

**Project**

**Government of Georgia**

**Resolution №**

**2021, Tbilisi**

**On the approval of the rule of animal feed additives used in animal nutrition**

**Article 1. In accordance with part 2 of the Article 75 of the Code of Food/Feed Safety, Veterinary and Plant Protection, the attached „The rule of animal feed additives used in animal nutrition“ shall be approved.**

**Article 2. This Resolution shall enter into force from the 1<sup>st</sup> of January, 2024**

**Prime Minister**

**Irakli Gharibashvili**

1831/2003

On the approval of the rule of animal feed additives used in animal nutrition

### **Article 1. Scope of regulation**

1. In order to ensure a high level of protection of human health, animal health and welfare, the environment, the interests of consumers and users, this rule establishes the rules for the use and placing on the market of animal feed additives and premixes, as well as labeling and supervision.

2. This rule does not apply to:

A) for technological additives;

B) “On Approval of the Rules for Registration, Production and Control of Veterinary Drugs” - a veterinary drug defined in accordance with the Resolution N112 of the Government of Georgia of February 19, 2019, except for coccidiostats and histomonostat used as animal feed additives.

3. Control over the implementation of this rule is provided by The National Food Agency ( hereinafter – agency) – a legal entity of public law under the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia and Revenue Services ( hereinafter – revenue services) – a legal entity of public law under the Ministry of Finance of Georgia.

### **Article 2. Definitions of terms**

1. For the purposes of this Rule, the following definitions shall apply:

a) **Animal feed** - any substance or product, including additives, processed, partially processed or unprocessed, intended for the oral feeding of animals;

b) **Initial placing on the market** - the initial placing of animal feed additive on the market after its production, the import of an animal feed additive or the initial placing on the market of an animal feed, in which an animal feed additive is used and that has not been placed on the market before;

c) **Business activities related to animal feed** - any activity, whether for profit or not, private or public, related to any operation in the production, processing, storage, transportation or distribution of feed, including any feed manufacturer, processor or storekeeper that feeds in its place Animals;

d) **Animal feed business operator** - any natural or legal person responsible for ensuring compliance of the animal feed activities under its control with the requirements set out in this Rule;

e) **Placing on the market** - placing by a business operator for the purpose of selling animal feed, including offering to sell or transfer in another form, delivery for free or for free, sale, distribution and other forms of supply;

f) **Traceability** - the ability to establish data and information on animal feed, any substance intended or likely to be used in it, at the stages of their production, processing and distribution;

g) **Animal feed additives** - substances, microorganisms or preparations, except for animal feed materials and premixes, which **are added intentionally** to animal feed and water to perform various functions, in particular, one or more of the functions specified in paragraph 3 of Article 4 of this Rule;

h) **Animal feed material** - means products of vegetable or animal origin, whose principal purpose is to meet animals' nutritional needs, in their natural state, fresh or preserved, and products derived from the industrial processing thereof, and organic or inorganic substances, whether or not containing feed additives, which are intended for use in oral animal-feeding either directly as such, or after processing, or in the preparation of compound feed, or as carrier of premixtures;

i) **Combined animal feed** - mixtures of at least two of animal feed material (despite the content of animal feed additives in it), which is used in the oral feed of the animal as a complete (balanced) or complementary feed;

j) **Supplementary animal feed** - combined feed of an animal that has a high content of certain substances, but due to its composition is sufficient for the daily ration only if it is used in combination with other foods;

k) **Premix** - a mixture of animal feed additives or a mixture of one or more animal feed additives with animal feed material or water used as a carrier not intended for direct use by the animal.

l) **Daily ration** - the total average amount of animal feed, which is calculated at a moisture content of 12% and is required daily for a given species, age and productivity, to meet all its needs;

m) **Complete Complementary feed (balanced)** - means mixtures of feedingstuffs which, by reason of their composition, are sufficient for a daily ration (Regulation 2002/32/EC, Article 2 (g))

n) **Technological additive** - any substance which is not directly consumed as animal feed, specially used to achieve the technological objectives specified in the processing or processing of animal feed or substances, or the residual quantity or derivatives of which may be present in the final product in unforeseen but technologically unavoidable quantities; That it does not adversely affect animal or human health or the environment and does not have a technological impact on the final product (animal feed);

o) **Antimicrobials** - synthetically or naturally occurring substances used to kill or inhibit microorganisms, including bacteria, viruses or fungi, or parasites, in particular protozoa;

p) **Antibiotic** - an antimicrobial agent produced by or derived from a microorganism that destroys or inhibits the growth of other microorganisms;

q) **Coccidiostat and histomonostat** - substances that destroy or inhibit protozoa;

r) **Maximum limit of the amount of residue** - the maximum concentration of the amount of residue (waste) allowed by the legislation of Georgia on food / food as a result of the use of additives in animal feed;

s) **Microorganism** - colony-forming microorganisms;

