



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Karen Ross, Secretary

February 2, 2023

NOTICE TO COMMERCIAL FEED INDUSTRY

The California Department of Food and Agriculture's (CDFA) Commercial Feed Regulatory Program (CFRP) would like to remind the California Feed Industry that **Walnut Shells are not an approved feed ingredient**. They are a physical hazard for livestock because of the sharp hard edges, even when finely ground. They also provide no nutritional value to livestock as a feed ingredient.

Other by-products of walnut production and processing can include those defined below as Nut Meats. The definition has been included for label purposes for manufacturers, distributors and brokers.

Nut Meats: "Ground Cull Nut Meats or Ground Nut Meat Screenings is the ground fragments, immature, and culled nut meats obtained in the cleaning and grading of nut meats. They shall be free of shells, hulls, dirt, and other foreign material."

If a cull nut walnut product does not meet this definition, it cannot be distributed as a feed ingredient or used in a formula feed for livestock in California.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mike Davidson, Supervising Special Investigator at mike.davidson@cdfa.ca.gov or (209) 649-3682.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY MS. LEAL

Jenna Leal
Environmental Program Manager I

