



Requirements to sell Pet Treats in Virginia

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Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

Agricultural Commodities Program



Requirements

- Commercial Feed License
 - Licensing year is January 1 – December 31
 - Costs:
 - Commercial Feed License = \$50
 - VDACS sends renewal notices 6 weeks prior to December 31st
- Product Registrations
 - Registration year is the same as licensing, January 1 – December 31
 - Costs:
 - Each prepackaged product registered = \$50

Tonnage

- The form is due February 1st
- For feed and treats sold loose or in packages greater than ten pounds.
- When selling prepackaged pet treats, you will mark Exempt – Small Packages Only
- ***Print name, sign, date and return the form to our office***

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES
PO BOX 526
RICHMOND VA 23218-0526
PHONE: 804/371-2667 FAX: 804/371-7793

NOTICE

2023 COMMERCIAL FEED TONNAGE AND INSPECTION FEE REPORT
DUE DATE: FEBRUARY 1, 2024*

License #
Company Name
Address

If EXEMPT from commercial inspection fees, exemption must be marked below (no late fees required)

EXEMPT - SMALL PACKAGES ONLY

EXEMPT - FEED FOR EQUINE ONLY

EXEMPT - FEE PAID BY

REPORT ACCOUNTING FOR PRODUCTS DISTRIBUTED BETWEEN JANUARY 1, 2023 - DECEMBER 31, 2023

1 COMMERCIAL FEED (include equine)..... TONS
2 FEED INGREDIENTS..... TONS
3 CONTRACT FEED..... TONS
4 TOTAL TONS (TOTAL OF LINES 1 THRU 3)..... TONS
5 TOTAL INSPECTION FEE DUE (\$.07 per TON or \$35.00, whichever is greater).....\$
6 COMMERCIAL LATE FEE (Received after February 25, 2024 - *10% of Line 5 or \$50.00, whichever is greater).....\$
7 TONS OF EQUINE FEED (as included in Line 1 above)..... TONS
8 TOTAL VA EQUINE FEED ASSESSMENT FEE (\$3.00 per TON x Line 7).....\$
9 EQUINE LATE FEE (Received after FEBRUARY 25, 2024 - *10% of Line 8 or \$50.00, whichever is greater).....\$
10 TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED (Sum of Lines 5, 6, 8 and 9).....\$

I HEREBY SWEAR AND AFFIRM UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY THIS TO BE A FULL AND CORRECT REPORT OF TONNAGE OF PRODUCTS REGULATED UNDER THE VIRGINIA FEED LAW SOLD OR DISTRIBUTED DURING THE ABOVE PERIOD.

PRINTED NAME	SIGNATURE	DATE
MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: (FOR INTERNAL USE ONLY)		
Treasurer of Virginia	Line 5 884-02639 \$	VDACS Date Received
Mail to:	Line 6 885-02452 \$	
VDACS	Line 8 626-02639 \$	
P O Box 526 Richmond VA 23218-0526	Line 9 626-02452 \$	

fftonfm.pdf

Manufacturing

- Pet Treats can be manufactured in a home kitchen.
- An inspection prior to manufacturing is not required, but we are allowed by §3.2-4809 to conduct an inspection.
- When manufacturing, be sure to follow the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's Current Good Manufacturing Practices (CGMPs)
 - These can be found through an online search of 21 CFR Part 507 Current Good Manufacturing Practices for Animal Food.

Labeling

- We review all small packaged feed labels prior to registration.

- From our law:

§ 3.2-4804. Product registration required of commercial feed distributors.

D. Every manufacturer or guarantor of small package commercial feed shall: (i) apply for registration for each small package commercial feed on forms furnished or approved by the Commissioner; (ii) pay a registration fee of \$50 to the Commissioner by January 1 per small package commercial feed, in lieu of an inspection fee for this size package; and (iii) submit a copy of any label, used or proposed to be used with the small package commercial feed for approval with the registration form.

