Report on Requested Feed Inspection Conducted at The Green Dragon and Pony Express Foods LLC

The Green Dragon
955 N State St.
Ephrata, PA 17522

Pony Express Foods LLC
1016 E Main St.
Blue Ball, PA 17557

Date of Inspection:

September 21, 2018

Performed by:
Darryl Dressler
Chris Strickler
Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
Region 6
2301 N Cameron St.
Harrisburg, PA 17110
The Pennsylvania Commercial Feed Act Inspection Report

Objective: This inspection was a follow-up to an ongoing investigation at Pony Express Foods LLC and Green Dragon. The objective was to collect samples of rawhide sold by Pony Express Foods LLC at Green Dragon market. The samples of rawhide are to be analyzed for starch and protein.

On September 21, 2018 at approximately 10:00 a.m., Darryl Dressler, Plant Industry Inspection Technician, and Chris Strickler, Agronomic Products Inspector arrived at The Green Dragon, 955 N State St., Ephrata, PA 17522 to conduct a requested inspection at a vendor selling products for Pony Express Foods LLC. Strickler and Dressler located the vendor, and notice that the signage above the stand read "Ameri-Pet". Strickler and Dressler were greeted by Debbie K Erdman, Vice President, and presented PDA credentials. Strickler issued Ms. Erdman a PDA Notice of Inspection, and explained the reason for the inspection was to sample rawhide product distributed by Pony Express Foods LLC. Ms. Erdman said that there is normally rawhide available, however none came on the delivery truck for that day. Ms. Erdman said that there will be rawhide available the next market day.

Since no product was available, Strickler and Dressler concluded the inspection, thanked Ms. Erdman for her time, and departed the premises.

A previous inspection with Pony Express indicated that the business does distribute rawhide at The Green Dragon, therefore Strickler and Dressler returned to Pony Express Foods LLC, 1016 E Main St., Blue Ball, PA 17557 at approximately 12:30 p.m. to determine if rawhides were available and gather additional information. Strickler and Dressler met with Casey Martin, Plant Manager, presented PDA credentials, and issued a PDA Notice of Inspection. Dressler explained to Mr. Martin that he and Strickler conducted an inspection at The Green Dragon and did not observe any rawhide products distributed by Pony Express Foods LLC. Dressler asked Mr. Martin if there were any rawhides available at the Pony Express Foods facility. Mr. Martin stated that a bulk order of rawhides was received, and are being stored in the trailers outside. Mr. Martin said that rawhides were scheduled to be at The Green Dragon that day, but there may have been a mix-up while loading the delivery truck. Mr. Martin offered to show Dressler and Strickler the rawhides in storage.

At that time, Mr. Martin escorted Strickler and Dressler to 2 storage trailers containing the rawhide products (Exhibits A). Mr. Martin opened the trailers and showed Strickler and Dressler palletized boxes with the rawhide material (Exhibits B-C). Dressler noticed that there was writing on each box (Exhibit D) and asked Mr. Martin if there was any other labeling for the rawhide product. Mr. Martin said that the writing on the boxes was the only labeling.

At that time, Dressler opened a box and observed the rawhide product (Exhibit E). Dressler grabbed a sample (Sample ID# DD54) of the material, returned the box to storage, and closed the trailers.

Dressler asked Mr. Martin if he had any questions. Having none, Strickler and Dressler completed the inspection, thanked Mr. Martin for his time, and departed the premises.

Attachments:

PDA Notice of Inspection Issued to Debbie K Erdman
PDA Notice of Inspection Issued to Casey Martin
Photograph of storage trailers at Pony Express Foods LLC (Exhibit A)
Photographs of opened storage trailers at Pony Express Foods LLC (Exhibits B-C)
Photograph of labeling on box of rawhides in storage trailer at Pony Express Foods LLC (Exhibit D)
Photograph of rawhides in box from storage trailer at Pony Express Foods LLC (Exhibit E)
PDA Photograph Log

October 26, 2018

Darryl Dressler
Plant Industry Inspection Technician