

As requested on the March 20th AAFC - COVID-19 Monitoring Call, the feed industry is pleased to share the different job functions within our operations that are absolutely vital to continue to feed Canadian livestock in the event that additional emergency measures are implemented due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Livestock producers do not have storage capacity on farms to stockpile feed nor do feed mills have excess storage onsite either. Therefore, receiving of incoming ingredients, manufacturing of feed and the delivery of said feed are just in time processes and continuous operations are needed.

All aspects of the feed industry value chain (including the manufacture and supply of feed ingredients, intermediate feeds products, and complete finished feed) are critical and should be considered essential services. The feed industry ensures consistent and timely delivery of safe and high quality feed to producers across the country. This includes inter-provincial and North American movement of feed and feed components which must be maintained to ensure there is no disruption in the feed value chain. While some employees are able to work from home and still accomplish their jobs, others are required to be on-site. We have divided the different feed industry roles into these 2 categories. They are as follows:

- **On-site essential employees:**
 - Manufacturing staff in feed mill or ingredient manufacturing operations
 - Truck drivers. This includes truck drivers to deliver raw ingredients to manufacturing sites as well as truck drivers that deliver feed from the feed mills to the farms
 - Customer service and logistics personnel (taking and processing orders, dispatch of drivers, etc.)
 - Warehousing staff
 - Quality assurance/quality control staff
 - Laboratory staff (some onsite and some in contracted 3rd party laboratories)

- **Off-site possible (i.e. can work from home) employees:**
 - Nutritionists, regulatory and research and development staff
 - Sales and administration
 - Some office staff

It is also important to note that feed mills could have to call upon specialized staff or contracted individuals/companies to perform mandatory maintenance or repairs on equipment or to perform other duties which are critical to ensuring safe feed is manufactured such as pet control management and truck washing.

Lastly, we strongly recommend that the term “feed”, for the animal feed industry, be mentioned in any list of essential goods services. Unlike in the United States, Canada does not consider the term “food” to include livestock and pet food. If the term “food industry” would be added to the essential good services list, this would not encompass animal feed. We must ensure that our livestock continue to be fed during this crisis to avoid any potential animal welfare issues related to lack of feed.

We appreciate the hard work that AAFC is doing on this file and are available at any time to discuss if you have any further questions.