**Guidance note for farmers manufacturing feedingstuffs using veterinary medicinal products, or premixtures containing veterinary medicinal products or specified feed additives**

Veterinary Medicines Regulations 2013 (as amended)

**Controlled Products**

In this checklist, Controlled Products refer to:

• Veterinary Medicinal Products (VMPs) authorised for mixing into animal feed;

• Specified Feed Additives (SFAs) i.e. coccidiostats and growth promoters; and

• Premixtures containing VMPs or SFAs.

**Premises & Equipment**

Ensure that all parts of the premises and equipment used for mixing feeds, including associated storage

areas, are:

* In a good state of repair.
* Clean and tidy.
* Free from spillages, old packaging and obsolete equipment.
* Protected from the entrance and harbouring of pests, vermin and domestic animals.
* Well lit, ventilated and dry.
* Suitable to accurately mix feeds and protect feeds from contamination.

**Personnel**

Ensure that:

* There is a designated person responsible for feed production.
* Staff are trained and knowledgeable in handling Controlled Products and mixing feeds.
* Appropriate staff facilities and personal protective equipment are available.

**Production**

Ensure that procedures are in place so:

* Feeds are mixed according to written formulations and instructions aimed at minimising cross- contamination during mixing, storage and transport.
* Veterinary medicines are only used in accordance with a valid Medicated Feedingstuff (MFS) prescription.
* Other Controlled Products are only used ‘as labelled’.
* Waste material not suitable for feed is isolated and identified for disposal.

**Storage & Transport**

Ensure that:

* Controlled Products are stored in their original packaging and in a secure location.
* Storage areas for feed materials and mixed feed are suitable to prevent contamination and pest damage.
* All feed materials and mixed feeds are labelled or otherwise clearly identifiable.
* Mixed feeds are transported in suitable vehicles or containers, which are cleaned as necessary to prevent cross-contamination.

**Quality Control**

Ensure that a Quality Control plan is drawn up which includes:

* Keeping samples of mixed feeds.
* Testing the efficiency of the mixer (homogeneity test).
* Testing samples of mixed feed for Controlled Products and other substances.
* Testing mixed feed for cross-contamination (carryover) where there is a risk.
* Monitoring feed materials and mixed feeds for harmful organisms and deleterious substances.

**Record-keeping**

Ensure that appropriate records are kept of the following:

* Controlled Products and feed materials purchased.
* Feeds mixed and details of the Controlled Products used (including batch numbers).
* MFS prescriptions to cover purchase and use of VMPs and medicated premixtures.
* Documented Procedures for feed production.
* Quality Control results:
	+ mixer efficiency (homogeneity) tests
	+ carryover (cross-contamination) tests
	+ calibration of weighing/measuring equipment
	+ analysis of mixed feeds and feed materials
* Cleaning and maintenance of premises, storage areas and equipment.
* HACCP plan.
* All records are kept for 5 years.

**Enquiries to:**

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