

## Pellet Storage

Pellets are a manufactured product that require handling and storage different to grain. The raw materials are milled and re-constituted so pellets lose the protective coating and integrity of whole grains.

Moisture and heat are added during processing and these need to be allowed to dissipate. It is therefore imperative that pellets be stored in vented silos or feeders. They need to be able to breath in storage. This can be achieved by attaching either a 'witch's hat' (weather cowl) or 'whirly bird' to the top of the silo.

Pellets are rarely attacked by weevils but they are very popular with grain beetles. Storage hygiene is therefore critical to ensure minimal chance of infestation. High pressure water cleaning of silos and feeders on an annual basis is a reasonable guideline with special attention to seams and crevices. Ensure that OH&S guidelines are followed.

Pellets should not be placed in storage and subsequently left to sit without moving. Movement will break up the surface layer and allow the silo to breath. Endeavour to program orders so that product is used within 6 months of manufacture.

Pellets do not have the same flow characteristics as grains. The angle of the silo cone needs to be at least 45° to ensure that pellets flow freely without bridging

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## **PELLET STORAGE**

23368 Albany Highway, Kojonup 6395  
[www.kojonupfeeds.com.au](http://www.kojonupfeeds.com.au)  
Peter Robinson: 0447 649 020  
[info@kojonupfeeds.com.au](mailto:info@kojonupfeeds.com.au)