



Buckerfields News
Monday, March 28, 2022

Feed Shortages over the Past Year

Due to COVID, BC feed manufacturers including Trouw Nutrition and Otter Coop have struggled to find enough grain and other ingredients to be able to make enough feed for BC dealers and customers. The situation was made worse by the sudden increase in demand for feed products due to COVID and the flooding that took place in the Lower Mainland in November 2021 and January 2022.

Feed ingredient shortages at the manufacturer level have been occurring with the result that Buckerfields has not been able to get all of its feed orders filled completely.

This situation has improved but the manufacturers are still facing uncertainty about the supply of some ingredients and the situation in the Ukraine, a very large producer and exporter of wheat, is now adding to the uncertainty.

Otter Coop

In the case of Otter Coop, Otter announced on March 11, 2022 that it was still having supply chain problems and was therefore discontinuing its supply of feed to dealers that are not part of its formal dealer network. Buckerfields is not part of this network. Otter cut off supply to Buckerfields effective March 14, 2022.

To replace the small volume of Otter products that Buckerfields sells, Buckerfields has secured an unlimited supply of products that compare very favourably with the Otter products. These new feed products are manufactured by Ritchie Smith Feeds, a longstanding and distinguished British Columbia feed manufacturer located in Abbotsford, B.C.

Ritchie Smith is expanding its feed manufacturing facility to produce new bagged feed products for the BC market. It has created brand new lines of 'Chatterbox' poultry feed and 'Harmony' equine feed using the most up to date animal nutrition formulas and computer based quality control. Buckerfields will offer the complete line of Ritchie Smith feed products effective immediately, with incentives for customers to try the new products and compare them to the products they are used to.

Trouw Nutrition and the Step Feeds

Going forward, Buckerfields will continue to sell Trouw Nutrition products including the Step Feeds. Buckerfields will add more products manufactured by Ritchie Smith Feeds to create even more choices for customers in the future.