Wisconsin has a thriving brewing and distilling industry. Many of these businesses provide spent grain to farmers for livestock feed. If you are one of these businesses, you might not be aware that you need a commercial feed license to distribute animal feed ingredients in Wisconsin. Licensing helps assure a safe feed supply for livestock, which also protects human health.

The costs are low and requirements minimal in comparison to the human food industry. In fact, you probably already meet many of the animal feed requirements by virtue of your food processing license.

Are you offering farmers your spent grains for feed? Great!

Let us help you do it the right way.
It’s not hard to get licensed
There are some requirements to get a commercial feed license, but they are easy to meet, especially since your business already meets food safety standards. Briefly, these are the requirements:

Labeling
A commercial feed license does involve some labeling requirements. These may vary somewhat depending on the specific by-products you plan to distribute. Contact us to learn about the specific requirements.

Reporting tonnage
Commercial feed licensees do report how much feed they distribute in Wisconsin each year. However, you do not need to weigh each truckload, buy a scale, or install a scale. One alternative would be to work out an arrangement with a local elevator to get an average weight for a truckload to calculate your annual distribution in tons. We will work with you to determine the best method for estimating your annual tonnage.

Inspections
Feed license holders can expect to have an inspection take place at their facilities about once every 5 years. However, as licensed food processing plants, breweries and distilleries already meet Food Safety Modernization Act requirements that are more stringent than the good manufacturing practices, or GMPs, required for a commercial feed license. GMPs also require that the products be stored in a way that prevents adulteration. Because you are moving these byproducts out quickly, this is unlikely to be an issue for you.

For more information

Online https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs_Services/CommercialFeedLicensingFormsandTonnageReporting.aspx
Email datcpfeed@wi.gov
Phone (608) 224-4539