

## **Reducing the risk of cross contamination – feedstuffs**

### **Template policy for individual yards to amend to reflect their own policies and requirements**

#### **Policy Purpose and scope**

This policy applies to all staff. It is the responsibility of [ ]\* to ensure that best practice is being met [\*this could be a named person or a designated position/s]

To reduce the risk of cross contamination within the yard to minimise the risk of a positive test for a prohibited substance.

#### **You must**

- **wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water immediately after treatment, and/or use single wear disposable gloves** whilst carrying out any treatment on themselves or a horse. Gloves are located at ..... Hand washing must be carried out between each individual treatment and gloves must only be single use. [Considering putting in if gloves must be worn for any specific medication use]
- Ensure that any cleaning of stables, mangers and troughs removes encrusted dirt/food that may be a source of ongoing exposure to a contaminated substance.
- Empty and decontaminate stables, mangers and water troughs prior to the arrival of a new horse or a horse being moved from one box to another or at the end of a course of veterinary treatment. This must include removing all bedding.
- where possible and safe to do so, use a separate treatment box to administer any paste medication to a horse

#### **You must not**

- consume foods and drinks meant for human consumption in the feed room or stables. Coffee, chocolate and energy drinks contain prohibited substances.
- **urinate in stables at the yard or raceday stables** - there is a real risk of contamination through this
- place the first aid box, materials or grooming kit in the feed store.

#### **Additional measures for all employees relating to feeding and supplements**

- Keep the feed store and feed container lids closed when not in use
- Thoroughly clean feed mixing tools

- If using mixing tools for medication, ensure these are clearly marked as such only used for that purpose
- Finish one bag of feed before starting another – do not mix bags of feed.
- Ensure all feeds are from an accredited supplier (BETA NOPS scheme)
- If mixing feeds – such as preparing a mash – ensure that all the ingredients are either accredited or check that investigations have been made of the suppliers as set out above.
- Keep batch numbers from feed bags
- Keep a record of when the feed was used (date to and from) and to which horses if the diet differs across the yard
- If possible keep samples of feed upon delivery and keep for two months after the feed has been consumed

#### **Pasture land**

- Check for unknown or unfamiliar plants. If in doubt, advise a senior employee so that they can check the plant and remove it.

#### **Status**

This policy is non contractual and may be amended at any time.