1. For the purposes of this Rule, the terms defined by the Code of Food / Animal Feed, Veterinary and Plant Protection shall also apply, unless otherwise specified in this Rule.

### **Article 3. Placing on the market, processing and use**

1. The placing on the market, processing or use of animal feed additives is prohibited unless:

a) **Animal feed additives are not authorized by the European Union and are not listed in the Register under Article 7 defined by this rule.**

b) the conditions of use defined by this rule, including the general conditions defined in Annex N3 to this rule (unless otherwise provided by the authorization), and the authorization of the substance (substance) is protected;

c) the requirements related to labeling defined by this rule are met.

2. For scientific purposes conducted experiments, the Agency may allow the use of substances in the form of additives that are not authorized, other than antibiotics, provided that the experiments are carried out under proper official supervision. Appropriate animals may be used for food production only if the Agency determines that it will not adversely affect animal health, human health or the environment.

3. Unless otherwise specified, it is permitted to mix additives that are to be sold directly to the end user in accordance with the terms of use specified in the authorization of each individual additive. Consequently, the mixing of authorized **additives is not subject to specific authorization.**

### **Article 4. Conditions related to authorization**

1. Animal feed additive must meet the requirements set forth in paragraph 2 of this Article and must meet the characteristics specified in paragraph 3 of this Article.

2. **Animal feed additive shall not:**

a) **have an adverse affect on** animal health, human health or the environment;

b) **be** presented in such a way as to mislead the user;

c) **harm** the consumer by deteriorating the distinctive features of the animal product or misleading the consumer with the distinctive features of the animal product;

3. **Animal feed additive shall:**

a) has a positive effect on the characteristics of animal feed;

b) has a positive effect on the characteristics of animal products;

c) has a positive effect on the color of decorative fish and birds;

d) meets the nutritional needs of animals;

- e) have a positive effect on the environmental consequences of animal production;
  - f) has a positive effect on the animal production, activities or welfare of animals, in particular on the gastrointestinal flora or the digestibility of animal feed; or
  - g) has a coccidiostatic or histomonostatic effect.
4. Antibiotics other than coccidiostats and histomonostat may not be authorized as animal feed additives.

#### **Article 5. Categories of animal feed additives**

1. Animal feed additive belongs to one or more of the following categories, taking into account its functions and properties:
- a) Technological additives: any substance that is added to animal feed for technological purposes;
  - b) Sensory additives: Any substance the addition of which to an animal feed improves or alters the organoleptic characteristics of the animal feed or the visual characteristics of the animal feed;
  - c) nutritional supplements;
  - d) Zootechnical additives: any additive used to have a positive effect on animal health or the environment;
  - e) Coccidiostats and histomonostat.
2. According to the categories defined in paragraph 1 of this Article, animal feed additives shall be distributed in one or more functional groups mentioned in Annex N1, in accordance with their main function or functions.

#### **Article 6. Labeling and packaging of premix and animal feed additives**

1. It is not allowed to place the animal feed additive or additive premix on the market if its packaging or container is not labeled as the responsibility of the manufacturer, packer, importer, seller or distributor and the following information is demonstrated in Georgian in a conspicuous place, clearly readable and not easily broken :
- a) The specific name given to the animal feed additive on the basis of the authorization shall precede the designation of the functional group as referred to in the authorization;
  - b) the name and address of the person or company or the registered place of the person carrying out the activity, which is responsible for the details given in this Article;
  - c) net weight or, in the case of liquid animal feed additive and premix, net volume or weight;
  - d) if necessary, the identification number assigned to the enterprise or intermediary in accordance with the Resolution of the Government of Georgia N173 of March 13, 2020 (On the Rule of Animal Feed Hygiene) or the registration number;
  - e) instructions for use and any safety recommendations for use and, where appropriate, the specific requirements specified in the authorization, including the species and categories of animals for which the animal feed additive or additive premix is intended;
  - f) identification number;
  - g) batch number and date of production.
- In the case of premixes, paragraphs (b), (d), (e) and (g) do not apply to component additives.

