

FISH FEED STORAGE AND HANDLING PRACTICES



COUNCIL FOR SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH – FOOD RESEARCH INSTITUTE/WATER RESEARCH INSTITUTE



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Introduction

Quality aquaculture production relies heavily on the safety of fish feed used. Feed contamination which is any biological or chemical agent, foreign matter or other substance not intentionally added to feed that may compromise feed safety or suitability must be prevented. There is therefore the need for fish farmers to take steps to protect fish feed from contamination.



Fish farms

Some Recommended Practices

Store House

- ✓ Area in and around the feed store should be free of debris and kept clean always
- ✓ Ensure adequate ventilation to maintain ideal temperature and humidity
- ✓ Feed store house should be designed to avoid entrance of rodents
- ✓ Do not keep chemicals in feed store house



Always keep feed storage room closed Sweep the store house



Removing cobwebs

Well ventilated feed storage room



Avoid placing chemicals at feed storage room

Close all entrance for rodent

Transportation and receiving of feed

- ✓ Feed should not be transported in open trucks
- ✓ Feed should not be exposed to water (e.g. rainwater)
- ✓ Feed received should be cool and dry



Dry pellets

Storage Conditions

- ✓ Keep sacks of feed on pallets above the ground
- ✓ Keep sacks of feed away from the walls of storage and water
- ✓ Keep opened sacks of feed always closed
- ✓ Keep unwanted things from the store room



Fish feed should be on pallets Do not keep fish feed on floor



Unhygienic feed storage room Tie feed sack after use



Feed should not be exposed Trapped rodents should be removed

Monitoring

- ✓ Feed should be checked for the presence of any rodent or insect damage before use
- ✓ Feed showing any signs of mould should be discarded
- ✓ Check for texture, color and smell of feed before use
- ✓ Expired feed should be discarded



Discard feed damaged by moulds and insect

Sanitation

- ✓ All feeding utensils/bowls should be kept clean
- ✓ Good hygienic practices must be observed by fish feed handlers



Washing of bowl for feeding Avoid use of dirty bowls for feeding



Washing of hands before feeding Fish feed handler dressing up correctly

Feeding practice

- ✓ Protective clothing should be worn before feeding
- ✓ Feeding of fish should be done using a blower, feed dispenser/scoop or hands in gloves, not bare hands



Pour out feed for feeding Feed fish by feed dispenser or hand in gloves

Record Keeping

Keep records of feed storage periods and the type of feed as it helps to detect potential disease outbreak at an early stage

Developed by

Amy Atter
George Anyebonu
Hannah Oduro-Obeng
Samuel Amponsah
Winifred Arthur
Isabella Tandoh
Seth K. Agyakwah

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For further information, please contact

The Director,
Food Research Institute,
P.O. Box M20,
Accra.
Tel: 0302519091/0302519092
Email: director@foodresearchgh.org