



PATTY JUDGE  
SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

# IOWA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND LAND STEWARDSHIP

Grain Warehouse Bureau

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Grain Warehouse Bureau Presentation  
Aflatoxin Workshop; Bettendorf, Iowa; April 19, 2006.

- Detection—Investigate to determine if quality shortage exists at state licensed warehouse.
  - Comparison of grain storage obligations to inventory on hand.
    - Value of commodities on hand cannot be less than the value of the grain storage obligations recorded. This condition would be handled as a quality shortage.
    - Aflatoxin contamination over 20 ppb restricts the use of corn and lowers the value.
    - Cannot use corn with over 20 ppb aflatoxin to cover regular corn storage obligations.
  - Testing and recordkeeping
    - Testing the grain upon delivery and arriving at mutually agreeable terms with the depositor is key.
    - Who delivered the contaminated grain.
    - How much.
    - Level of contamination if available.
    - Where the contaminated grain was stored or where it was shipped.
    - Keep in mind FDA Record Keeping requirements.
  - If a shortage is suspected
    - Records and inventory will be investigated.
    - Calculation of contaminated grain inventory will be made.
    - Coordinate with Feed Bureau and IDALS laboratory to obtain samples and run tests if necessary.
    - If shortage is found, bureau issues instructions to warehouse operator to correct grain quality deficiency within 2 business days or face license suspension.
- Tolerance levels
  - Follow FDA guidelines for intended end use.
  - No problem if the recorded storage obligations match the contamination level of grain on hand.
  - Suspected improper use of contaminated grain will be reported to Feed Bureau/FDA.
- Sampling
  - The bureau is not responsible for routine sampling. Generally rely upon information provided by others such as terminals and processors and IDALS Feed Bureau.
  - Coordinate with Feed Bureau/FDA and IDALS laboratory to obtain samples and run tests when needed. Possible GIPSA consultation.
  - Concerned about ability to sample accurately.

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- Receipt of aflatoxin contaminated grain by grain handlers.
  - State licensed warehouse operators
    - IDALS does not require warehouse operators to accept contaminated grain for storage as long as they reject or accept deliveries on a uniform basis.
    - Bureau will advise the operator to guard against cross contamination and have an appropriate end use or destination in mind.
    - Bureau will advise the operator that the operator may need to segregate grain by different levels of aflatoxin contamination and/or other value indicators.
    - Bureau does not object to the operator commingling all aflatoxin contaminated corn into a bin or bins for approved feed mill use subject to FDA action levels for the intended use of the feed.
  - Grain Dealers
    - Grain dealer contracts should specify what happens when aflatoxin is found in grain being delivered against a contract.
    - IDALS does not regulate terms and conditions of grain quality in a contract, however, existing contract terms are enforced by IDALS.
- Contaminated grain disposal
  - The bureau is not generally responsible for disposal issues.
  - Worst-case scenario would be finding an appropriate outlet for contaminated grain in a grain receivership situation.
- Fall of 2005
  - There was great concern expressed by industry in Southeast Iowa last fall. Anecdotal reports of contamination more than 20ppb and less than 100ppb received.
  - Some warehouses segregated all new crop corn from old crop to prevent cross contamination and designated all new crop to be run through the feed mill. Generally for hog feed.
  - Permission to blend contaminated corn obtained from FDA by IDALS 11/3/05.
  - No grain quality shortages due to aflatoxin contamination found to date.
  - Grain industry is encouraged to continue sampling deliveries due to possibility of contamination in farm stored grain being delivered throughout the year.