

AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION
(Amended After Comments)

12 KAR 3:032. Feeding directions.

RELATES TO: KRS 250.491-250.631

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: KRS 250.571

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT: This certifies that this administrative regulation complies with the requirements of 2025 RS HB 6, Section 8.

NECESSITY, FUNCTION, AND CONFORMITY: KRS 250.571(1) authorizes the Director of the Agricultural Experiment Station to promulgate administrative regulations necessary for the efficient enforcement of KRS 250.491 to 250.631. This administrative regulation establishes requirements for feeding directions to ensure that pet food and specialty pet food products have adequate labeling to provide for safe and effective use.

Section 1. All pet foods and specialty pet foods shall state feeding directions consistent with the intended use statement.

Section 2. ~~Section 1.~~

~~{(1)}~~ Dog or cat food, including snacks or treats, labeled as complete and balanced for any or all life stages, as established in 12 KAR 3:039, Section ~~2~~~~{3}~~(1) **or Section 3**, except those pet foods labeled in accordance with 12 KAR 3:039, Section 4, shall list feeding directions on the product label.

~~{(2)}~~ ~~{These directions shall be consistent with the intended uses indicated in the nutritional adequacy statement, unless a limited use or more limited life stage designation is declared elsewhere (for example, "adult formula").}~~

(1) ~~{(3)}~~ These directions shall be expressed in common terms and shall appear prominently on the label.

(2) ~~{(4)}~~ Feeding directions shall, at a minimum~~{, state}~~:

(a) **Include the amount of familiar household unit of product weight of dog (or cat). {"Feed (weight/unit of product) per (weight) of dog (or cat)."; and}**

(b) The frequency of feeding.

Section 3. ~~Section 2.~~ If a dog or cat food is intended for use by or under the supervision or direction of a veterinarian, the statement: "Use only as directed by your veterinarian" may be used in lieu of feeding directions.

Section 4. ~~Section 3.~~

~~{(1)}~~ Specialty pet food, including snacks or treats, labeled as complete and balanced for any or all life stages, as established in 12 KAR 3:039, Section **2 or Section 3 or as a daily food**~~{1}~~, shall list feeding directions on the product label.

(1) ~~{(2)}~~ These feeding directions shall be adequate to meet the nutritional requirements of the intended species of specialty pet~~{ as recommended by the AAFCO-recognized nutritional authority}~~.

(2) ~~{(3)}~~ These directions shall be expressed in common terms and shall appear prominently on the label.

(3) ~~{(4)}~~ The frequency of feeding shall also be **stated**~~{specified}~~.

~~Section 4. ~~Incorporation by Reference.~~~~

~~{(1)}~~ ~~{["2018 Official Publication", (2023)2018 Edition], Association of American Feed Control Officials, is incorporated by reference.}~~

~~{(2)}~~ ~~{This material may be inspected, copied, or obtained, subject to applicable copyright law, at the Division of Regulatory Services, 103 Regulatory Services}~~

~~Building, College of Agriculture, University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky
40546-0275, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.]~~

DR. JAMES MATTHEWS, Director of Agricultural Experiment Station

APPROVED BY AGENCY: January 13, 2026

FILED WITH LRC: January 15, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.

REGULATORY IMPACT ANALYSIS AND TIERING STATEMENT

Contact Person:G. Alan Harrison

Subject Headings:Agriculture, Pet Food and Feed, Consumer Protection

(1) Provide a brief summary of:

(a) What this administrative regulation does:

This administrative regulation ensures that pet and specialty pet food products have adequate labeling to provide for safe and effective use.

(b) The necessity of this administrative regulation:

To ensure proper feeding directions on the labeling of pet and specialty pet food products.

(c) How this administrative regulation conforms to the content of the authorizing statutes:

Helps allow for the efficient enforcement of KRS 250.491 to 250.631, regarding commercial feeds.

(d) How this administrative regulation currently assists or will assist in the effective administration of the statutes:

Provides clarity on how feeding directions should be constructed on pet food labels.

(2) If this is an amendment to an existing administrative regulation, provide a brief summary of:

(a) How the amendment will change this existing administrative regulation:

The amendment updates usage of the Official Publication of the American Association of Feed Control Officials (AAFCO) from the 2018 Edition to the 2025 edition.

(b) The necessity of the amendment to this administrative regulation:

The feed ingredient and feed terms defined in the Official Publication of AAFCO needed to be updated from the older version to a more modern version.

(c) How the amendment conforms to the content of the authorizing statutes:

Updates terms and definitions used to regulate the feed industry.

