

California Department of Food and Agriculture Feed, Fertilizer, and Livestock Drugs Regulatory Services Branch

QUARTERLY FEED UPDATE

Issue 13 | Winter 2023

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January 2, 2023 New Year's Day (Observed)

January 16, 2023 Martin Luther King Jr. Day

January 30, 2023 Quarter 4 Tonnage Tax Due

February 20, 2023 Presidents' Day

March 31, 2023 Cesar Chavez Day

NOTICE TO INDUSTRY: Almond Hull Products

This fall, the Commercial Feed Regulatory Program's official almond hull sampling has a 35 percent violation rate. The maximum crude fiber allowance for almond hulls is 15.0 percent.

One of the causes of this high violation rate is the blending of almond shell back into almond hulls. The requirement for use of almond shell/almond hull and shell in a formula feed or mixed feed, such as adding almond shell to almond hulls, is outlined below.



Almond hulls.

California Code of Regulations Title 3, Section 2773.5(b) states:

When the following almond hull products are used in a mixed feed, the maximum percent shall be stated.

- (1) Almond hull and shell
- (2) Almond shell
- (3) Almond products containing more than 9.0 percent ash.

Anytime almond shell is added to commercial feed, it shall be stated on the label with the maximum inclusion percent stated.

This requirement applies to all firms utilizing this practice, including almond hullers and processors who remove almond shell while hulling and shelling. When a firm adds or blends shell back into its almond hulls or almond hull and shell, the firm is creating a formula feed as defined in Article 2 of the Food and Agricultural Code (FAC), Section 14930. Meaning the firm is required to declare the maximum percent of almond shell included in the feed on the label.

If almond shell is being added back into the feed, and sold as almond hulls or almond hull and shell, and is not declared on the label accompanying the load, it will be considered adulterated per FAC Section 15041(c) "A commercial feed is adulterated if its composition differs from, or quality falls below, that which it is purported or is represented to possess by its labeling."

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Almond Hulls, from page 1

If a violation occurs and a firm does not have an almond hull shipping plan with crude fiber assays, showing that the plan will result in almond hulls that meet the crude fiber maximum guarantee, the inventory of almond hulls that are over 15.0 percent crude fiber will be subject to quarantine and only able to be shipped and labeled as almond hull and shell.

For additional information or questions please contact Mike Davidson, Supervising Special Investigator at (209) 649-3682.

Feed Inspection Advisory Board and Technical Advisory Subcommittee Meetings

The Feed Inspection Advisory Board (FIAB) meets several times each year to make recommendations on all matters pertaining to the Commercial Feed Regulatory Program (CFRP), including inspection, enforcement, budget, fees, and regulations. The Technical Advisory Subcommittee (TASC) advises the FIAB on feed/food safety issues and research projects funded by the Safe Animal Feed Education (SAFE) Program. All FIAB and TASC meetings are public meetings; upcoming meeting dates are listed below. An agenda and meeting materials will be posted to the Inspection Services Division's meetings webpage 10 days prior to the scheduled meeting date.

Join Our Email Lists

Join the Commercial Feed Regulatory Program and Safe Animal Feed Education Program email lists to receive the Quarterly Feed Update and other industry updates delivered to your inbox.

Sign up at <u>cdfa.ca.gov/subscriptions/</u> or email <u>feed_lvstk@cdfa.ca.gov</u> or <u>safe@cdfa.ca.gov</u>

Introducing VFD Online Training!

The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) is proud to announce a new online educational resource that will be available in the new year! The Veterinary Feed Directive (VFD) Online Training is the result of a collaborative effort between the Antimicrobial Use and Stewardship (AUS) program, Safe Animal Feed Education (SAFE) program, and our University of California, Davis partners at the Food Animal Residue Avoidance Databank (FARAD). The training has been organized by three major species swine, bovine, and poultry - and is intended to assist and provide resources to California feed distributors to better understand the history and verification process of a lawful VFD.



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STAFF SPOTLIGHT: Valerie White

What is your name?

Valerie White (Brott) - recently married

How long have you worked for CDFA?

Total: a little over five years. For CDFA's Feed, Fertilizer and Livestock Drugs Regulatory Services Branch - four years. I previously worked for CDFA's Nursery, Seed and Cotton Program and the Entomology Lab for a little over one year as an Ag Tech I and II.

What is your job title and what do you do?

Environmental Scientist – Feed Lab Coordinator. My job consists of being the middle woman for all of our livestock feed samples that are taken by our field inspectors and sent to our lab for testing. I ensure that all the information provided to our lab is accurate, results we receive from the lab are entered, and issue lab reports to all the firms and purchasers associated with each sample.



