What can I do to help prevent the introduction of BSE into Michigan?

• If you are feeding nonruminant animals feed that contains prohibited material, be sure the feed is stored in a separate area and is unavailable to ruminants.

• Ask to see cleanout records from your bulk transporter. This will help to ensure you are not receiving prohibited material from another customer’s delivery.

• Closely check the labels of all incoming feed. Specifically, look for any type of animal protein in the ingredient list and look for the caution statement, “DO NOT FEED TO CATTLE OR OTHER RUMINANTS.”

• Use feeds containing only plant-based protein sources such as soybean meal, corn, alfalfa, etc.

• NEVER feed pet food or feeds intended for other species to your ruminants. Pet foods are not required to have the caution statement even though most contain prohibited material.

• Use extreme caution when given the opportunity to feed salvaged/distressed human food or animal feed to your livestock.

Where can I get more information?

Internet Resources:
U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
www.fda.gov (type BSE in the search)

Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
www.michigan.gov/mda-feed

Centers for Disease Control (CDC)
www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvrd/bse/

Additional Information:
Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
Pesticide & Plant Pest Management
P.O. Box 30017, Lansing, MI 48909
Telephone: (800) 292-3939

Preparing for On-Farm Inspections

Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE)
Why are farms being inspected?

In 1997, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) created a new regulation to prevent the introduction of a degenerative neurological disease, known as bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), into the United States. BSE, or "mad cow disease", is transmitted to cattle through feed that contains the by-products of BSE-infected cattle. Therefore, a fundamental part of this regulation is the banning of most mammalian protein (prohibited material) from use in ruminant feeds (cattle, goats, sheep, deer, elk, bison and antelope).

To ensure compliance with the regulation, the FDA and state agriculture agencies are conducting BSE inspections at firms that process animal proteins and manufacture or distribute animal feed. Inspections are also conducted at establishments that feed ruminant animals. This type of inspection is commonly referred to as "on-farm" and includes dairies, cattle feed lots, calf and lamb raising operations, cattle, sheep and goat grazing operations, buffalo ranches, captive deer and elk herds, etc. These compliance inspections help to assure the American public and US trade partners that our beef is free from BSE and safe to consume.

What does an on-farm inspection involve?

On-farm inspections help to ensure that you, as feeders, know and understand your role and responsibilities under the BSE feed ban regulation and that you are doing what is needed to comply.

If selected for an inspection, you can expect the following will occur:

- An inspector will contact you to schedule an inspection time.
- The inspection should normally take less than 2 hours.
- To ensure inspection uniformity, the inspector will use FDA's "BSE Checklist."
- The inspector will examine your feed storage area to determine whether or not you handle prohibited material.
- The inspector will request copies of purchase invoices and labeling for all feeds/ingredients you receive containing any type of animal protein.
- If you mix feed, the inspector may look at your production area and clean-out records.
- The inspector may take a sample of your feed in order to verify the absence of prohibited material.

All inspectors will provide an FDA-issued photo ID and a completed “FDA Notice of Inspection” form, prior to the inspection.

What about biosecurity?

All inspectors are trained in biosecurity procedures and are provided with, and required to use, biosecurity equipment.

Who will see my inspection information?

Any personal or trade secret information, also referred to as "non-public" information, will be kept confidential and will not be released to the public under the Freedom of Information Act.

Public information, such as your name, address, type of feeding operation, and general outcome of the inspection can be released to the public and is available for public viewing at the FDA's BSE inspection website at [www.fda.gov/cvm/RuminantFeedInspections.htm](http://www.fda.gov/cvm/RuminantFeedInspections.htm) (click on “Inspection Database”).