

2.9.2. Preventing Inappropriate Handling and Cross Contamination of Medicines

Standard

Is this area adequately secure to prevent cross contamination or inappropriate handling?

Purpose

To have procedures in place that prevent cross contamination of feeds with medicines and veterinary chemicals. The procedures in place shall assist with training and awareness to operators.

Reason

Cross contamination with medicines and veterinary chemicals may occur with inappropriate storage, during manufacturing, equipment sharing, lack of cleaning or material specific control. Inappropriate handling may occur at any stage from receipt to manufacture.

Procedures and programs designed to control contamination and inappropriate handling will:

- Reduce/Eliminate inappropriate handling.
- Provide a standard operating procedure for correct handling according to zone.
- Provide a standard operating procedure for material specific control and medicines i.e. lockable storage for certain medications, RAM only storage bins.
- Programs in place for production sequencing flushing and cleaning that have been validated and continuously verified.
- Reduced potential contamination of ingredient or finished feeds by medicine or veterinary chemical.

What is Acceptable?

Production and storage zoning

The operator shall schedule production for feeds containing medicines or veterinary chemicals in a specific mixing room where possible. Storage zoning pre and post-production is important to maintain the quality of product and other non-medicinal products manufactured. The operator must ensure zoning is appropriate for the product and clearly labelled (Fact Sheet 2.3.2 & 2.3.3).

Use of dedicated Equipment

Where the operator has more than one equipment available for production – a set of equipment shall be made available for the manufacture of products with medicines and veterinary chemicals. No equipment loaning shall be allowed where medicines or veterinary products have been manufactured.

Production Sequencing Flushing and Cleaning

During production, medicines become inadvertently included in subsequent batches of non-medicated feeds, different medicated feed, or the same medicated feed at unsafe levels.

Where the same equipment in a feed mill is used, a greater risk for medicinal or veterinary chemical contamination exists. Sequencing in a preplanned order of production and subsequent activities shall consider:

- The risk to human and/or animal health.
- Type of animal feeds manufactured.
- Target animal species, are they vulnerable?
- Production stage of animal, i.e. weaners, finishing, lactating.
- Medicine or veterinary chemical acceptable level.

- Equipment in the facility.

Where the operator has determined *flushing* as a prerequisite program, a predetermined volume of non-medicated feed ingredient shall have been previously validated to clean out residual drugs from the manufacturing equipment. Operators shall appropriately identify, store, and discard or rework all flush material. If rework is performed, then this needs to be as per controlled processes (Fact Sheet 8.4.1).

Material Specific Control

Risk-based preventative controls should be discussed in your HACCP Plan (Fact Sheet 5.2.1 to 5.2.4), these may be CCP or operation pre-requisite program (oPRP) such as 'Medicated storage ONLY'. Material specific controls shall be considered for the manufacture, processing, packaging and storage of animal feed and raw materials, such as production sequence or lockable storage (Fact Sheet 2.9.3).

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