

## AFLATOXIN IN DIAMOND PET FOOD

December 22, 2005

Dr. John A. Caver, Director of Clemson University Livestock Poultry Health and SC State Veterinarian, has been made aware of a serious aflatoxin contamination problem in dog food manufactured by Diamond Pet Food. As a result the following information is provided for veterinarians and the general public in South Carolina:

Additional Information is available from the following sources:

Diamond Pet Food Contact (Media):           Mark Brinkman  
573/229-4203  
<http://www.diamondpet.com>

SC Department of Agriculture:                [Press Release](#)

Diamond Pet Food has discovered aflatoxin in a product manufactured at their facility in Gaston, South Carolina. The Gaston facility date codes are unique from other Diamond facility codes in that either the eleventh or twelfth character in the date code will be a capital **“G”** (in reference to Gaston). The range of date codes being reviewed are **“Best By 01-March-07” through Best By “11-June-07.”** Diamond’s quantitative analysis records substantiate that Diamond’s corn shipments were definitively clear of aflatoxin after December 10. As such, “Best By 11-June-07” date codes or later are not affected.

Aflatoxin is a naturally occurring toxic chemical by-product from the growth of the fungus, *Aspergillus flavus*, on corn and other crops.

Diamond Pet Food has notified their distributors and recommended they hold the sale of all Diamond Pet Food products formulated with corn that were produced out of our Gaston facility (see complete list below).

### **Gaston Facility Products Removed From Sale:**

Diamond Low Fat Dog Food  
Diamond Hi-Energy Dog Food  
Diamond Maintenance Dog Food  
Diamond Performance Dog Food  
Diamond Premium Adult Dog Food  
Diamond Puppy Food  
Diamond Maintenance Cat Food  
Diamond Professional Cat Food  
Country Value Puppy  
Country Value Adult Dog  
Country Value High Energy Dog  
Country Value Adult Cat Food  
Professional Chicken & Rice Senior Dog Food

Professional Reduced Fat Chicken & Rice Dog Food  
Professional Adult Dog Food  
Professional Large-Breed Puppy Food  
Professional Puppy Food  
Professional Reduced Fat Cat Food  
Professional Adult Cat Food

Meanwhile, if your pet is showing any symptoms of illness, including sluggishness or lethargy combined with a reluctance to eat, yellowish tint to the eyes and/or gums, and severe or bloody diarrhea, please consult your veterinarian immediately.

Owners of animals that become ill who have been feeding a Diamond Pet Food product are advised to take their animal and a feed sample to their private veterinarian immediately.

Veterinarians may contact the Clemson University Veterinary Diagnostic Center (803-788-2260) for diagnostic assistance.