

# AFFCO Hemp Seed Meal / Cake Approval for Laying Hens

On August 7, 2024, the Association of American Feed Control Officials (AAFCO) approved hemp seed meal as a feed ingredient for laying hens, allowing its use in commercial feed, according to Lancaster Farming. [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]

Here's a more detailed breakdown: [2, 4]

- **AAFCO Approval:** The AAFCO, a group that sets standards for animal feed, voted to approve hemp seed meal as a "Tentative Ingredient Definition" for laying hens. [2, 4]
- **Hemp Seed Meal:** This refers to the byproduct of hemp oil production, which is a source of protein and fat for laying hens. [2, 4]
- **Commercial Use:** This approval allows hemp seed meal to be used in commercial feed formulations for laying hens. [2, 4]
- **Benefits:** Hemp seed meal is rich in amino acids, omega fatty acids, and minerals, which can contribute to better flock health and egg production. [6, 7]
- **Inclusion Rate:** Hemp seed meal can be included in laying hen diets up to 20%. [3, 4]
- **Hemp Seed Coalition:** The Hemp Feed Coalition played a significant role in advocating for this approval, having worked for several years to support the research and applications necessary to consider hemp as a new animal feed ingredient. [2]

[1] <https://www.poultryproducer.com/aaeco-approves-hempseed-meal-for-laying-hens-marking-a-milestone-for-u-s-poultry-feed/>

[2] [https://www.lancasterfarming.com/farming-news/hemp/aaeco-votes-yes-on-hemp-seed-meal-for-laying-hens/article\\_10472d88-54e4-11ef-8190-27a4bf058cfc.html](https://www.lancasterfarming.com/farming-news/hemp/aaeco-votes-yes-on-hemp-seed-meal-for-laying-hens/article_10472d88-54e4-11ef-8190-27a4bf058cfc.html)

[3] <https://www.mda.state.mn.us/hemp-seed-meal-available-feed-minnesota>

[4] <https://www.feednavigator.com/Article/2024/08/08/Hempseed-meal-approved-for-use-in-layer-feed-in-the-US/>

[5] <https://nationalhempassociation.org/aaeco-approves-hempseed-meal-for-laying-hens/>

[6] <https://www.brandmavenconsulting.com/hempseed-meal-a-game-changer-for-poultry-feed/>

[7] <https://bulkhempwarehouse.com/discover-the-benefits-of-feeding-hemp-seed-to-your-laying-hens-chickens/>