



I. Summary:

The losses arising from the insects, micro-organisms and animals; improper handling; and, physical and chemical changes to grains, are interrelated. Storage loss in a feed mill is primarily due to material eaten or destroyed by insect and animal pests and fungi. When serious infestation by these pests occurs there is extensive weight loss accompanied by damage to quality. Intense insect activity often results in mould growth which not only completes the destruction of the feedstuffs but also poses serious health risks to animals or fish feeding on rations containing damaged feed ingredients. Total eradication of insect populations from tropical warehouses for feed ingredients is not possible. The degree of infestation can, however, be brought to manageable proportions through a programme of vigilance and effective control measures. Heavily infested ingredients should not be brought into the store. Infested material, if accepted, should be kept separate until fumigated (this is to be done as soon as possible) to totally eradicate the pests.