

Enhanced Animal Health Protection From BSE

REQUIREMENTS FOR FERTILIZERS AND SUPPLEMENTS

Beginning July 12, 2007, enhanced animal health safeguards come into effect to help eliminate bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), or mad cow disease, from Canada. Certain cattle tissues capable of transmitting BSE, known as specified risk material (SRM), are banned from all animal feeds, pet foods and fertilizers. There are also new requirements for manufacturers and retailers of fertilizers and supplements (products other than nutrients that benefit plant growth or soil structure).



What are SRM?

SRM are defined as:

- the skull, brain, trigeminal ganglia (nerves attached to the brain), eyes, tonsils, spinal cord and dorsal root ganglia (nerves attached to the spinal cord) of cattle aged 30 months or older; and
- the distal ileum (portion of the small intestine) of cattle of all ages.

Requirements for all Fertilizers and Supplements

SRM in any form cannot be used in fertilizers or supplements.

Every package of fertilizer or supplement must have a **lot number** printed on the label.

Requirements for Fertilizers and Supplements Containing Prohibited Material

Fertilizers and supplements containing certain animal proteins known as prohibited material (described in the *Health of Animals Act*) must be appropriately labelled, recorded and controlled. Prohibited material includes products derived from most mammalian proteins, **including meat and bone meal**.

The following material is **not** prohibited:

- proteins derived from swine, horses, poultry and fish;
- blood meal, milk and gelatine from any mammal;
- tallow from cattle and other ruminants that contains less than 0.15% impurities; and
- manure and solids from municipal wastewater treatment plants that do not receive SRM.

Labelling

Labels for fertilizers and supplements **containing prohibited material** must bear certain warning statements.

Recall Procedures

Recall procedures must be established by anyone who manufactures, imports, sells, or distributes a fertilizer or supplement containing **prohibited material**.

Record Keeping

Records of manufacture, distribution, importation and sale* of fertilizers and supplements **containing prohibited material** must be kept for 10 years.

Compost Products

In accordance with general fertilizer regulations, if one or more ingredients in a compost product are considered **prohibited material**, the product is subject to the new labelling, recall and record-keeping procedures. Compost that contains food-grade animal protein in the form of restaurant waste, grocery store waste (other than from the meat cutting department), or household organic collection waste will **not** be subject to the new labelling, recall and record-keeping procedures.

Compost containing any form of SRM is considered SRM itself, and **may not be sold as a fertilizer or supplement**.

* Fertilizers and supplements containing prohibited material sold in packages of less than 25 kg will be exempt from point-of-sale record keeping requirements.



Requirements for Fertilizer Exporters and Importers

Fertilizers or supplements containing products from a rendering plant or a fish processing plant must be certified by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) before export. Similarly, the importation of these products requires a CFIA import permit.

Registration of Products

There are no new fertilizer and supplement registration regulations.

Additional Information

For more details on new labelling, recall and record-keeping requirements, contact the CFIA at 1-800-442-2342 or visit www.inspection.gc.ca/bse.