

## ENHANCEMENT OF FEED QUALITY AND SAFETY SYSTEMS DURING THE PERIOD OF LITHUANIA'S INTEGRATION INTO THE EU

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**Summary.** The quality and competitiveness of animal origin products are mainly predetermined by feed, whereas the value of the latter depends on good production practice, observance of regulations for facilities, veterinary and hygiene standards, feed quality, as well as meeting the requirements for declared indices and mandatory safety.

Successful development of feedstuffs farm is possible only under legal regulations governing appropriateness and safety of production storage, use and marketing of feed raw materials, compounds, feed additives and premixes. In the European Union great attention is devoted to the factors determining feedstuffs safety. For that purpose over 70 basic regulations, provisions, directives and a great many of their amendments are prepared. The implementation and enforcement of legal provisions are prepared. The implementation and enforcement of legal provisions are under constant supervision and control (Kulpys, 2000).

On the basis of this legislation in the year 2000 Law on Feed was adopted in Lithuania. It defines the legislation for production, storage, transport, use, trade and quality control of feedstuffs for market (Adomaitytė et al., 2001). National law acts on feed in compliance with the EU requirements are being prepared according to the Lithuania's preparation for EU membership and programme its annexes: plans to implement the measures for approximation the Legislation and Acquis. State control administration of feed quality is executed by the Ministry of Agriculture (MA), and control is performed by the State Food and Veterinary Service (SFVS).

Agricultural Minister's orders (some common with SFVS) confirmed more than 25 law acts defining feed marking and declaration for market; determining mandatory indices for appropriateness (quality) and safety, minimal requirements for feed production and veterinary hygiene requirements for buildings; defining principles and criteria for assessment of feed raw materials and feed additives; establishing enforcement order for state control of feed quality, and others (Adomaitytė et al., 2001). Over 40 investigation methods and 73 methodics for analysis according to the EU requirements were confirmed to assess appropriateness and safety indices of feed raw materials, compounds and feed additives (Arbatauskienė, 2002). Intensive work in the area of publishing law acts on national feed and their approximation with the EU regulations is under way.