



COMMERCIAL FEED  
REGULATORY PROGRAM

# QUARTERLY FEED UPDATE

Issue 8 | Fall 2021

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## Calendar

October 31, 2021  
Quarter 3 Tonnage  
Tax Due

November 11, 2021  
Veterans Day

November 25, 2021  
Thanksgiving Day

November 26, 2021  
Day after Thanksgiving  
(Office Closed)

December 25, 2021  
Christmas Day

## 2020 Crop Year Mycotoxin Report: Corn & Cottonseed

The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) Commercial Feed Regulatory Program (CFRP) surveys each year's corn crop received at feed mills in California for the presence of mycotoxins.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has established tolerance levels for aflatoxin, fumonisin and vomitoxin by species and class of livestock<sup>1</sup>. The tolerance level for aflatoxins varies by species from 300 parts per billion (ppb) for finishing beef cattle to 20 ppb in dairy cattle. Due to California's prominent dairy industry, the CFRP requires that all commercial feed in California not exceed 20 ppb total aflatoxin, since it can be transferred into milk and poses a human-health concern. Tolerance levels for fumonisins range from five parts per million (ppm) for equids and rabbits to 100 ppm for poultry raised for slaughter. Vomitoxin tolerance levels in feed ingredients range from five ppm for swine to 30 ppm for beef cattle. The FDA has not established guidance for the other mycotoxins tested.



*CFRP obtained 51 samples of whole corn received by feed manufacturers via rail car as part of the CDFA Corn Sampling Survey.*

## Whole Corn Sampling

Between November 2020 and June 2021, the CFRP obtained 51 official samples of whole corn received by feed manufacturers via rail car as a part of the annual CDFA Corn Sampling Survey. Corn samples originated from Nebraska, Minnesota, Iowa, South Dakota, and Vermont. Of the samples taken, 65% originated from Nebraska.

The University of California, Davis California Animal Health and Food Safety Laboratory conducted 10 mycotoxin analyses on each of the 51 samples, for a total of 510 analyses. Of the 51 samples analyzed, over 84.3% resulted in no detectable levels of mycotoxins (Figure 1). There was one sample with detectable levels of aflatoxin (B1); it was under the California

*(continued on page 2)*

## 2020 Crop Year Mycotoxin Report: Corn & Cottonseed, continued

requirement of 20 ppb, as shown in Figure 1. There were seven samples with detectable levels of deoxynivalenol (vomitoxin), which were all below one ppm. No samples contained any detectable levels of aflatoxin B2, aflatoxin G-2, aflatoxin G-1, fumonisin B1, T-2 Toxin, H-T2, zearalenone (F-2 Toxin), or ochratoxin. The CFRP did not identify any corn products from the 2020 crop year with concerning levels of mycotoxins, or any trends by state of origin.

### Cottonseed Sampling

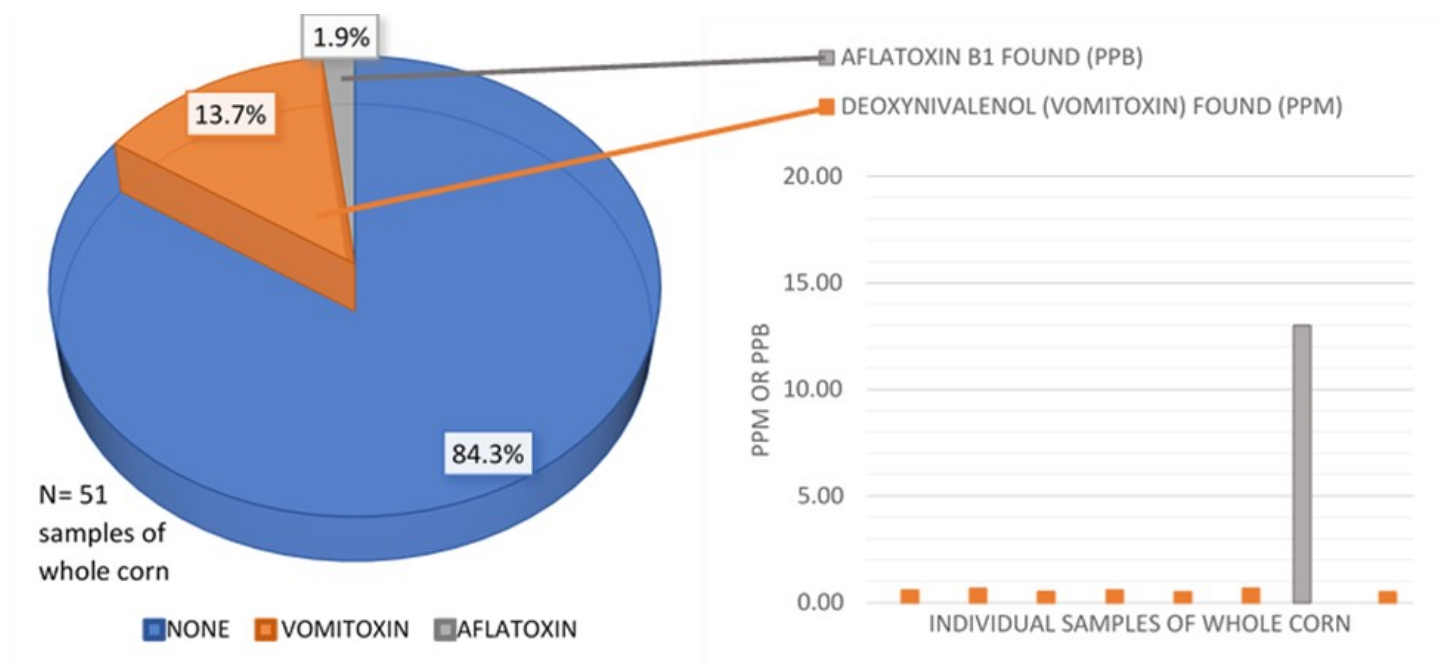
Additionally, CDFA obtained 12 official samples of whole cottonseed and completed 84 mycotoxin analyses (some samples only tested for aflatoxins). The cottonseed originated from California, Arizona, Kansas, Oklahoma, Mississippi, Missouri, Illinois, and Louisiana.

