Sportlight on Agriculture

Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Rural Development • Directorate of Agricultural Research and Training • Private Bag 13184 • Windhoek

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BACKGROUND

Recently farmers were accused of using prohibited substances to feed their livestock. Feed distributors allegedly sold feeds and licks that were 'dumped' on the market. Animals died due to the incorrect use of feeds. The accusation was made that people were poisoned after eating meat from animals that were fed wrongly.

THE FARM FEED ACT

The Question arises:

registered feeds e a health risk!

How can I be sure that I feed my animals correctly and that I do not transgress the law?

The Act on Farm Feeds, Fertilisers, Agricultural and Stock Remedies (Act 36 of 1947) protects farmers and manufacturers alike. An 'animal feed' is any raw material, mixed feed, lick or concentrate for any animal (including pets, livestock, game).

All these substances must be registered in Namibia before they may be sold. Registered feeds have a **N-FF number** on the label. This proves that the Registrar checked the feed and thus that the composition and ingredients meet all legal requirements and that it is safe for use if fed according to the instructions.

IMPORTANT

REMEMBER

- Any feed offered for sale must be registered and is identified by the **N-FF** number.
- Feeds that do not display a N-FF number are illegal products and may contain prohibited substances. **It is an offence to use such a feed.**
- Feeds registered in South Africa are **not** automatically registered in Namibia. If someone intends to import feeds they first have to register these products.
- Registered feeds are free of prohibited substances. The Registrar regularly tests feeds to ensure adherence to the law. Certain medicines and **carcass by-products are prohibited**. It is an offence to include these products in feeds.
- **The Registrar is there for your protection**. Any irregularities regarding feeds, fertilisers or remedies should be reported and the necessary action will be taken.
- If animals die and if the feed is suspected to have caused the problem, contact the Registrar, a veterinarian **and** the feed supplier. They will collect samples and investigate the matter properly.
- Report unregistered feeds to the addresses as indicated at the bottom of page 2!

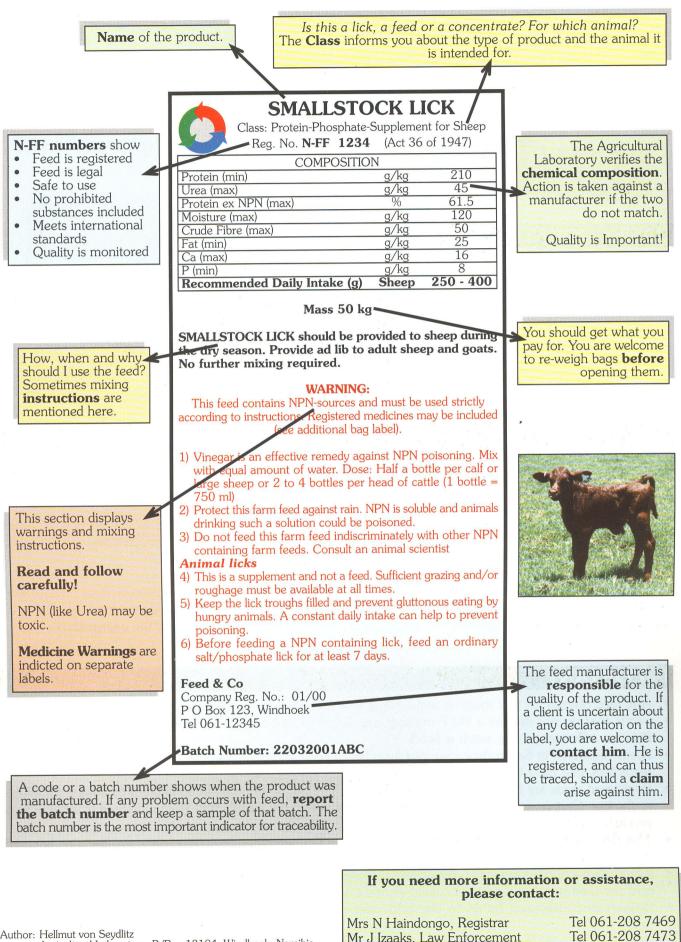
Mistakes do happen. If found at fault, Feed Manufacturers will compensate for livestock losses.

UTL = Understanding The Label

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Note that the label gives a summary of important product information. Adhere strictly to feeding and mixing instructions to enjoy the protection of the law. If the client does not adhere to the instructions the manufacturer is protected.



Author: Hellmut von Seydlitz Agricultural Laboratory, P/Bag 13184, Windhoek, Namibia. Andrea van Niekerk P/Bag 13184, Windhoek, Namibia. Tel 2087013. Editor:

Mr J Izaaks, Law Enforcement

Mr H von Seydlitz, Technical Adviser Tel 061-208 7070