CFRP is excited to introduce Staff Spotlight, a new recurring feature to help industry get to know our team.

How do you work for the California food

supply? I work for the California food supply by providing data to show that the Livestock industry is getting safe and nutritional feed for their animals. The feed that we sample and regulate is for the livestock in California that provide us with milk, meat, and eggs, so it is important that these animals get proper nutrition to be able to provide us with quality food.

What do you enjoy most about your job?

There are a few things I love about my job. One is that I get to help the agricultural industry all while learning new things about it every day. I grew up in an area that wasn't huge on agriculture, so it is fascinating to see all the components that go into providing food for Californians. Another thing I enjoy and I think is the top one is the team that I get to work with. We are a team that works well together, gets along and communicates well even when we were sent home due to the pandemic. Our team was able to pivot to this new way of working pretty seamlessly, and working from home can be a little isolating at times, but I have never felt disconnected from my work cause of the connection our team has.

What is your philosophy? My philosophy has always been you get what you give. If you are positive every day positivity will come your way.

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NOTICE TO INDUSTRY: Voluntary By-Product Diversion Reporting in ExtraView

The intent of this Notice is to inform the California feed industry that a new section has been included in the ExtraView database for gathering data on by-product diversion which is not captured in tonnage tax reporting. The Commercial Feed Regulatory Program (CFRP) is utilizing this data to quantify the feed industry's contribution to statewide organic waste diversion goals set forth by Senate Bill (SB) 1383.

CFRP has worked to incorporate by-product diversion that falls outside the scope of regular tonnage tax reporting into ExtraView. Capturing the following will allow for more thorough reporting of by-product diversion by the feed industry:

- Tons of by-products added to mixed and formula feeds prior to reaching the end-user.
- Tons of wet by-products dried prior to reaching the end-user (i.e., "shrink").
- Tons of by-products diverted to one's own animals.
- Tons of by-products diverted to pet food.
- Tons of by-products diverted to a location outside of California.
- Tons of by-products donated or given away at no cost.

As a result, CFRP has included the following additional question in ExtraView, within the tonnage reporting section, to allow for reporting by-product data that is not included in regular tonnage tax reporting:

"Do you want to voluntarily report total diversion of by-products to animal feed to be collected for organic waste diversion goals set forth by SB 1383?"

Please note that this new question is optional, and the information reported is **NOT** subject to any tonnage tax fees. Participating firms should select **YES** and enter the requested information for any additional tons of byproducts not allocated to regular tonnage tax reporting.

For help determining if your licensed location has tonnage to report in this section and how to report in ExtraView, see the <u>help guide</u>.

CFRP encourages and appreciates all participation in this effort to highlight the California feed industry's significant contribution to SB 1383 organic waste diversion goals and ensure by-products remain available as important feed sources.

To learn more about SB 1383, visit CalRecycle's <u>SB 1383 Education and</u> <u>Outreach Resources webpage</u>.

For additional information or questions regarding organic waste diversion to animal feed, please contact SAFE at <u>safe@cdfa.ca.gov</u> or visit SAFE's human <u>food</u> waste diversion webpage.

For additional information or questions regarding tonnage reporting, please contact CFRP at <u>feed_lvstk@cdfa.ca.gov</u>.

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New Lab Report Format and Mailing Address Updates

The Commercial Feed Regulatory Program (CFRP) has introduced a new and improved two-page lab report format for 2023. Changes include:

- Increased font size throughout for improved readability.
- Clearer identification of follow-up and quarantine samples, as well as corrected and supplemental reports issued.
- Assay results and violations split into two pages to allow for additional detail.
- Page one serves as a "Notice of Violation" and includes the complete text of all Food and Agricultural Code (FAC) and California Code of Regulations (CCR) sections violated. Nonviolative samples will be noted as "No Violations Reported."
- Page two contains the "Results of Examination" with up to 25 individual assay results for each sample.

CFRP has also implemented enhanced verification procedures to minimize the number of undeliverable lab reports.

To ensure lab reports are mailed to the correct address, CFRP requests that all firms please log in to the <u>ExtraView</u> database and verify that the correct mailing address is listed for each licensed location.

Please contact CFRP at 916-900-5022 or <u>feed_lvstk@cdfa.ca.gov</u> for any questions or assistance with making updates.

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For further assistance with complia	ance, please contact the SAFE Program at <u>SAFE@cdfa.ca.gov</u> .
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A preview of the new two-page lab report format.

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PCQI Training

The Safe Animal Feed Education (SAFE) Program hosted a preventive controls qualified individual (PCQI) training on December 12-13, 2022. The training utilized the Food Safety Preventive Control Alliance (FSPCA) standardized curriculum in a blended format, with part one completed online and part two completed in-person during an eight-hour instructor-led course in Sacramento. Fourteen individuals successfully completed the training.