2. For flavorings, the list of animal feed additives may be replaced by the words "flavoring mixture". This does not apply to flavorings, which are subject to some restrictions when used in animal feed and drinking water.

3. In addition to the information specified in paragraph 1 of this Rule, the packaging or container of the feed additive belonging to the functional group specified in Annex N2 to this Rule shall contain the information specified in this Annex in a conspicuous place, shall be clearly marked and shall not be deleted.

4. In the case of a premix, the word "premix" shall be clearly indicated on the label and the transport substance "On approval of the rules for the use and placing on the market of animal feed" shall be declared. In accordance with sub-paragraph e. The moisture content of the premix must be declared if water is used for transport. Only one minimum shelf life can be applied to each premix as a whole. The minimum shelf life of such storage shall be determined on the basis of the minimum shelf life of each component of the premix. **where water is used as a carrier, the moisture content of the premixture shall be declared. Only one minimum storage life may be indicated in respect of each premixture as a whole; such minimum storage life shall be determined on the basis of the minimum storage life of each of its components.**

5. Animal feed additives and premixes should be sold only in closed packages or closed containers / containers / containers, which should be closed so that the opening is damaged and cannot be reused.

6. In accordance with technological advances and scientific developments, amendments may be made to Annex N2 to this Rule.

7. Obligation to place mandatory labelling data in Georgian does not apply upon import. In this case, the business operator is obliged to provide labelling in the Georgian language before implementing the next stage of placing on the market.

#### **Article 7. Register**

The Animal Feed Additive Register is available at: [https://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/animal-feed/feed-additives/eu-register\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/animal-feed/feed-additives/eu-register_en)

#### **Article 8. Authorities of the Revenue Service in regards to the control of animal feed additives**

1. Animal food additives subject to veterinary border-quarantine control, alongside veterinary control procedures, upon import to Georgia, is subject to compliance control under this rule.
2. Animal feed additives other than those of animal origin and classified in Chapter 28 of the National Commodity Nomenclature of Foreign Economic Activity or SES ESN code 230990, upon import to Georgia, is subject to checking the authorization status in the register defined in Article 7 to this Rule. The frequency of inspections is determined based on the risk management system.

#### **Article 9. Liability**

Violation of the requirements established by this rule will result in liability in accordance with the rules established by the legislation of Georgia.

## Groups of animal feed additives

1. The category of technological additives includes the following functional groups:

- a) Preservatives: a substance or, if necessary, microorganisms, which protects animal feed from spoilage caused by microorganisms or their metabolites;
- b) Antioxidants: a substance that **protects animal feed and feed materials from** spoilage caused by oxidative processes and prolongs its shelf life;
- c) emulsifiers: a substance by which a homogeneous mixture can be formed or maintained from two or more phases which are not mixed;
- d) Stabilizers: a substance by which it is possible to maintain the chemical and physical condition of animal feed;
- e) thickeners: a substance that increases the viscosity of animal feed;
- f) Jelly-forming agent: a substance which gives texture to animal feed due to the formation of a gel (lab);
- g) Binders: substances that increase the adhesion of animal feed particles;
- h) Substances for the control of radionuclide contamination: substances which inhibit the absorption of radionuclides or promote their excretion;
- i) Anti-adhesion agent: a substance that inhibits the adhesion of individual particles of animal feed to each other;
- j) acidity regulator - a substance that regulates the pH (acidity (acidity) or alkalinity) in animal feed;
- k) Silage additives: substances, including enzymes or microorganisms, intended for introduction into animal feed to improve silage production;
- l) Causes of denaturation: substances which, when used in the manufacture of processed animal feed, enable the identification of a particular food or feed material;
- m) Substances for reducing the contamination of animal feed with mycotoxins: Substances which may attenuate or reduce the absorption by promoting the excretion of mycotoxins or by modifying their mode of action;
- n) Hygiene improvers: substances or, if necessary, microorganisms that have a positive effect on the hygienic characteristics of animal feed by reducing specific microbiological contamination;
- o) Other technological additives: substances or, if necessary, microorganisms that are added to animal feed for technological purposes and have a positive effect on the characteristics of animal feed.

