

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

**HALAL ANIMAL FEED IN
MALAYSIAN AQUACULTURE
INDUSTRY: MALAYSIAN
REGULATORY FRAMEWORK
AND SHARIAH PERSPECTIVE**

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Thesis submitted in fulfillment
of the requirements for the degree of
Doctor of Philosophy

Academy of Contemporary Islamic Studies

October 2019

ABSTRACT

In Halal Food Supply Chain, animal feed is considered as the initial Critical Control Point in ensuring the halal integrity of animal-based food products. The uncertainties in the halalness, quality, and safety of the animal feed may consequently affect the halal and *tayyiban* status of the halal food products. In Malaysia, despite the existence of an established regulatory framework on animal feed, fraudulence in animal feeding practices, especially related to animal feed ingredients still continuously occur and repeatedly reported in the media. Therefore, this study provides an analysis of the legal and regulatory framework relating to animal feed and feeding in Malaysia. The Shariah perspective on this topic has also been comprehensively discussed. The central argument of the thesis is that the existing laws are inadequate to control activities related to the production and use of halal animal feed in the country. This study is carried out to analyse: First: the adequacy of the current Malaysian legal and regulatory framework to regulate activities related to halal animal feed in Malaysia, Second: the Shariah perspective of halal animal feed and feeding practices in animal production, and Third: the recommendations for improvement in the form of legal reform and other contribution to rectify the issue. To achieve these objectives, legal research methodology involving a combination of doctrinal and non-doctrinal approaches is utilised. The findings indicate that the existing Malaysian legal and regulatory framework on animal feed is regulatory in nature, but lack of provisions which provide for the control of the halal aspect of animal feed in terms of its ingredients, processing, production, sale and use. There are a few ambiguities, inadequacies, and inconsistencies in the existing legal framework that make it incapable of controlling halal feed-related activities. These findings has led to the conclusion that, in order to regulate halal feed production and use in the country, a few amendments and improvements shall be made to the Feed Act 2009 and its regulations so as to extend its jurisdiction to also include the control on the halal aspect of animal feed in term of its ingredients, production, sale and use. In addition, it is also the finding of this study that a halal standard, especially for aquaculture feed production is proposed based on the current needs of the halal food industry. Besides, few recommendations had also been suggested as references for policymakers and animal feed and livestock industry players in Malaysia.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
CONFIRMATION BY PANEL OF EXAMINERS	ii
AUTHOR'S DECLARATION	iii
ABSTRACT	iv
ABSTRAK	v
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	vi
TABLE OF CONTENTS	vii
LIST OF TABLES	xiv
LIST OF FIGURES	xv
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	xvi
GUIDELINE FOR ARABIC TRANSLITERATION	xix
LIST OF STATUTES	xxi
GLOSSARY OF TERMS	xxii
CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION AND LITERATURE REVIEW	1
1.1 Introduction	1
1.2 Background of Study	1
1.3 Problem Statement	5
1.4 Research Objectives	7
1.5 Literature Review	8
1.5.1 The Halal, Haram and Halalan Tayyiban Concept	9
1.5.2 The Halal Supply Chain	11
1.5.3 The Legal and Regulatory Framework on Animal Feed in Malaysia	12
1.5.4 The Animal Feed Research in Malaysia	14
1.5.5 The Halal Animal Feed	17
1.5.6 Animal Feed in the Halal Food Supply Chain	21
1.6 Scope and Limitation of the Study	23
1.7 Methodology of Research	24

1.7.1	Legal Research	25
1.7.2	Data Collection Methods	28
1.7.3	Data Analysis	29
1.8	Significance of the Research	29
1.9	Thesis Structure	30
1.10	Conclusion	31

CHAPTER TWO: ANIMAL FEED LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY

	IN MALAYSIA	32
2.1	Introduction	32
2.2	The Malaysian Livestock Industry	32
2.2.1	The Non-Ruminant Subsector	34
2.2.2	The Ruminant Subsector	35
2.2.3	The Fisheries Subsector	48
2.2.4	The Aquaculture Development	40
2.3	The Animal Feed Industry in Malaysia	42
2.3.1	The Feed Industry Players	43
2.3.2	Challenges Faced by the Feed Industry	44
2.3.3	The Importation of Grains for Feed Sources	45
2.4	Animal Feed and the Aquaculture Feed	49
2.4.1	Types and Sources of aquaculture feed	50
2.4.2	Nutrition in Aquaculture Feed	55
2.4.3	Feed Additives	57
2.4.4	Locally Available Feed Alternative	58
2.5	Hazards Associated with Animal Feed	60
2.5.1	Biological	61
2.5.2	Chemical	64
2.5.3	Physical	67
2.6	Feed Ingredients with Public Health Concern and Issues	67
2.6.1	Antibiotic	68
2.6.2	Growth Hormones	72
2.6.3	Beta Agonist	73
2.6.4	Chemical Residue	75
2.6.5	Animal By-products	76

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION AND LITERATURE REVIEW

1.1 Introduction

In the halal food supply chain, animal feed is an essential element which has direct implication for the safety, quality and halal integrity of animal-based food products. Comprehensive monitoring and control in the preparation, production, storage, and distribution of the animal feed are needed to ensure acceptable quality standard. The uncertainties in the 'halalness', quality and safety of the animal feed may consequently affect the halal and *tayyiban* status of the halal food products.

Matters related to the importation, manufacture, sale, and uses of feed and feed additive in Malaysia is regulated under the Feed Act 2009 and its regulations. This Act is introduced to ensure quality and safety of feed by controlling the importation, manufacture, sale, and uses of feed and feed additive.

This thesis examines the existing legal and regulatory framework of animal feed in Malaysia and the Shariah perspective of halal animal feed. Its central argument is that the available laws are inadequate to control activities related to the production of halal animal feed. It is also argued that improvement to the Feed Act 2009 with a specific provision related to halal may offer a solution to this matter.

To prove this argument, the thesis does four things; First, it analyses the existing laws and Regulatory Frameworks related to animal feed in Malaysia to illustrate the inadequacies and loopholes of the laws to control halal animal feed-related matters; second, it examines animal feed and feeding from the Shariah perspective based on analysis of the main sources of Shariah law and Muslim jurists opinions; third, it proposes for relevant reforms to the Feed Act 2009, to also include control on halal animal feed-related matters, and forth; it proposes a specific standard for the production of halal aquaculture feed, based on related standards on halal production and feed-related standard.

1.2 Background of Study

As Muslims, we wish that halal certification is trustworthy and every single process throughout the supply chain is according to the halal standard, including the initial process