(d) How the amendment will assist in the effective administration of the statutes:

These updates are beneficial to both the regulatory body and the regulated industry as it brings in new terms and definitions that have been developed since 2018.

(3) Does this administrative regulation or amendment implement legislation from the previous five years?No

(4) List the type and number of individuals, businesses, organizations, or state and local governments affected by this administrative regulation:

Firms which register commercial feeds in Kentucky will be affected by this administrative regulation.

(5) Provide an analysis of how the entities identified in question (4) will be impacted by either the implementation of this administrative regulation, if new, or by the change, if it is an amendment, including:

(a) List the actions that each of the regulated entities identified in question (4) will have to take to comply with this administrative regulation or amendment:

No action required by distributors of animal feed. Manufacturers that label pet food (guarantors) must transition to new PFLM label format by 2030.

(b) In complying with this administrative regulation or amendment, how much will it cost each of the entities identified in question (4):

here may be some increased cost as industry moves from one label format to another. By allowing a transition period before PFLM changes must occur, the industry can make these changes as products are updated.

(c) As a result of compliance, what benefits will accrue to the entities identified in question (4):

No significant benefit to distributors of animal feed. The pet food industry was represented in the development of PFLM and supports the changes.

(6) Provide an estimate of how much it will cost the administrative body to implement this administrative regulation:

(a) Initially:

No cost.

(b) On a continuing basis:

No cost.

(7) What is the source of the funding to be used for the implementation and enforcement of this administrative regulation or this amendment:

The Division of Regulatory Services regular annual budget is the source of funding.

(8) Provide an assessment of whether an increase in fees or funding will be necessary to implement this administrative regulation, if new, or by the change if it is an amendment:

(9) State whether or not this administrative regulation establishes any fees or directly or indirectly increases any fees:

No new fees and no increase in existing fees.

(10) TIERING: Is tiering applied?

No, this administrative regulation treats all regulated entities the same.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(1) Identify each state statute, federal statute, or federal regulation that requires or authorizes the action taken by the administrative regulation:

KRS 250.571

(2) State whether this administrative regulation is expressly authorized by an act of the General Assembly, and if so, identify the act:

KRS 250.571

(3)(a) Identify the promulgating agency and any other affected state units, parts, or divisions:

University of Kentucky Division of Regulatory Services

(b) Estimate the following for each affected state unit, part, or division identified in (3)(a):

1. Expenditures:

For the first year:No fiscal impact

For subsequent years:No fiscal impact

2. Revenues:

For the first year:No fiscal impact

For subsequent years:No fiscal impact

3. Cost Savings:

For the first year:No fiscal impact

For subsequent years:No fiscal impact

(4)(a) Identify affected local entities (for example: cities, counties, fire departments, school districts):

No impact on local entities

(b) Estimate the following for each affected local entity identified in (4)(a):

1. Expenditures:

For the first year:No impact

For subsequent years:No impact

2. Revenues:

For the first year:No impact

For subsequent years:No impact

3. Cost Savings:

For the first year:No impact

For subsequent years:No impact

(5)(a) Identify any affected regulated entities not listed in (3)(a) or (4)(a):

No impact on other entities

(b) Estimate the following for each regulated entity identified in (5)(a):

1. Expenditures:

For the first year:No impact

For subsequent years:No impact

2. Revenues:

For the first year:No impact

For subsequent years:No impact

3. Cost Savings:

For the first year:No impact

For subsequent years:No impact

(6) Provide a narrative to explain the following for each entity identified in (3)(a), (4)(a), and (5)(a)

(a) Fiscal impact of this administrative regulation:

This regulation is being updated to reference the latest recommendations from the Association of American Feed Control Officials with regards to ingredient definitions and labeling of pet food.

(b) Methodology and resources used to reach this conclusion:

Minor changes in regulation affect only manufacturers and guarantors of pet food.

(7) Explain, as it relates to the entities identified in (3)(a), (4)(a), and (5)(a):

(a) Whether this administrative regulation will have a "major economic impact", as defined by KRS 13A.010(14):

No

(b) The methodology and resources used to reach this conclusion:

Minor changes in regulation affect only manufacturers and guarantors of pet food.

FEDERAL MANDATE ANALYSIS COMPARISON

(1) Federal statute or regulation constituting the federal mandate.

Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act and CFR 21

(2) State compliance standards.

In harmony with federal standards.

(3) Minimum or uniform standards contained in the federal mandate.

Standards developed by the Association of American Feed Control Officials are in harmony with federal standards.

(4) Will this administrative regulation impose stricter requirements, or additional or different responsibilities or requirements, than those required by the federal mandate?

No

(5) Justification for the imposition of the stricter standard, or additional or different responsibilities or requirements.

NA