

GRAIN FED DIET CLARIFICATION

Purpose

This document is to clarify the feedstuffs acceptable to be referred to as grain for livestock or the meat and meat products derived from such livestock for programs submitted for USDA Certified or USDA Audit and Accreditation Programs administered by the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS).

Definition

Under the United States Grain Standards Act (GSA; 57 FR 3274; January 29, 1992) and therefore acceptable to be included in the diet as grain are; barley, canola, corn, flaxseed, mixed grain, oats, rye, sorghum, soybeans, sunflower seed, triticale, and wheat, and any other food grains, feed grains, and oilseeds for which standards are established under section 76 of the GSA.

Additional feedstuffs that are acceptable to be included in the diet as grain for AMS administered USDA Certified or USDA Audit and Accreditation Programs are rice, millet, amaranth, buckwheat, and distiller's grain (with or without solubles).

Grain feedstuffs that vary according to stage of maturity harvesting (e.g., earlage), processing, and storage conditions will be considered and evaluated on a case-by-case basis to determine the amount of grain in the feedstuff and in the total ration.

Companies submitting rations for USDA Certified or USDA Audit and Accreditation Programs administered by AMS must report to AMS the as fed amounts (feed weight in feeding form) of various ingredients. In addition, each individual feed ingredient will be evaluated on a dry matter basis for nutrient composition.