**Why the HFC needs Certificates of Analysis and how  use them.**

To gain federal approval of hemp by-products for animal use; each ingredient must be rigorously tested for nutritional composition, showing consistency in crude: protein, fat, and fiber, total cannabinoids, vitamin and mineral content and contaminants (pesticides and heavy metals).

-The process of approval begins with defining the ingredient; including the varietals, manufacturing description, recommended ingredient profile and determining the thresholds of contaminants and anti-nutritives acceptable in the 'approved' ingredient.

-Because hemp is a new agricultural commodity in the US; the FDA-CVM has requested an additional data set showing that each hemp ingredient is homogenous (the same); regardless of varietal, where it is grown, differences in farming practices or manufacturing processes.

-To provide this data set requires costly analysis from certified labs be completed for each ingredient. The HFC is accomplishing this by asking US hemp farmers and processors to share Certificates of Analysis that show any of the nutritional, contaminate or cannabinoid results with us for inclusion into the data set.

-The data set is also helpful to determine where nutritional parameters should be set to be as inclusive as possible of hemp across the country. To protect our farmers all COA’s will be given a sample ID and submitter information redacted before any data is shared with the FDA-CVM

-Once the ingredient has been defined we can move forward with clinical feed trials for each species that will prove the use of the ingredient as animal feed is safe and effective when scrutinized by the FDA-CVM.

**You can help the HFC gain Federal legalization of hemp for animals.**

For more information or to share your COA's contact Hunter Buffington hunter@hempfeedcoalition.org