



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

HEALTH & CONSUMERS DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

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**SUMMARY RECORD OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE FOOD CHAIN AND ANIMAL HEALTH
HELD ON 18 NOVEMBER 2011 IN BRUSSELS
(Animal Nutrition Section)**

Chairman : Mr James Moynagh.

23 Member States were present, except Greece, Cyprus, Portugal and Romania, who were absent and not represented.

1. Feed Additives

1.1.Applications under Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003 Art. 4 or 13

1.1.1. New applications

The latest applications were circulated for possible comment.

1.2.Applications under Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003 Art. 9

1.2.1. Discussion on EFSA opinion : Scientific Opinion on the safety and efficacy of FRESTA® F for weaned piglets -- Annex

Following the discussion, a draft Implementing Regulation will be proposed for possible vote at a future meeting.

1.2.2. Discussion of EFSA opinion : Scientific Opinion on safety and efficacy of *Lactobacillus plantarum* (DSM 8862 and DSM 8866) as a silage additive for pigs, bovines, sheep, goats and horses -- Annex

Following the discussion, a draft Implementing Regulation will be proposed for possible vote at a future meeting.

1.2.3. Discussion of EFSA opinion : Scientific Opinion on the safety and efficacy of sodium bisulphate (SBS) for all animal species as a preservative and silage additive, for pets and other non food-producing animals (non-food fur animals) as an acidity regulator, and for pets as flavouring

Following the discussion, a draft Implementing Regulation will be proposed for possible vote at a future meeting. However, as the EFSA opinion was inconclusive on some parts, the Commission will contact the applicant regarding their outcome.

1.2.4. Discussion of EFSA opinion : Scientific Opinion on Choline chloride for all species -- Annex

A discussion took place. A draft Implementing Regulation will be proposed for possible vote at a forthcoming meeting.

1.2.5. Discussion of EFSA opinion : Scientific Opinion on Thaumatin for all animal species -- Annex

A discussion took place. A draft Implementing Regulation will be proposed for possible vote at a forthcoming meeting.

1.2.6. Discussion of new EFSA opinions adopted by FEEDAP at the Plenary of 15-17 November 2011

1.2.6.1 Discussion of EFSA opinion: Scientific Opinion on safety and efficacy of *Lactobacillus pentosus* (DSM 14025) as a silage additive for all animal species.

A discussion took place. The EFSA opinion clearly highlights some important concerns about the antibiotic resistance of this micro-organism. Following the discussion, a draft Implementing Regulation will be proposed for possible vote at next meeting.

1.3. Updating of the numbering system

The most recent update of the working document on the system used for allocating identification numbers for additives was distributed and was used as a basis for the discussion. Although a new system could be envisaged, the view was taken that the system which had been used in recent years was satisfactory at present.

1.4. Follow up to the EFSA opinion on the safety and efficacy of an organic form of selenium produced by *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* CNCM I-3060 (EFSA Journal 2011; 9(4):2110 [52 pp.]

The Committee discussed the statement issued by the EFSA concerning the maximum supplementation of feed with selenised yeasts. It was decided to further investigate solutions which would consider not only the beneficial effects of Se-supplementation for broad sections of the population, but also the potential safety risks for other parts of the population.

2. Application to amend Annex I to Directive 2008/38/EC by introducing a new specification for the particular nutritional purpose "Support of joint function in the case of osteoarthritis"

A Commission representative introduced the application for a new specification for the particular nutritional purpose "Support of joint function in the case of osteoarthritis". It was decided to launch the evaluation without asking for the opinion of EFSA. The dossier will be distributed to the Member States.

3. Labelling and control of nutritional feed additives naturally present in feed

A Commission representative explained the labelling and control of feed additives naturally present in feed according to Regulation (EC) N° 767/2009 : the labelling of additives in the additive list has to include the name and the amount of the product added. In order to monitor those quantities, the respective analytical method should be applied taking into account the technical tolerances as laid down in Regulation (EU) N° 939/2010. If the analytical method is unable to distinguish between the added amount and the quantities naturally present, the control authority could either rely on a paper check of the mixing protocol of the feed business operator or derive the added amount by considering the typical natural level of additives in the relevant feed on the basis of the literature or the results of testing non-supplemented feed.

Nutritional feed additives listed in the "analytical constituents" as referred to in Chapter II of Annexes VI and VII of Regulation (EC) N° 767/2009 must bear a label indicating the total amount (both naturally present and added).

4. Information on the Commission Recommendation concerning the definition of the term "nanomaterial"

A Commission representative informed the Committee about the recently adopted Recommendation on the definition of the term "nanomaterial" (2011/696/EU, OJ L275, p. 38). No direct action is needed in the feed area as a result of the new general definition. However, the Commission services will keep a close eye on developments in the field, particularly where food legislation is concerned.

5. Update and exchange of views on recent RASFF notifications related to undesirable substances in feed

The Committee was informed of the following recent RASFF notifications regarding the presence of non-compliant levels of

- aflatoxins in peanuts from India for bird feed
- beta isomer of hexachlorocyclohexane (HCH) in fish feed from France
- fluor in dog chews from Mexico due to the addition of sodium monofluorophosphate
- arsenic in yeast from Brazil
- arsenic in magnesium oxide from Austria. As all controls performed in Austria on the presence of arsenic in magnesium oxide produced by the concerned company show compliant levels, further investigations are ongoing as regards this finding.