**2. The category of sensory additives includes the following functional groups:**

- a) Colourants:
  - a.a) substances that increase (enhance) or restore color in animal feed;
  - a.b) a substance with which, if fed to an animal, it enhances (enhances) the color of food of animal origin;
  - a.c) a substance that has a positive effect on the color of ornamental fish or birds;
- b) Flavors: A substance that enhances the taste and / or aroma of animal feed.

3. The category of nutritional additives includes the following functional groups:

- a) vitamins and provitamins, as well as substances of clearly defined chemical structure with similar action;
- b) compounds of trace elements;
- c) amino acids, their salts and analogues;
- d) urea and its derivatives;

4. The category of zootechnical additives includes the following functional groups:

- a) **digestibility enhancers** - substances that are characterized by targeted action on animal feed material and their use increases the assimilation of food;
- b) stabilizers of the intestinal flora - microorganisms or substances with a defined structure, which, when given to an animal, have a positive effect on the intestinal microflora of the animal;
- c) substances that have a positive effect on the environment;
- d) other zootechnical additives;
- e) **physiological condition stabilisers: substances or, if necessary, microorganisms, which, if fed to healthy animals, have a positive effect on their physiological condition including their resistance to stress factors.**

## Appendix N2

### 1. Special labeling requirements for some animal feed additives and premixes

- a) In the case of zootechnical additives, coccidiostats and histomonostat, the label shall indicate:
  - a.a) the warranty period or the shelf life from the date of manufacture;
  - a.b) instructions for use;
  - a.c) concentration;
- b) Enzymes, together with the requirements specified in paragraph (a), shall indicate on the label:
  - b.a) the specific name of the active component or components according to their enzymatic action, in accordance with the authorization issued;
  - b.b) Identification number of the International Union of Biochemistry;
  - b.c) instead of concentration: units of activity (units of activity per gram or unit of activity per milliliter);
- c) Microorganisms:
  - c.a) the expiration date of the warranty or the shelf life from the date of manufacture;
  - c.b) instructions for use;
  - c.c) strain identification number;
  - c.d) the number of colony-forming units per gram;
- d) Nutritional (nutritional) supplements:
  - d.a) level of active substance;
  - d.b) the expiration date of the warranty or shelf life of this level from the date of manufacture;
- e) Technological and sensory additives, other than flavorings:

- e.a) level of active substance;
- f) Flavors:
- f.a) share of premixes

## 2. ADDITIONAL LABELLING AND INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTAIN ADDITIVES CONSISTING OF PREPARATIONS AND PREMIXTURES CONTAINING SUCH PREPARATIONS.

(a) Additives belonging to the categories referred to in Article 6(1)(a), (b) and (c) and consisting of preparations:

(i) the indication on the packaging or container of the specific name, the identification number and the level of any technological additive contained in the preparation for which maximum levels are set in the corresponding authorisation;

(ii) the following information via any written medium or accompanying the preparation:  
— the specific name and the identification number of any technological additive contained in the preparation, and

— the name of any other substance or product contained in the preparation, indicated in descending order by weight.

(b) Premixtures containing additives belonging to the categories referred to in Article 6(1)(a), (b) and (c) and consisting of preparations:

(i) if appropriate, the indication on the packaging or container that the premixture contains technological additives included in additive preparations, for which maximum levels are set in the corresponding authorisation;

(ii) upon request from the purchaser or the user, information on the specific name, the identification number and an indication of the level of technological additives referred to in point (i) of this paragraph included in the additive preparations.

## Appendix N3

### General conditions for the use of animal feed additives

1. The number of animal feed additives that are naturally present in some animal feed materials should be calculated so that the total number of elements added and the naturally occurring elements do not exceed the maximum level provided for in the Authorization Regulation.

2. Mixing of animal feed additives is allowed only in premix and animal feed, where there is physico-chemical and biological compatibility between the components of the mixture with respect to the desired effects.

3. Supplementary animal feed diluted on demand may not contain an amount of animal feed additives that exceeds the prescribed for a complete (balanced) animal feed.

4. In the case of a premix, containing "silo additives", on the label the words "silage additives" shall be added in a visible manner after the word "premix".

5. Technological additives or other substances or products contained in additives consisting of preparations shall only modify the physico-chemical characteristics of the active substance of the

preparation and shall be used in accordance with their conditions of authorisation where such provisions are provided for.

Physico-chemical and biological compatibility between the components of the preparation shall be ensured in relation to the effects desired.