

ANIMAL FEED STORAGE GUIDELINES

General Recommendations

1. Store all feed and ingredients at a cool temperature (ideally below 77° F although this is not possible at outside locations under summer conditions).
2. Keep feed dry to prevent fungal or bacterial growth.
3. Prevent rodent or insect entry into feed.
4. Use antioxidants to preserve fats and oils in ingredients and feed.
5. Use stable forms of vitamins.
6. Expiration dates (usually on container) are required for all food items.
 - a. Known shelf life of some products is marked on container (e.g., canned food).
 - b. Prepared feeds: one week after end of experiment or 8 weeks post mixing (whichever is shorter).
 - c. Ground grain: One month after milling unless stabilized.
 - d. Fats and oils: Opened container: One month Un-opened or stabilized: One year post mixing.
 - e. Vitamin mixtures: 6 months after preparation (exceptions of up to one year if stabilized with ethoxyquin). Vitamin C hydrolyses more rapidly.
 - f. Whole grain or seeds: One year after harvest
 - g. Fat-free ingredients, protein meals, minerals: No specific expiration date as long as feeds remain dry and free from obvious contaminants (These items should carry an acquisition date).