

What can you feed to farmed animals or, pets of those species normally farmed?

Feed such as grass, cereals, commercially available animal feeds and fodder crops can be fed, as well as fruits and vegetables as long as they do not contain or have not been in contact with other food waste.



We acknowledge that most pig farmers support the prohibition on swill feeding and understand the reasons for it. There is evidence that there is still a small number of non commercial or hobby farmers and potential swill providers who are not aware of the connection between feeding food waste and a major exotic disease outbreak in Ireland.

You can help to prevent dangerous Animal Diseases.

With your help, we can keep these serious diseases out of Ireland.

For further information, please contact :
Milk & Meat Hygiene / ABP Division,
Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Grattan House, Grattan Business Centre, Portlaoise, Co. Laois.

Tel: 1890 253 337

Email: animalbyproducts@agriculture.gov.ie



Department of
**Agriculture,
Food and the Marine**

An Roinn
**Talmhaíochta,
Bia agus Mara**



Department of
**Agriculture,
Food and the Marine**

An Roinn
**Talmhaíochta,
Bia agus Mara**

**Attention: If you Farm
Livestock.**

**Food waste can cause
Foot & Mouth Disease and
other exotic diseases.**



**It is an offence to feed food
waste of animal origin to
animals.**



A person found guilty of such an offence is liable to a fine of €250,000 or 3 years in prison or both.



What's wrong with feeding food waste to animals?

- Food waste can carry diseases such as Foot and Mouth and Swine Fever which can kill farmed or pet pigs and animals of other farmed species.
- Feeding food waste to pigs remains the most likely route by which Foot and Mouth or Classical Swine Fever could enter the island of Ireland.
- [Feeding food waste to pigs was the cause of the 2001 foot and mouth outbreak in the UK.](#)
- An outbreak of these diseases would shut down Ireland's agricultural industry, causing hardship to animals and people.
- **Foot and mouth disease is a highly infectious viral disease** which affects farmed, pet or wild cloven-hoofed animals, cattle, sheep, pigs, goats. Infected animals initially show a fever, followed by the development of blisters, mainly in the mouth and on the feet. Food and Mouth disease is very infectious and will spread rapidly if not quickly controlled.



Symptoms of Foot and Mouth disease in pigs include:

- Sudden lameness – may squeal loudly as it may be painful.
- Tendency to lie down and unwilling to move.
- Blisters on the upper edge of the hoof where the skin and horn meet, on the snout or tongue.
- Reluctance to feed.

What type of animals are susceptible to diseases that can exist in food waste?

Farmed animals such as pigs, sheep, goats, cattle, poultry or pets of those species e.g. pet pigs, goats and poultry.

What type of food waste may not be fed to animals?

- ▶ Any food waste of animal origin or food waste which has been in contact with products of animal origin, whether raw or cooked, e.g.
 - products which contain meat such as meat pies, sausage rolls, pizza, meat scraps, bones, etc.
 - products which have been in contact with meat, for example, sandwiches, bread, pizzas, used cooking oil, any kitchen food waste that may have touched meat, etc.



Such food waste may originate from premises such as:

- ◆ Homes
- ◆ Restaurants/Hotels
- ◆ Hospitals
- ◆ Schools
- ◆ Supermarkets
- ◆ Takeaways
- ◆ Food manufacturing businesses
- ◆ Kitchens in any premises including the home.