



Communiqué

Pork Producers Urged to Examine Proposed New Federal Feed Regulations

Ottawa, March 16, 2000 — “Hog producers who manufacture medicated feed for their own animals should take a careful look at the draft regulations that the federal government is proposing”, says Edouard Asnong, President of the Canadian Pork Council. “The CPC is concerned that the new rules will make on-farm mixing of medicated feed prohibitively expensive.”

The Canadian hog industry is well advanced in the implementation of its on-farm food safety assurance program, *Canadian Quality Assurance*. Developed based on HACCP (Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point) principles, the CQA™ program contains many elements aimed at exactly the same quality and safety control standards as are addressed by the proposed federal regulations.

“Hog producers who have been certified as being in compliance with CQA™ should be exempt from these regulations”, says Mr. Asnong, who feeds hogs in Pike River, Québec. “Otherwise, they are faced with duplication of compliance costs. This isn’t fair for those smaller feed mixers.”

The Pork Council has requested that the comment period be extended beyond April 5th to permit the many potentially affected individual swine producers the opportunity to study these proposed changes and estimate the impacts on their own farming operations. In its request to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency to extend it, the CPC has cited that as the regulations will apply to the vast majority of hog farmers, the Council needs additional time to inform producers and obtain their input.

The CPC will be communicating with the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food as well as the CFIA on the regulatory proposals, but provincial organizations and individual producers are strongly encouraged to study them and submit their own views. The proposed regulations can be obtained from provincial associations and CPC or viewed at the CFIA’s Internet site, <http://www.cfia-acia.agr.ca/>.

For information:

*Catherine Scovil
Martin Rice
(613) 236-9239*

*Edouard Asnong
President
(450) 248-2375*