

## 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 (CJD).

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, feed transporters must do their part to prevent the spread of this disease.**

## Consequences of comingling 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](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

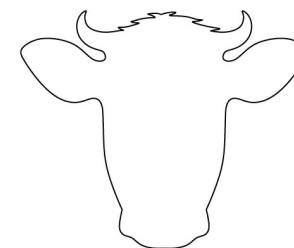


## Feed Transporters



# BSE Prevention

# Includes YOU



Georgia Department of Agriculture

19 Martin Luther King Jr Dr

Atlanta, Georgia 30334

[www.agr.georgia.gov](http://www.agr.georgia.gov)

## BSE: Your Actions Matter

Do the FDA's feed regulations apply to you?

If you haul animal feeds or feed ingredients, **YES!**



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

- Do NOT contaminate ruminant feeds or ingredients with prohibited materials
- You MUST provide written procedures of cleanout methods and documentation of cleanout if you haul prohibited and non-prohibited materials

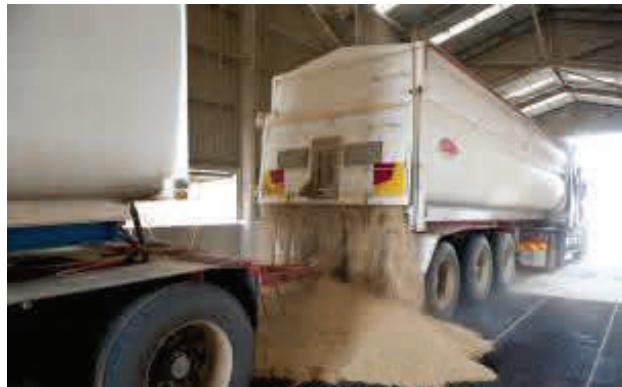


## Be Aware

You may be handling feed ingredients that cannot be fed to cattle or other ruminants

Know your load:

- Products containing prohibited material must be labeled with the caution statement "Do Not Feed to Cattle or Other Ruminants"
- Retail pet foods may contain prohibited materials but do not require the caution statement
- Do not rely solely on the caution statement
- You need to know what is prohibited
- You need to know your load - so ask!



## Take Action

Determine the best method to prevent commingling and cross contamination

- Separation: use different trailers to haul prohibited and non-prohibited material
- Cleanout: using one or more of the following: physical cleaning (sweeping, vacuuming and/or washing) or flushing (cleaning trailers and augers by running a non-prohibited feed product through the equipment, the flush product is considered prohibited)



## Keep Records

Document what was done with products containing prohibited materials from the time of receipt until the end of delivery

Separation or cleanout records should include:

- How the trailer and equipment were cleaned
- Who is responsible
- How cleanout is monitored and verified
- How volume of flush material was determined and handled

Keep records for at least one year