

What is BSE and why is it such a concern?

Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) is a slow, progressive, fatal disease of the nervous system of cattle. It typically occurs in cattle 5 years of age or older. BSE has been found in cattle native to the U.S. and Canada. Scientific evidence suggests BSE is associated with a rare human disease called variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (vCJD).

Diagnosis of BSE is difficult because there are no live animal tests. PREVENTING transmission of the BSE agent is the ONLY safeguard available because there are no treatments and no vaccines available.

What causes BSE and how do cattle become infected?

The causative agent of BSE is believed to be an unconventional transmissible prion protein. These proteins accumulate in brain tissue, causing changes in behavior that progress to dementia and death.

It is widely believed cattle become infected by eating feed contaminated with BSE-infective material. The suspected source of infectivity is rendered proteins derived from ruminants.

What is the U.S. doing to prevent BSE transmission in cattle?

The USDA regulates the importation of animals from countries with BSE, and actively tests cattle for the disease.

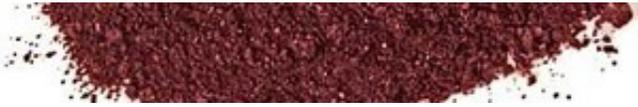
Prohibited materials are protein-based materials, including meat and bone meal, derived from ruminants.

Ruminant animals are any animals with a four-chambered stomach including, but not limited to, cattle, sheep, goats, buffalo, elk, and deer.

Although other regulations are in place to help protect humans and cattle from BSE, animal renderers must do their part to prevent the spread of this disease.

Consequences of commingling or cross contamination of feed:

- Possibility of spreading BSE-infected material among cattle
- Potential negative effects on our economy
- Potential responses to a violation of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act include, but are not limited to, written notification of violation, seizure, injunctions, and other civil or criminal penalties



For more information:

USDA - Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services

<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/>

Food and Drug Administration

<http://www.fda.gov>

OIE World Organization for Animal Health

http://www.oie.int/eng/oie/en_oie.htm

Additional Information:

Georgia Department of Agriculture

Plant Industry - Agriculture Inputs

19 Martin Luther King Jr Dr

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YOUR Role in Preventing BSE

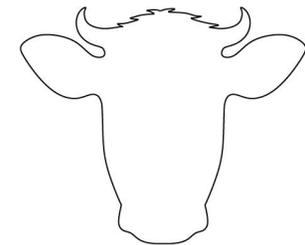


Renderers



BSE Prevention

Includes YOU



Georgia Department of Agriculture

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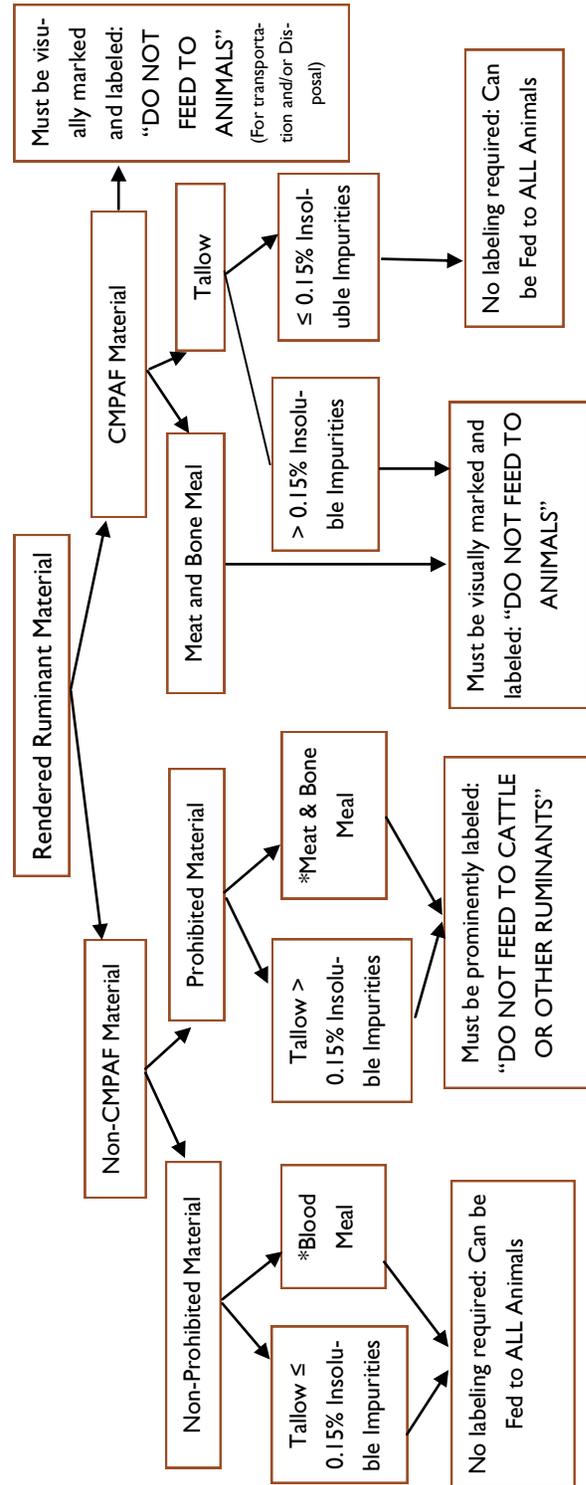
www.agr.georgia.gov



BSE: Your Actions Matter

Do the FDA's feed regulations apply to you?

If you render animal materials for feed, **YES!**



* Includes, but not limited to these materials



What do I need to do to comply with the FDA's feed regulations?

- Mammalian animal proteins derived from ruminants are prohibited from being fed back to ruminants; with some exempted products (non-prohibited) such as, blood meal, milk products, and gelatin.
- 21 CFR 589.2001 prohibits the use of cattle material prohibited in animal feed (CMPAF) in all animal feeds; CMPAF materials are the brains and spinal cords of cattle 30 months of age and older.
- Maintain records of prohibited and CMPAF materials through receipt, processing and distribution for at least one year
 - Record age of cattle, if segregating by age
 - Record if and how CMPAF was removed, visually marked, labeled and disposed of
 - Maintain records of tallow insoluble impurity levels
- Measures must be taken to prevent cross contamination of CMPAF and Non-CMPAF products
- Prevent cross contamination of prohibited and non-prohibited materials