

Methionine in Poultry Feed

This is to notify you that a recent notification has been made by the USDA NOP regarding methionine used in poultry feed. The restriction on quantities (lbs per US ton) and timelines were notified in Federal Register 76 No 49 Monday 14, 2011.

The restrictions on quantities and timelines are as follows:

Until 1 Oct 2012

Laying chickens

$$4\text{lb}/2000\text{lb}^* = 0.2\% = 2\text{kg}/1000\text{kg}.$$

Broiler chickens

$$5\text{lb}/2000\text{lb}^* = 0.25\% = 2.5\text{kg}/1000\text{kg}.$$

From 2 Oct 2012 – 1 Oct 2015

Laying chickens

$$2\text{lb}/2000\text{lb}^* = 0.1\% = 1\text{kg}/1000\text{kg}.$$

Broiler chickens

$$2\text{lb}/2000\text{lb}^* = 0.1\% = 1\text{kg}/1000\text{kg}.$$

* 1 US ton = 2000lb

Methionine Task Force also indicate that the recommendation is specifically based on “100% synthetic methionine as some forms of synthetic methionine (e.g. the liquid form Alimet) are not 100% methionine”.

At the request of the New Zealand organic poultry industry AsureQuality adopted the guidelines dictated by the Methionine Task Force and ultimately those finalised by the USDA NOP as it was recognized that the same fundamental issues existed in New Zealand.

To reflect this notification the AsureQuality Organic Standard V4 table 2 will be updated to read:

Methionine

Feed additive for poultry only

AQ(non-IFOAM)/USDA NOP:

Until 1 Oct 2012 the maximum level per ton is as follows

Laying chickens - 2kg/1000kg.

Broiler chickens - 2.5kg/1000kg.

From 2 Oct 2012 – 1 Oct 2015

Laying chickens - 1kg/1000kg.

Broiler chickens - 1kg/1000kg.

Methionine used must be a 100% form and from non-GMO sources.

EU/COR/JAS/AQ(IFOAM): PROHIBITED Synthetic feed additive.

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