

September 26, 2023

## Current Policy on Use of Hemp Products in Animal Feed

As the administrator of the Kentucky Feed Law and Regulations (KRS 250.491-250.990, 12 KAR 2.006-2.066, and 12 KAR 3.007-3.042), the feed program of the University of Kentucky Division of Regulatory Services is responsible for the regulation of commercial feed for animals in the state of Kentucky.

The Division of Regulatory Services has received self-affirmed GRAS (generally recognized as safe) dossiers from element6 Dynamics and from Victory Hemp Foods regarding the use of hempseed meal and hempseed oil as feed ingredients for chickens and equine. Their dossiers meet the requirements set forth in our Kentucky Feed Regulations (12 KAR 2:041).

With no objections to these self-affirmed GRAS determinations, hempseed meal can be used as an ingredient in Kentucky in the diets of layer, broiler, and breeder chickens at no more than 30% of the diet and in growing, maintenance, brood mare, and performance horse diets at no more than 20% of the diet.

With no objections to these self-affirmed GRAS determinations, hempseed oil can be used as an ingredient in Kentucky in the diets of layer, broiler, and breeder chickens at no more than 12% of the diet and in growing, maintenance, brood mare, and performance horse diets at no more than 12% of the diet.

The Feed Program of University of Kentucky Division of Regulatory Services does not currently allow the use of any hemp products including hemp seeds, hemp oil or hempseed meal in products intended for the feeding of animals other than those included in the self-affirmed GRAS submissions from element6 Dynamics or Victory Hemp Foods. We do allow non-viable hemp seeds for feeding wild birds. The 2018 Official Publication of the Association of American Feed Control Officials (AAFCO) does not include definitions for any hemp product and Kentucky regulations reference this manual.

*The names and definitions for commercial feeds shall be the "Official Definition of Feed Ingredients" adopted by the Association of American Feed Control Officials and published in its Official Publication, except as exempted by this administrative regulation. (12 KAR 2:006(Section 1))*

*The terms used in reference to commercial feeds shall be the official feed terms adopted by the Association of American Feed Control Officials and published in its Official Publication, except as exempted by this administrative regulation. (12 KAR 2:006(Section 2))*

*The name of each ingredient or collective term for the grouping of ingredients, if required to be listed, shall be the name as defined in the "Official Definitions of Feed Ingredients" as published in the Official Publication of the Association of American Feed Control Officials, the common or usual name, or one approved by the director. (12 KAR 2:026(1))*

Hemp processors wishing to introduce additional hemp products into the Kentucky animal feed market or hempseed meal or oil for additional uses can pursue a new ingredient definition through AAFCO ([http://www.aaeco.org/Portals/0/SiteContent/Regulatory/Committees/Ingredient-Definitions/definition\\_request\\_guidelines\\_020112.pdf](http://www.aaeco.org/Portals/0/SiteContent/Regulatory/Committees/Ingredient-Definitions/definition_request_guidelines_020112.pdf)). The Food and Drug Administration's self-

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affirmed GRAS (generally recognized as safe) program is another avenue for hemp products to potentially reach the animal feed market (<http://www.fda.gov/AnimalVeterinary/GuidanceComplianceEnforcement/ComplianceEnforcement/ucm229734.htm>). Our feed program requires firms claiming self-affirmed GRAS to submit the scientific substantiation and data packet used to meet all of the safety and efficacy requirements of GRAS. It was through this process that hempseed meal and hempseed oil for chickens and horses were allowed entry into the Kentucky feed market.

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