



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF  
FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Karen Ross, Secretary

May 23, 2023

## NOTICE TO COMMERCIAL FEED INDUSTRY

California Food and Agricultural Code (FAC) Section 15051(a) states each person shall obtain a license from the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) for each location where commercial feed is manufactured, distributed, sold, or stored for later sale in California. **The person who holds the commercial feed license should be the person who is manufacturing, distributing, selling, or storing commercial feed at that licensed location.** This will ensure the licensee has control of management of the facility to allow CDFA's Commercial Feed Regulatory Program to conduct inspections, obtain samples, and ensure safety of feed manufactured, distributed, sold, or stored at the facility. "Person" means any individual, corporation, partnership, limited liability company, trust, association, cooperative association, or any other business unit or organization.

Brokers are also required to obtain commercial feed licenses for their place of business (e.g., their office), because they are selling commercial feed. However, a broker should not obtain a commercial feed license on behalf of any location operated by another person or business.

Human food facilities which are manufacturing, distributing, selling, or storing a product intended for animal feed must obtain a commercial feed license, even if all their product is sold to another licensee. However, human food retail establishments and restaurants which ONLY handle food intended for human consumption AND all their food by-product is picked up by a commercial feed licensee are exempt from obtaining a commercial feed license. If the retail establishment or restaurant is diverting to animal feed directly to an un-licensed purchaser, then they must obtain a commercial feed license. As a reminder, CDFA has reduced the commercial feed license fee to one hundred dollars (\$100) for facilities that solely divert eligible human food waste and have no other commercial feed operations.

Additional clarification regarding when a commercial feed license is required is provided in a new infographic, "Do I Need a Commercial Feed License", found at:

[https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/is/ffldrs/docs/Do\\_I\\_need\\_a\\_Commercial\\_Feed\\_License.pdf](https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/is/ffldrs/docs/Do_I_need_a_Commercial_Feed_License.pdf)

To learn more about how to obtain a commercial feed license, please contact CDFA's Commercial Feed Regulatory Program at 916-900-5022, [feed\\_lvstk@cdfa.ca.gov](mailto:feed_lvstk@cdfa.ca.gov), or visit our website <https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/is/ffldrs/CommercialFeedReg.html>.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY JENNA LEAL

Jenna Leal, Environmental Program Manager I

