

# ADVICE FOR FOOD BUSINESSES:

## Sending surplus food to be used in animal feed



Food businesses, such as grocery shops or small supermarkets, can send surplus food for use in animal feed. This is a cost-effective way of getting rid of food that is out of date or damaged. It also reduces the impact of waste food on our environment.

**All businesses sending surplus food for use in animal feed must register with their local trading standards department.** Registration is free and you can do this online.

Not all surplus food can be used in animal feed. Some animal-based products can cause life threatening diseases in animals and humans, such as Foot and Mouth Disease, African Swine Fever or BSE.



**If your surplus food is being sent to feed farm animals you must make sure it doesn't contain:**

- Any waste from restaurants or commercial kitchens (including vegetarian).
- Raw meat or raw meat products.
- Partially cooked meat.
- Smoked, dried or cured meat.
- Raw fish, seafood or products containing raw fish or seafood.
- Raw eggs.
- Untreated milk.
- Gelatine.



**There are other simple steps that are required by law to make sure that surplus food being used in animal feed remains safe:**

- Make sure all staff know which animal products must not be put in surplus food. Reminders on walls and written instructions can help.
- Don't use mouldy or decaying food. Remove packaging where possible.
- Ensure storage of surplus food is separate and containers are clearly labelled.
- Keep basic records about who collects the surplus food, the date it was picked up and what it contained.

To register or for further advice and help with compliance, please contact your local trading standards department.