



Purina Mills, LLC

August 8, 2006

Dear Dealer:

We would like to update you on a tragic situation at a stable in Brazos County, Texas, that has drawn some attention from the news media. The stable, a Land O'Lakes Purina Feed customer, tragically lost 28 horses in July.

The Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine has advised Land O'Lakes Purina Feed that it has completed its investigation of the horse mortality incident. Their initial diagnosis of phosphine poisoning resulting from the reported on-farm pesticide application remains the apparent cause of death. Further diagnostic testing revealed no evidence of specific abnormalities indicative of other intoxication in the examined horses.

The findings reconfirm Texas A&M's initial report that the Strategy bulk feed delivered to the farm was not the source of the issue. We want our customers and potential customers to know that they can feed Strategy with confidence. For more information, please refer to the attached news release that Texas A&M issued late last month.

We appreciate the support of our customers throughout this situation. With so much misinformation about the source of the issue being generated on the Web and through other means, we appreciate your referring to us for official news on the Brazos County situation.

Please share this update on the test results with any of your customers who may be interested in the findings.

Sincerely,

Dave Hoogmoed
Vice President Feed

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Horse Mortality Incident Traced to Pesticide

COLLEGE STATION, July 21, 2006 –Testing at the Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences and the Texas Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory has yielded evidence that the toxic principal responsible for the recent deaths of more than two dozen horses at Carousel Acres Equine Center in Brazos County, Texas, was in all likelihood phosphine gas.

Phosphine is a gaseous product released from a highly toxic fumigant pesticide that was reportedly applied by Carousel Acres to the feed bin to kill weevils. Dr. Richard Adams, Dean of the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, indicated necropsies on three of the horses that died at the Texas A&M veterinary clinic all showed the presence of phosphine gas in their stomach.

“Considering that the stable feed bin was reportedly treated with a fumigant pesticide that releases phosphine gas as its toxic principal, and considering that phosphine gas was detected in the horses’ digestive tracts after death, the pesticide certainly appears to be the etiologic agent, the causative factor, responsible for this tragic situation,” Adams said.

“So far, necropsy examination of the animals and toxicologic testing of bodily materials have not revealed any apparent toxicants beyond the phosphine,” Adams said.

“This appears to have been an unfortunate on-farm accident attributable to the pesticide application. Contrary to some early misleading speculation, there is no indication that the feed product itself was defective when it was delivered to the farm.”

For more information contact:

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