Label Requirements

Brand Name



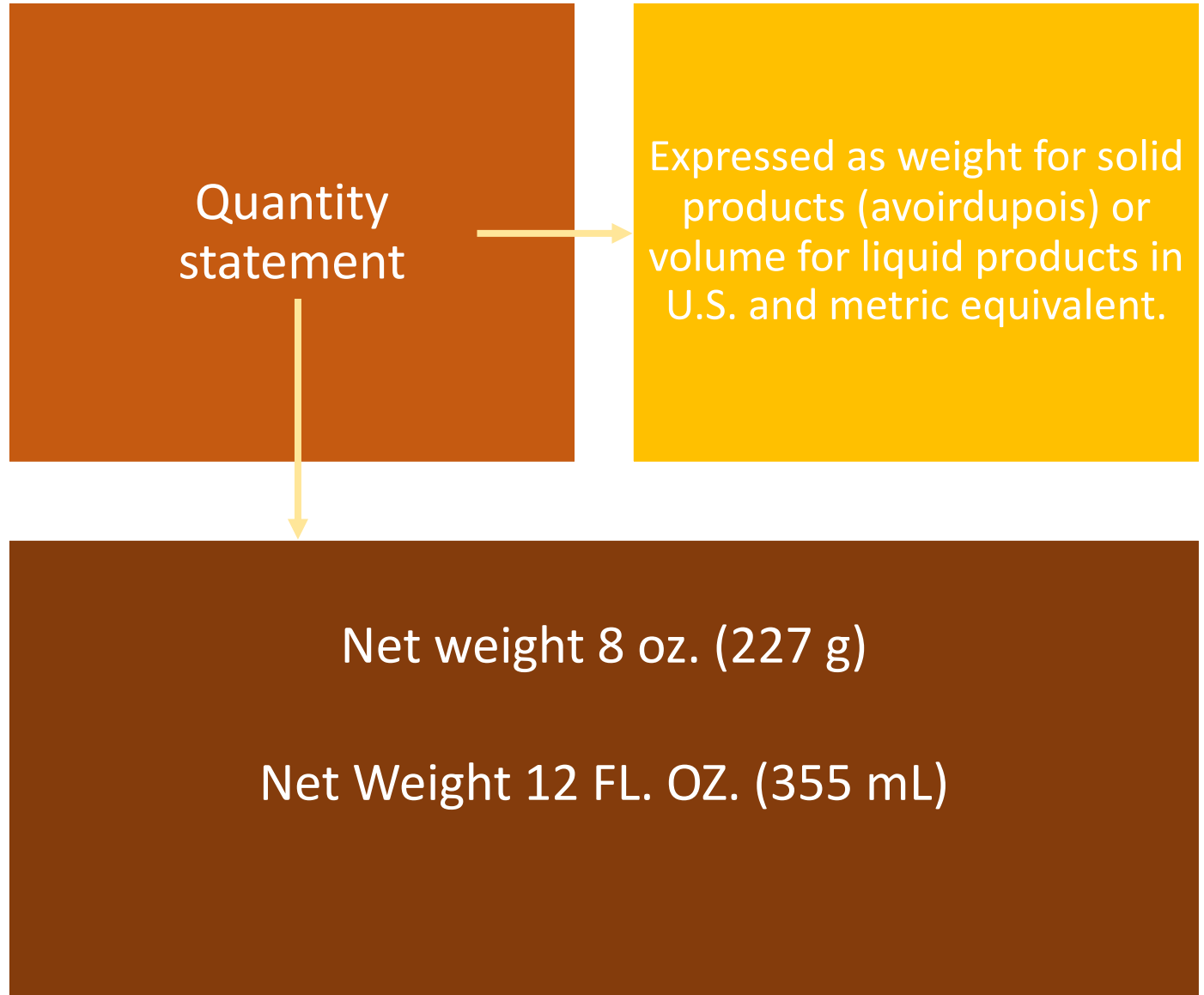
Bucky's Biscuit Bits
Krazy Kitty Krunchies
Sweet Potato Biscuits

Kind of pet



Dog, cat, horse, etc. –
the species the treat is
manufacturer for must
be written on the front
of the label, if not a part
of the brand name.

Label Requirements



Label Requirements

Ingredient statement

- A continuous list of each approved ingredient using the name of the ingredient adopted by AAFCO. Ingredients shall be listed in descending order of predominance by weight. If there is no designated name adopted by AAFCO, use the common name of the product such as 'sugar', 'butter', etc.

Ingredients:

Peanut butter, flour, butter, cinnamon

Ingredients:

Sweet potato, flour, butter, sugar

CBD, Hemp, and THC are not allowed in products with a guaranteed analysis.

Label Requirements

- Guaranteed analysis – This must include the correct heading and include (at a minimum) the following components stated in the order and format listed below:
 - Crude protein (min) -- XX%
 - Crude fat (min) -- XX%
 - (If labeled as 'low or reduced' fat, also include: Crude fat (max) -- XX%)
 - Crude fiber (max) --- XX%
 - Moisture (max) --- XX%
 - All additional or voluntary guarantees must be listed thereafter in the appropriate format with appropriate units.

