STANDING COMMITTEE

1. Examination and possible opinion on a draft Commission Regulation concerning the provisional authorisation of a new additive in feedingstuffs (doc. SANCO/10036/2002).

The draft Commission Regulation was presented and discussed. It concerned the authorisation of the coccidiostat semduramicin sodium.

A vote was taken: unanimous approval.

2. Examination and possible opinion on a draft Commission Regulation concerning the withdrawal of the authorisation of an additive in feedingstuffs (doc. SANCO/4226/2001).

The draft Commission Regulation was presented and discussed. It concerned the withdrawal of the coccidiostat nifursol.

A vote was taken: the draft obtained a negative opinion with 50 votes in favour (Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Greece, Spain, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Finland, Sweden) and 37 abstentions (France, Ireland, Italy, Austria, United Kingdom).

3. Canthaxanthin in feedingstuffs – The Commission drew the attention of the Member States to the opinion of the Scientific Committee, which had been delivered in April 2002. The point would be put on the agenda for discussion at a subsequent meeting.

4. Official controls in animal nutrition: state of play concerning national control programmes carried out in the year 2001, pursuant to Art. 22 of Council Decision 95/53/EC:

   Member States expressed their views on:
   - implementation of the national annual control programmes for the year 2001;

   Member States, which had not yet sent information regarding controls in 2001 were reminded to do so. The drafting of a model for communicating the results of official controls would be resumed.

   Member States were invited to formulate proposals for the coordinated inspection programme for the year 2003.


   The document was distributed to the delegations.

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6. **SETTING TIMETABLES FOR ADDITIVES**


Coccidiostats: “**Koffogran**” – Nicarbazin – animal category: Broilers up to 28 days, Rapp.: B

The Member States agreed that the dossier complied with the guidelines, therefore the first period of evaluation has started on 23 May 2002 (Art. 4 para 6 of Directive 70/524/EEC).

Microorganisms: “**Yea Sacce**” – Saccharomices cerevisae (N°5) – extension to the following animal category: Horses, Rapp. B (clock 1, Day 0: 04 April 2002 end of sixty days period for formal check as provided for in Article 4, paragraph 4: 03 June 2002). The clock has been set.


Enzyme: “**Belfeed B 1100 MP+ML**” (No. 51) – endo-1,4-beta-xylanase EC 3.2.1.8 produced by Bacillus subtilis - Rapp B - Extension for use: Turkeys for fattening. All pending questions from Member States had been answered - Clock 3: end of the second evaluation period (Article 4 paragraph 6 Directive 70/524/EEC) 23 May 2002.

Enzyme: “**Avizyme 1300**” – Endo-1,4-beta-xylanase; Subtilisin (N°37) – extension for use to category of Laying Hens. Rapporteur UK. The first period of evaluation had been set by multifax, beginning 11 April 2001 (Article 4 paragraph 6 Directive 70/524/EEC).


7. **Exchange of views on coated forms of additives.** An exchange of views regarding coated forms of preservatives and vitamins had been carried out. Commission and Member States agreed on the necessity to clarify the borderline of those additives, e.g.: some preservatives which, according to their claim, should act only in the feed, but due to their slow release activity could also act in the intestine. It is clear that for those additives another claim had to be submitted in order to obtain a specific authorisation. The point would be put on the agenda for discussion at a subsequent meeting.

8. **Categorisation for the purposes of the feedingstuffs regulation of supplementary feedingstuffs containing protected trace elements (Carbosan, SQM) and peat substrate.** Question posed by the German Delegation.

As a consequence of the contamination of Carbosan and SQM products by dioxins, several batches of peat with Carbosan and/or SQM products incorporated destined for piglets have been blocked. Questions were raised by the German delegation how these products have to be categorised in feedingstuff legislation.

Different views were expressed. Considering these different opinions, the Committee did not reach a conclusion and agreed to discuss the issue again at a next meeting.

9. **Discussion and possible opinion on a draft Commission Directive establishing requirements for the determination of dioxins and dioxin-like PCBs for the official control of feedingstuffs.**

An exchange of views has taken place. A comment was raised on the period needed to transpose this Directive into national legislation. No other comments have been raised and the draft Directive will be presented at a next meeting of the Committee for opinion.
10. Contamination of Carbosan and SQM products by dioxins: Update and discussion on follow-up.

The Committee has been informed on the developments in this contamination case. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) of the United States have informed the Commission that the Sea–Questra-Min (SQM) and Carbosan products and any premix manufactured by Qualitech, containing these trace elements are subject to the recall. A detailed list of products has been provided. With regard to the products blocked in Europe, FDA considers this as a matter between the seller and buyer and does not take any specific arrangement as authority for the return of these products to the US. Furthermore information was provided indicating that a specific type of landfill is the most likely way of disposal in the US for the recalled products.

With regard to the source of confirmation, the FDA confirms that the ingredients to produce the contaminated products were found not to be contaminated and that therefore the dioxins are formed during the manufacturing process. Experiments to replicate the process in order to determine where and how dioxin was formed are still being designed and are expected to start soon. The company will not be allowed to produce the recalled products until FDA is satisfied that the contamination has been eliminated.

The Commission asked the US authorities to be informed thereof officially and the Committee agreed that no imports of the products in question would be allowed until the US authorities provides the evidence that the source of contamination has been found and guarantees that the source of contamination has been eliminated.
The Committee was informed of the information sent by Qualitech in the US. The Committee confirmed the conclusions of the previous meeting i.e. that the contaminated Carbosan and SQM products (including peat containing SQM/Carbosan products), premixtures and feed supplements containing these products cannot enter the feed (and food) chain. The Commission representative accepted to prepare a document containing these conclusions with reference to the relevant legal provisions in

**OTHER BUSINESSES**

1. **Functioning of the Rapid Alerts System for Food and Feed (RASFF)**

Some delegations of the Member States expressed the need on the harmonisation of the RASFF notification criteria. The representative of the Commission informed that as soon as possible the current vademecum for food will be modified in order to adapt it also for feed.

At the same time, it was raised the issue on the number of RASFF notifications in respect of the recent findings of chloramphenicol in skimmed milk products originating from Russia and Ukraine. The delegation from The Netherlands was required to send the Commission the official measures adopted at national level on this issue. Furthermore, the representative of the Commission consulted the Committee on the appropriateness of the introduction of special conditions concerning imports of this product from these two countries. Two delegations reacted in favour of this. The other delegations did not express their views. A remark was also made by the Member States, concerning the need to carry out by the Commission a mission to these two countries in order to investigate the origin of the contamination.

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