The delegation from Germany provided extensive information as regards the recent findings of dioxin in beet pulp produced in Germany. Non-compliant findings of dioxins in beet pulp in two different production plants of the same company were observed through auto-control and notified to the competent authorities.

Investigations to identify the source have shown that the source of contamination in the two plants was different

- in one plant, the purification of the carbon dioxide used in the production process of sugar was deficient whereby dioxins present in the carbon dioxide concentrated in the process water, which was multiple times re-used and which contaminated the sugar beet slices, resulting in increased levels of dioxins in sugar beet pulp. In the meantime the defect in the purification has been repaired and changes as regards the re-use of the process water have been introduced to avoid in future concentration of undesirable substances in the process water.

- in the other plant, a thunderstorm with hail in September destroyed the plastic roof of the warehouse where the cokes were stored. Pieces of the plastic roof fell between the cokes and were burnt together with the cokes resulting in high levels of dioxins in the produced carbon dioxide which could not be sufficiently purified and resulted also in increased levels in the produced sugar beet pulp. Also in this plant the necessary corrective actions have been done.

In both cases the produced sugar was not affected by the contamination and the beet pulp possibly contaminated was traced and blocked. The farms which have received the possibly contaminated beet pulp and/or feed with the contaminated beet pulp mainly for feeding dairy cattle are under surveillance and the milk produced controlled for the presence of dioxins. All analytical results showed level of dioxins in milk below the EU maximum level.

6. Update of Annex I to Directive 2002/32/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 May 2002 on undesirable substances in animal feed

⇒ lead in natrolith-phonolith

Because natrolith phonolith possesses largely the same properties as clinoptilolite of volcanic origin and data indicate that in natrolith phonolith levels of lead between 30 and 60 mg/kg are found it is proposed to set for natrolith phonolith the same maximum level of lead as for clinoptilolite of volcanic origin (i.e. 60 mg/kg instead of currently 30 mg/kg)

⇒ fluorine and heavy metals in calcium-magnesium carbonate

Specific higher maximum levels (MLs) of fluorine and certain heavy metals have been established for calcium carbonate and magnesium oxide but not for calcium and magnesium carbonate. It is proposed to align the ML for fluorine, arsenic, lead and mercury in calcium magnesium carbonate with the existing MLs for these substances in calcium carbonate.

⇒ **dioxins in shrimp meal for non-food producing animals**

The Committee was informed of the request to slightly increase the current maximum level of dioxins in shrimp meal. The issue will be discussed in more detail at the next meeting after more data have been received.

⇒ **provisions as regards *Ambrosia* sp. - guidance note for application of the provisions**

Some practical guidelines and amendment to the legal provisions were discussed in order to facilitate the application of the provisions as regards *Ambrosia* sp taking into account that the provisions have been established in order to prevent as much as possible the dissemination of *Ambrosia* sp into the environment and that the presence of *Ambrosia seeds* in the feed itself does not pose a danger for animal health.

In particular, the following issues were discussed :

- inclusion of a footnote that for grains and seeds which are intended for milling or crushing, there is no need to perform a cleaning of the grains and seeds containing non-compliant levels of seeds of *Ambrosia spp.* before milling or crushing. Prevention measures shall be taken to avoid dissemination of *Ambrosia* seeds into the environment during transport, storage or processing of these seeds and grains.

- a recommendation on the safe disposal of screenings from the sieving or otherwise cleaning of grains and seeds contaminated with seeds of *Ambrosia spp.* and on the monitoring of grains and seeds for human consumption for the presence of *Ambrosia sp*

⇒ **unavoidable carry over of coccidiostats into non-target feed - consequences for food of animal origin : update**

The Committee was informed that a proposal to amend certain maximum levels for food of animal origin is prepared.

⇒ **endosulfan in fish feed**

The follow up of the EFSA statement on oral toxicity of endosulfan in fish was discussed in view of possible amendment to the existing maximum level for endosulfan in fish feed.

7. Coordination of the work relating to the Codex Alimentarius Ad Hoc intergovernmental Task Force on Animal Feeding

The final documents containing the comments from the European Union sent in reply to the request of comments at step 3 of the Codex Alimentarius procedure and incorporating the comments received from quite a number of Member States were circulated. Further work will be involved in preparing the meeting of the Task Force,

and therefore the issue will be placed on the agenda of the forthcoming meetings of the Committee.

8. Other business.

- At the request of a Member State, the Committee discussed the status/suitability of a product which contained Bismuth subcarbonate for use in the case of recovery from a digestive disturbance. According to the Member State this chemical is not registered as a veterinary medicine. The product is not authorised as a feed additive, but it was concluded that the product could be deemed to fall under the scope of Regulation (EC) N° 1831/2003 on feed additives. Thus, an authorisation would be required before it could be placed on the market as feed.
- A representative of the Commission informed the Committee that the feed chain task force had officially forwarded suggestions for updating the EU Catalogue of feed materials, focusing specifically on providing a better description of derivatives from oils and fats. An in-depth discussion is scheduled for the next Committee meeting.