



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.



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Requirements for Wisconsin commercial feed licensing are found in Wisconsin Administrative Code Chapter 42: (http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code/admin_code/atcp/020/42) and in Wisconsin Statutes 94.72 (<http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/statutes/statutes/94/72/1/g>).

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Brewing and Distilling Byproducts



Are you offering farmers your spent grains for feed?



Great!
Let us help you do it the right way.

Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

Benefits of licensed distribution:

- **Your bottom line** Distributing your byproducts to farmers costs far less than landfilling.
- **Farmers' bottom lines** Byproducts provide low-cost feed ingredients for farmers – helps cut producer input costs, especially in the current challenging farm economy.
- **Animal nutrition** Brewing and distilling byproducts offer good sources of protein, fiber, and energy in livestock feeds.
- **Beneficial reuse** Productive use of spent grains means more efficient, effective, and responsible use of our landfills.

Byproduct Options

You have options when it comes to reuse or disposal of your byproducts of processing. For more detail on any of the options below, please contact us.

- **Commercial feed license** \$25 a year, plus \$50 for up to 200 tons, or 25 cents a ton for more than 200 tons
- **Contracted pick-up** Enlist a third party to take ownership of and be responsible for the distribution of the byproducts.
- **Landfilling** This is the least favorable option from a cost analysis. Average tipping fees in Wisconsin are about \$55/ton.
- **Land spreading** Administrative costs vary for the appropriate DNR permits and recordkeeping requirements.



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

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