



South Carolina
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
CONSUMER PROTECTION DIVISION | FEED SAFETY DEPARTMENT
123 Ballard Court, West Columbia, SC 29172

Hugh E. Weathers, Commissioner

SCDA POLICY ON METHYLSULFONYLMETHANE (MSM) IN COMMERCIAL FEED

Methylsulfonylmethane, commonly referred to as MSM, is an ingredient that can be found in human food supplements. This ingredient has developed some name recognition among consumers based on the increased availability in supplement products. MSM is a unique product because FDA takes the position, and courts have similarly held, that MSM, in combination with any other substance intended for use in food for animals, is an unapproved food additive; however, when in the “pure” form MSM was found not to be a food additive and was legally acceptable to sell.

In accordance with this guidance we will decline to approve registration of any product containing MSM in a commercial feed until such time that FDA issues a regulation or exemption for MSM. Pure MSM product labels cannot be labeled with “feeding directions”, nutritional guarantees, or other information that states or implies the product is intended to be fed or mixed in feed or otherwise represented as a commercial feed.

For Example:

The heading “feeding directions” should not be used as a heading on the product label. The word feed or mix with feed or similar verbiage should not be used to indicate or otherwise recommend to consumers of how to use a pure MSM product.

Note: This is an interim policy applicable only for South Carolina. It has no application in other states and does not alter existing AAFCO requirements or FDA statutory authority or preclude action by other regulatory agencies. This policy will be utilized as the basis for South Carolina registration and labeling pending development of national requirements that will supersede this policy.

Questions pertaining to this policy should be directed to the Feed Program Manager or Product Registration Specialist at 803-737-9713 or feedregistration@scda.sc.gov.