distributing feed clean. Keep animal production unit clean to prevent build up of hazards.

Food Hygiene Regulations for Primary Producers

[Regulation \(EC\) 852/2004 & specific articles under Regulation \(EC\) 178/2002](#)

These regulations apply to all farmers and growers (primary producers) and DAERA maintains a register of these businesses.

The purpose of these regulations is to ensure food safety throughout the food chain, starting with primary production.

Inspections under these regulations are carried out by DAERA Agri-food Inspection Branch on behalf of the Food Standards Agency in Northern Ireland.

To comply with the regulations all farmers must take measures to:

- prevent contamination of food, arising from air, soil, water, feed, veterinary medicines, plant protection products, waste, animals, pests and so on;
- keep facilities/equipment used in connection with primary production clean;
- prevent the introduction and spread of contagious diseases transmissible to humans;
- take account of results of any tests carried out that may affect human health;
- use plant protection products, biocides, feed additives and veterinary medicines correctly. Ensure only authorised/approved products are used.

Farmers must also keep accurate records relevant to food safety, and make these available when requested by DAERA inspectors. These include:

- traceability of inputs purchased (i.e. food, feed, food producing animals and substances incorporated into food/feed);
- traceability of outputs sold (i.e. food, feed and food producing animals);
- veterinary medicines administered to animals including dates of administration and withdrawal;

- the occurrence of disease or pests that may affect food safety;
- any use of plant protection products and biocides, including the name of product, application date and location;
- results of any relevant tests carried out.

Record templates can be obtained from your local DAERA Direct office or from the DAERA website, search under “Food and Feed”.

DAERA has responsibility for enforcement of these regulations.

Primary responsibility for feed and food safety rests with the feed and food business operators. Any person who contravenes these regulations shall be guilty of an offence and may be liable for prosecution.

This guide must not be used as a substitute for the legislation on which it is based since the legislation may be amended from time to time.

These regulations can be accessed using the search facility through the following link www.legislation.gov.uk

Further Information and guidance can be obtained from:

DAERA - Agri-food Inspection Branch,
Clare House,
303 Airport Road West,
Sydenham Intake,
Belfast, BT3 9ED
Tel: 028 9052 5055

e-mail: afib.adminteam@daera-ni.gov.uk

Or on the Food Standards Agency website at:
www.food.gov.uk/business-industry/farmingfood