Guaranteed Analysis

Crude Protein – min 10%

Crude Fat – min 2%

Crude Fiber – max 5%

Moisture – max 12%

Label Requirements

Nutritional Adequacy Statement

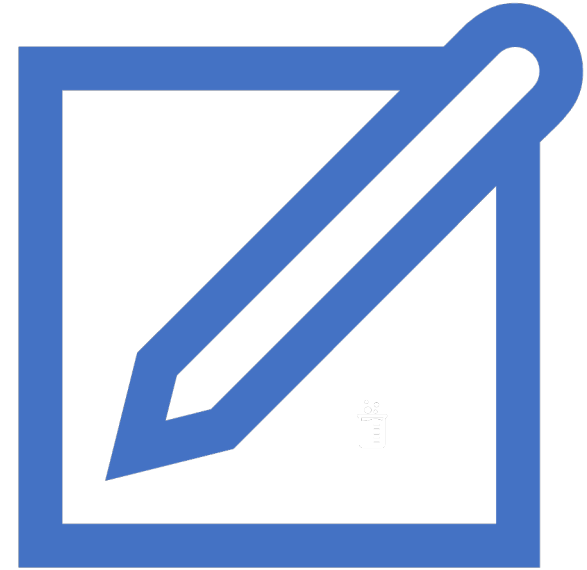
If the product is clearly identified on the front label as a snack or treat, a nutrition statement or purpose statement is not required.

Manufacturer/Guarantor

As the manufacturer or guarantor of the product, your name and mailing address is required to be on the label.

Label Requirements

- Calorie Content
- The label of a dog or cat food, including snacks, treats, and supplements, shall bear a statement of calorie content and meet all of the following:
 - The statement shall be separate and distinct from the "Guaranteed Analysis" and appear under the heading "Calorie Content"
 - The statement shall be measured in terms of metabolizable energy (ME) on an "as fed" basis and must be expressed, in either the words "metabolizable energy" or the abbreviation "ME", both as "kilocalories per kilogram" ("kcal/kg") of product, and as "kilocalories per familiar household measure (e.g., cans or cups) or unit of product (e.g., treats or pieces)"



Label Requirements

- Name and address of guarantor/manufacture of the feed.
- Should be the same as on your feed license.
- E-mail address may be present, but not a substitute for location address.

SWEET POTATO TREAT

Ingredients: Sweet potato, flour, butter, sugar

Guaranteed Analysis

Crude Protein --- min 4%

Crude Fat ----- min 6%

Crude Fiber ----- max 4%

Moisture -----max 12%

To be fed as a snack or
treat for small dogs.

Calorie Content (ME) 125 kcal/kg

25 kcal/treat

ABC Treats, Dogtown, VA

ABCTreats@gmail.com

Net Weight 8 oz. (227 g)

Label Requirements



Claims must be truthful

- Whitens teeth, freshens breath, etc.
 - Dental claim needs to include the “mechanism” for the plaque and tartar removal. i.e Chewing helps to scrape away plaque and tartar.
- Low calorie dog treats
 - Must indicate in feeding directions how to feed to meet claim
- Cures Cancer
 - Unless it can be substantiated, will not be allowed

Label Examples

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Questions

- Are dehydrated or freeze dried chicken feet allowed without a commercial kitchen?
 - If this is an animal food, yes.
- Does pet food have to be at a certain temperature, what are the guidelines?
 - It depends on the product. If it's a temperature-controlled product i.e. frozen pup cup, it must be kept in at a temperature to prevent adulteration.
- How do you go about starting an onsite dog food company?
 - Please contact the Agricultural Commodities Program (ACP). We will provide you with the information and documents needed to become licensed and registered.

Questions

- Where do you find insurance for starting a dog food company at a farmers' market?
 - I do not know – possibly reach out to your insurance agent for help.
- Can you sell pet food/snacks at more than farmers markets and wholesale without a commercial kitchen?
 - Yes, you can sell animal food without a commercial kitchen but are still required to license and if applicable, register products.
- Ground poultry as Pet Food. Beef, Pork, Chicken, Turkey
 - Yes, you can sell ground meat as a supplemental pet food, but it must be kept under conditions to prevent adulteration i.e. spoilage, contamination.