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NEOGEN

NEWS Bites

The latest scoop for the pet food industry from a leader in food safety solutions

FSMA and the pet food industry

Requirements within the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) are intended to establish good manufacturing practices for all animal feed, while also establishing hazard analyses and risk-based preventive controls for the pet food industry.

The facilities covered by FSMA include most facilities that manufacture, process, pack or hold animal food, including those in the U.S. and those in other countries that export pet food into the U.S. The only exceptions are for small businesses ("small" is still being defined) and for businesses where the average over the last three years of food sales is less than $500,000 per year, and sales to other exempted users exceed sales to non-exempt users.

Because the legislation is complex, what follows are answers to frequently asked questions concerning the impact of FSMA on the pet food industry. These questions and answers were adapted with permission from the American Feed Industry Association.

Q: What animal food products are covered in FSMA?

A: All pet food, co-products from human food, ingredients and livestock feed.

Q: What are the differences between human food current good manufacturing practices (cGMPS) and animal food cGMPs?

A: For the animal food cGMPS, allergens have been removed. The context is the same, with some changes in definition.

Q: True or false, must a hazard analysis consider hazards that may occur naturally, or may be unintentionally introduced?

A: True.

Q: What does the proposed rule define as forms of a "chemical hazard"?

A: Forms of a chemical hazard include pesticides, drug residues, natural toxins, decomposition, unapproved food additives, color additives, and nutrient imbalances.

Q: What does the proposed rule state that is necessary to meet personnel hygiene requirements?

A: Sick employees cannot handle feed/pet food, employees must maintain adequate cleanliness, and must use hand washing facilities before entering production.

Q: How is training conducted to qualify a person in FSMA compliance?

A: Training can be through a course FDA is putting together, or through job experience in developing and implementing a food safety program.

Q: What does the proposed rule state that is necessary in a food safety plan?

A: The rule states a food safety plan must include hazard analysis, preventive controls, a recall plan, procedures and frequency of monitoring preventive controls, corrective action procedures, and verification procedures and frequency.

Q: Are small businesses exempt from cGMP requirements?

A: No.

Q: When will the FSMA requirements for the pet food industry go into effect?

A: The requirements are effective 60 days after publication of the Final Rule; the Final Rule must be issued by June 30, 2015. The pet food industry's compliance dates depend on the size of the facility: for large facilities, the compliance date is 12 months after publication of the Final Rule; for small facilities, it is two years after publication; and for very small facilities, it is three years after publication.

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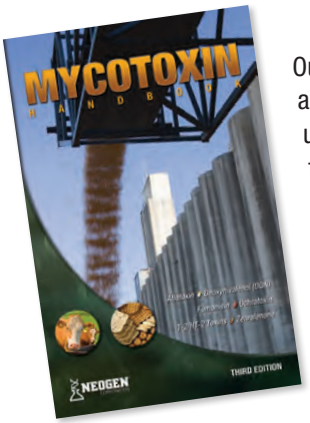
We have your mycotoxin solutions.

Neogen offers an array of mycotoxin test kits to detect aflatoxin, deoxynivalenol (DON), fumonisin, ochratoxin, T-2/HT-2 toxins, and zearalenone. Each provides results in minutes, and requires only a minimal amount of training and equipment.

- **Reveal Q+ for Aflatoxin** provides precise results ranging from 2 to 150 parts per billion (ppb) after only six minutes and a simple ethanol extraction. The test is approved for use in the national grain inspection system by the USDA's Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA).

  Reveal Q+ for Aflatoxin is also available with a water-based extraction.
- **Reveal Q+ for DON** delivers results ranging from 0.3 to 6 parts per million (ppm) after only three minutes and a simple water extraction. The test also has GIPSA approval.
- **Reveal Q+ for Zearalenone** provides results ranging from 50 to 1,200 ppb in corn and 25 to 1,200 ppb of the toxin in wheat after only six minutes and an ethanol extraction. Reveal Q+ for Zearalenone is GIPSA approved.
- **Reveal Q+ for Fumonisin** delivers quantitative results ranging from 0.3 to 6 ppm after a simple ethanol extraction. Reveal Q+ for Fumonisin also is GIPSA approved.
- **Reveal Q+ for T-2/HT-2 Toxins** delivers precise results ranging from 50 to 600 ppb after six minutes and a water extraction.
- **Reveal Q+ for Ochratoxin** provides quantitative results ranging from 2 to 20 ppb after only nine minutes.



Our **Mycotoxin Handbook** is available free of charge. Contact us at foodsafety@neogen.com for a complimentary copy.

ANSR® for *Salmonella* earns AOAC Official Methods Approval as rapid confirmation method

Neogen's DNA-definitive ANSR® for *Salmonella* has been granted AOAC Official Methods℠ status (#2013.14) for use as a confirmatory method.

The approval further demonstrates the accuracy of the ANSR method, and joins its existing AOAC approvals (AOAC-RI) for dry pet food, environmental samples, various meat products, and 18 other foods and ingredients. This is in addition to the European AFNOR approval for ANSR on more than 60 various foods and ingredients, as well as more than 85 other internally validated foods and ingredients.

ANSR for *Salmonella* can be used in one of two ways: either as a rapid screening test, or as a confirmation method. Used as a screening test, it is an easy method that can be run by non-laboratory personnel, requires minimal equipment and gives DNA-definitive results.

Used as a confirmatory method, the ANSR system represents significant time savings for laboratories, as the confirmation of the identification of presumptive colonies can be completed in about 30 minutes. The protocol from the FDA's Bacteriological Analytical Manual (BAM) for *Salmonella* confirmation for a presumptive colony can take up to 72 hours.

The approved confirmatory procedure allows the use of ANSR for *Salmonella* to determine if a presumptive colony on selective/differential or non-selective agar media is *Salmonella* species, or to confirm positive results obtained from other screening methods, including molecular methods and lateral flow devices.

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For Neogen's webinar schedule, please visit **www.neogen.com/techlibrary/webinar**.

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