Feed Industry Survey

In December, SAFE sent a survey to listserv recipients seeking input in prioritizing topics for outreach and education in 2023. If you have not done so already, please take three minutes to complete the <u>SAFE Survey</u>.

Please participate in the survey before March 15, 2023. Your feedback will help SAFE focus efforts in providing education and outreach on the topics that are most important to industry in 2023. SAFE fosters safe manufacturing and use of commercial feed and livestock drugs and voluntary compliance with state and federal laws and regulations through educational resources, trainings, and outreach programs. To date, 44 individuals have completed the survey. Of the respondents, 20 identified themselves as a livestock feed manufacturer in California; nine as a broker, reseller, or distributor; seven as feed manufacturer outside of California; six as a human food processor/by-products manufacturer; one as a nutritionist; and one as an animal caretaker. The preferred methods of delivery of educational materials identified so far are webinars, videos, and documents.

Preliminary results show the top areas of interest are:

- Commercial feed label requirements
- Knowledge of feed safety hazards that may be reasonably foreseeable in California
- Feed ingredients what is safe and approved for use in feed?
- Knowledge of environmental regulations which may have impacts on feed
- How to report tonnage



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All Staff Meeting

This past October, staff from the Commercial Feed Regulatory Program (CFRP), Safe Animal Feed Education (SAFE) Program, and Antimicrobial Use and Stewardship (AUS) Program gathered at the University of California (UC) Davis. Previously an annual tradition, this was the first opportunity for the entire team from throughout the state to meet in person since 2019.

Staff discussed general program updates, field work, the new 2022-2023 FDA contract, laboratory updates, remaining priorities for 2022, and new priorities for 2023. The SAFE Program also presented updates on new initiatives and outreach efforts. In addition, staff got to tour the <u>Dairy Teaching and</u> <u>Research Facility</u>, the <u>Clarity and Leadership</u> for Environmental Awareness and Research (CLEAR) Center, and the <u>California Animal</u> Health and Food Safety (CAHFS) Laboratory.

CFRP, SAFE, and AUS thank Dr. Ed DePeters, Dr. Frank Mitloehner, Dr. Robert Poppenga, and the staff at UC Davis for hosting us!

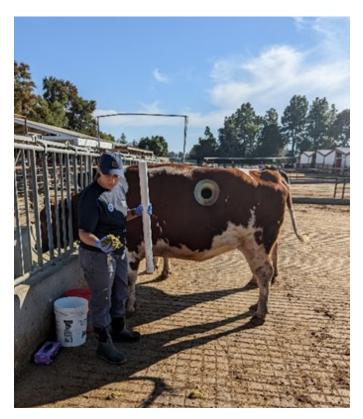


CFRP, SAFE, and AUS team photo.

Back row, from left: Ted Bert, Amber Hayter, Erika Lewis-Ortega, Chris Hansen, Alejandro Ramirez, Killeen Sanders, Samantha Moran-Defty, and Mike Davidson. Front row, from left: Lindsey Smith, Jenna Leal, Kelly Mammen, Rachelle Kennedy, KC Gutenberger, Cathryn McCandless, Valerie White, and Ashley James.

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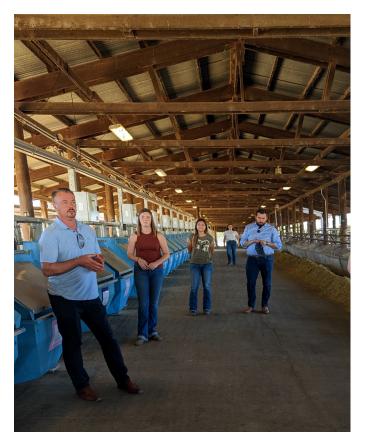
Dr. Katie Swanson shows staff a rumen sample obtained from Paprika, a fistulated cow at the Dairy Teaching and Research Facility. Cows like Paprika help researchers study how feed ingredients impact methane emissions.



Cows wait their turn in line at the milking parlor.



Dr. Frank Mitloehner prepares to lead staff on a tour of the CLEAR Center.



Dr. Frank Mitloehner discusses how the CLEAR Center is using research and extension to advance sustainability in animal agriculture.

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Staff visited the UC Davis feed mill, which dates to the 1950's.



Sabine Hargrave shows equipment used to grind feed samples at the CAHFS Laboratory.



Feed inspector Killeen Sanders says hello to one of the cows at the Dairy Teaching and Research Facility.



Jim Langston explains how feed samples are analyzed at the CAHFS Laboratory.

Have feed questions? We can help!



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VIEW FIELD STAFF TERRITORY MAP