

AMENDMENTS TO ANIMAL FEED ACT (IN FORCE AS OF 11.12.2012)

Changes to the Animal Feed Act have been published in State Gazette # 97 of 7.12.2012 and come into force on 11.12.2012. Some of the important changes are summarized below.

Collection of information

New term: The Bulgarian Food Safety Agency shall collect and process information on a quarterly basis. Until presently the information was collected monthly.

Broadened sources of information: The information shall be collected from a broadened lists of sources (see article 176).

Term for provision of information: The operators in the animal feed sector shall provide the information by the 10th of the month following the quarter to the regional food safety directorate per the location of the establishment.

Approval needed for a broader scope of activities

Until now the activities falling into the scope of Article 10 of EC Regulation # 183/2005 are performed only by establishments **approved** by the Bulgarian Food Safety Agency (article 15, para. 3).

Broader scope of establishments to be approved: (article 15, para. 4) The approval of the Bulgarian Food Safety Agency shall also be **required** for establishments, in which one or more of the following activities are performed aimed at placing on the market of product to be used in feed:

- processing of crude vegetable oil, with the exception of the establishments registered under the Food Act;
- production of fatty acids through processing of vegetable oil and animal fats,
- production of biodiesel;
- mixing of fats.

Register: The register of approved establishment under article 15, para. 3 and para. 4 shall be kept as follows:

- The regional directorate of the food safety agency shall keep a register of the establishments under article 15, para. 3 and para. 4.

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- The Bulgarian Food Safety Agency shall keep a national register of establishments under article 15, para. 3 and para. 4.

Dossiers: The regional directorate of the food safety agency shall keep dossiers of the registered establishments.

Agricultural producers

List of registered agricultural producers: The Ministry of Agriculture and Food shall provide monthly to the Bulgaria Food Safety Agency a list of agricultural producers, performing activities falling into the scope of article 9 of EC Regulation 183/2005 for operations at the level of primary production of feed and the associated operations set out in article 5, para. 1 of EC Regulation 183/2005. The list shall be published in the Internet by the Bulgaria Food Safety Agency.

Transporters of feed

Registration of feed transporters: The transportation of feed shall be carried out by registered transporters only.

Registration body: The transporter is required to file an application for registration with the director of the regional directorate of the food safety agency.

Changes to circumstances: Upon changes of circumstances the transporters shall notify in writing the director of the regional directorate of the food safety agency within 3 days of their occurrence.

Documents accompanying transport: The feed transport has to be accompanied by a document stating:

- name and address of transporter;
- location of trade/production establishment;
- origin of transported feed;
- quantity, type and destination of feed;

Registers of transporters: The register of transporter shall be kept by the regional directorate of food safety agency. The Bulgarian Food Safety Agency shall keep a national register of transporters

Dossiers: The regional directorate of the food safety agency shall keep dossiers of the transporters.

Operator having no warehouse

Subject to registration and inscription (respectively to approval and registration) shall be operators, which in conducting their activities do not store feed at a warehouse but trade directly from the warehouse of the producers and/or traders to the warehouses of the consumers.

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Operators placing on the market feed with GMOs

New obligations: New obligations are provided for operators placing on the market feed containing GMOs. (see articles 23 г – 23 ж).

Requirements for operators in the feed sector

Analysis: Certain operators are required to carry out feed analysis in respect of dioxins and dioxin-like polychlorinated biphenyls. (see article 26a – 26б)

Medicinal feed products

New regulation for medicinal feed products is introduced.

Introduction in medicinal feed:

Only licensed for usage medicinal veterinary products may be introduced into medicinal feed products. The licensing is carried out:

- in accordance with chapter eleven of the Veterinary Medicinal Activities Act;
- in accordance with EC Regulation 726/2004.

Approval for production and trade: Approval for production and/or trade with medicinal feed may be obtained by feed operators, which are:

- registered in the register under article 20;
- approved as operators in the feed sector in another EU state.

The approval procedure is set out in article 55a et seq.

Registers: The registers are kept by the regional directorate of the food safety agency. The Bulgarian Food Safety Agency shall keep a national register.

Prohibitions: A long list of prohibitions on the use of medicinal feed is set out in 55e.

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