

SP 2007-001 16th Set
Pet Food

Q1: What is “certified pet food”?

A1: Certified pet food is product intended for consumption by dogs, cats, and other meat-eating animals that is manufactured under FSIS voluntary reimbursable inspection services (9 CFR Part 355) which provides for the inspection, certification, and identification of pet food. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulates all other pet food that is subject to the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA).

Q2: Can undenatured beef lungs be shipped to a pet food facility from an official establishment?

A2: 9 CFR 325.8 states that undenatured lungs or lung lobes may be transported under the following conditions:

- (1) The boxes or other containers for shipping the non-denatured lungs are:
 - (a) Securely closed with nylon filament tape, metallic or non-metallic straps, round wire, or similar closure, and
 - (b) Identified in 2 inch high lettering with the statement “Beef Lungs- Not Intended for Human Food.”
- (2) The immediate container is labeled with:
 - (a) Name and place of business of the packer, and
 - (b) Imported lungs or lung lobes must also have the country of origin
- (3) The containers are sent to, and received by:
 - (a) An animal food manufacturer for either use in manufacturing animal food or for use without further processing as animal food, or
 - (b) A warehouse for storage and subsequent movement to an animal food manufacturer.

Lung and lung lobes are subject to the FFDCA.

Q3: Can pet food be manufactured in a federally inspected plant at times other than the official hours of operation?

A3: No, the manufacturing of uninspected products, such as pet food, is limited to those hours during which the establishment operates under Federal inspection (9 CFR 318.12(a)).

Q4: Can federally inspected and passed meat or poultry products and pet food be manufactured in the same facility using the same equipment?

A4: Under 9 CFR 318.12(a), dog food and other uninspected products may be manufactured in the same department as edible product, provided:

- (1) There is sufficient space and adequate equipment allotted to the production of pet food so that it in no way interferes with the preparation of, and in no way commingles, contaminates, or adulterates, inspected product intended for human consumption.

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- (2) Separate equipment is used for production of the pet food if necessary to avoid adulteration of inspected product, and
- (3) Pet food must be produced under the same sanitary conditions as the edible product to avoid the creation of insanitary conditions.

If the manufacture of the uninspected pet food in the same facility interferes with the preparation of, poses a food safety hazard to, or could result in adulteration of the inspected product, shared use may be denied. In that situation, separate equipment must be provided for the uninspected articles in accordance with 9 CFR 318.12(a).

Pet food manufacturing is subject to the FFDCA.

Q5: Except for lungs, can other condemned or inedible meat/poultry products be shipped from the official establishment to a pet food manufacturer without being denatured?

A5: Unless it is identified as required by regulations to deter its use as human food (9 CFR 325.11(e)(1)-(5) and 381.193), no carcass, or part or product of a carcass, capable of use as human food that is adulterated or misbranded can be offered for transportation in commerce unless it is denatured.