



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Karen Ross, Secretary

July 11, 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) Commercial Feed and Livestock Drugs Program has oversight authority over all commercial livestock feed and livestock drugs sold within or into the state of California (Food and Agricultural Code (FAC) § 14321 and 15051). The Livestock Drugs Program also oversees all livestock drug product registration and labeling requirements for the state of California (FAC § 14281 - 14296).

Recently, the Agricultural Improvement Act of 2018 (Farm Bill) legalized the growing of hemp, yet it did not grant the right to use hemp and hemp products in food or drugs for livestock. Over the last five years California has adopted several new laws and regulations around cannabis production; however, cannabis for use in livestock was not permitted.

All hemp and hemp-derived ingredients and cannabis or cannabis-derived ingredients **may not be used in** commercial feed or livestock drug products, as these ingredients are unapproved for livestock per the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and subsequently have not been approved for use in livestock in California. The FDA possesses authority to regulate drug products under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FD&C Act) and Section 351 of the Public Health Service Act.

CDFA, in part, recognizes ingredients listed in the Official Publication (OP) of the Association of American Feed Control Officials (AAFCO) as being acceptable for use in livestock feed. At this time, there are no approved food additive petitions or ingredient definitions listed in the AAFCO OP for any part of hemp or cannabis. CDFA is also unaware of any Generally Recognized as Safe (GRAS) conclusions for these ingredients.

While cultivation allowances for hemp and cannabis are undergoing change, the policies and laws governing allowances for livestock feed ingredients and livestock drug products **have not** yet changed at a state or federal level. CDFA will take enforcement action on all livestock feed and livestock drugs containing unapproved ingredients.

The FDA has provided information and frequently asked questions (FAQ) regarding this topic. For additional information, please find the FAQ here: <https://www.fda.gov/news-events/public-health-focus/fda-regulation-cannabis-and-cannabis-derived-products-questions-and-answers>





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Updates or changes to this policy may be made with FDA or AAFCO's approval of these products. Information regarding any changes will be sent to interested parties and posted on our website. For more information about the livestock drug program and the process for product approval, please visit our website at <https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/is/ffldrs/LivestockDrug.html>

Sincerely,

Original Signed by Ms. Leal

Jenna M. Leal, Environmental Program Manager
Commercial Feed, Livestock Drugs, Antimicrobial Use and Stewardship Program