There was one sample with a detectable level of mycotoxins (6 ppb aflatoxin B1) originating from Arizona.

There was also an incident in March 2021 where damaged whole cottonseed was found by CDFA inspectors. All product was placed under quarantine and seven investigational samples were taken and tested for aflatoxins. None of these samples resulted in detectable levels of aflatoxins, so the cottonseed was sold as “damaged” under quarantine.

1. FDA Center for Veterinary Medicine (2016). CVM Annual Report on Mycotoxins in Animal Food Report for Fiscal Year 2016. <https://www.fda.gov/media/130526/download>

**Figure 1.** Mycotoxins detected in 8 of 51 samples of whole corn from the 2020 crop year and level (PPM, aflatoxins reported in PPB) of mycotoxins detected.



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## Veterinary Feed Directive and Human Food Facility Manufacturer Outreach

The Safe Animal Feed Education (SAFE) Program will be focusing coordinated outreach and education efforts to firms that manufacture Veterinary Feed Directive (VFD) feeds and Human Food Facilities that divert human food to livestock feed. These firms will be provided with comprehensive training and resources to better assist them to ensure compliance with current California Feed Laws and Regulations.

VFD feed manufacturers and distributors will be receiving targeted outreach to pinpoint reoccurring issues seen on VFDs and help firms understand what constitutes a lawful VFD order. The Program believes that providing this type of targeted outreach will help prevent potentially inaccurate distributions of VFD feed containing medically important antimicrobial drugs from being fed to California's food

producing livestock, which will ultimately support the continued mitigation of antimicrobial resistance.

Human Food Facility visits will focus on educating firms on the proper diversion of human food waste to livestock feed. These visits are designed to build and improve upon existing relationships and will assist the livestock industry with diverting human food waste from landfills to its highest and best use as feed for livestock.



## CFRP is Hiring!

The Commercial Feed Regulatory Program is recruiting to fill an Environmental Scientist position in Sacramento County. Under supervision of the Senior Environmental Scientist (Supervisory), the Environmental Scientist will sample and analyze results of commercial feed and livestock drugs. The incumbent will conduct environmental impact studies related to feed and food safety, take regulatory actions, conduct investigations and inspections, and other duties related to the enforcement of California laws governing the distribution of feed and livestock drugs.

To learn more about the position and how to apply, view the job posting on the CalCareers website: <https://www.calcareers.ca.gov/CalHrPublic/Jobs/JobPosting.aspx?JobControlId=270617>

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## Feed Inspection Advisory Board's Technical Advisory Subcommittee Vacancies

The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) announces four vacancies on the Feed Inspection Advisory Board's Technical Advisory Subcommittee (TASC). This subcommittee provides technical and scientific advice to the Feed Inspection Advisory Board and CDFA on animal food nutrition, safety and efficacy data review of new and unapproved feed ingredients, research project oversight and other issues that will affect CDFA's Commercial Feed Regulatory Program, Livestock Drugs Program and Safe Animal Feed Education Program.

Applicants must demonstrate technical, applied and scientific expertise in the fields of toxicology, pathology, ruminant and non-ruminant nutrition, as well as possess general knowledge of the California feed industry.

The term of office for subcommittee members is three years. Members receive no compensation but are entitled to payment of necessary travel expenses. Individuals interested in being considered for appointment should send a resume and a Feed TASC Prospective Member Appointment Questionnaire ([http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/is/ffldrs/pdfs/FIAB-TASC\\_PMAQ.pdf](http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/is/ffldrs/pdfs/FIAB-TASC_PMAQ.pdf)) to [Cathryn.McCandless@cdfa.ca.gov](mailto:Cathryn.McCandless@cdfa.ca.gov). The application deadline is October 15, 2021.

For further information about the Feed Inspection Advisory Board TASC, please contact CDFA Feed, Fertilizer, and Livestock Drugs Regulatory Services branch staff at (916) 900-5022 or visit [http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/is/ffldrs/Feed\\_FIAB.html](http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/is/ffldrs/Feed_FIAB.html).



*A commercial dairy feeding research trial evaluating the efficacy of Asparagopsis seaweed meal in decreasing methane emissions. This project was reviewed by the Feed Inspection Advisory Board TASC.*

### 2020 Contract Year Complete

By the end of September 2021, the Commercial Feed Regulatory Program (CFRP) will have completed a total of 32 U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Inspections under federal contract. CFRP thanks the FDA for the opportunity and looks forward to starting the next contract year.

- 26 Preventive Control Food Safety Plan Inspections**
- 4 Visits**
- + 2 Current Good Manufacturing Practices Inspections**

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- = 32 Total FSMA Inspections**



# CONTACT US



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## [VIEW FIELD STAFF TERRITORY MAP](#)

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