STANDING COMMITTEE

1. Candidate countries' presentation of delegates.

2. Transfer of competences from SCAN to EFSA: information session
   
   Member states were requested to inform petitioners about the transfer of their dossiers from SCAN to EFSA.

3. Discussion and possible opinion on a draft Commission Regulation amending the conditions for provisional authorisation of an additive in feedingstuffs: (benzoic acid)
   
   The draft Commission Regulation was presented and discussed. It concerns benzoic acid as urinary acidifying for pigs for fattening. The purpose of the new additive is to reduce the harmful effects caused by animal excretions and improve the animal environment.

   A vote was taken: the draft was approved by qualified majority.

4. Examination and possible opinion on a draft Commission Regulation on the authorisation of a new additive in feedingstuffs (manganomanganic oxide)
   
   The Regulation concerns the authorisation of manganomanganic oxide as an additive in feedingstuffs. After presentation of the proposal and further discussion, a vote was taken. One Member State voted against.

   The Commission made the following statement:

   “Directive 2002/32/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on undesirable substances in animal feed deals with undesirable substances in products intended for animal feed. The maximum levels of undesirable substances in additives belonging to the group “trace elements” referred to in Annex C, part II of Directive 70/524/EEC have to be established following the procedure laid down in Directive 2002/32/EC. The Commission will endeavour to facilitate the establishment of maximum levels of undesirable substances in additives belonging to the group “trace elements”.

   The Commission will endeavour to present, before the end of the year, a new proposal to examine the levels of trace elements in feedingstuffs and, in particular, in order to align the maximum levels of manganese to those established in the proposal referred to above.”

5. Use of sodiumbutyrate as an ingredient in animal feedingstuffs.

   A discussion took place on this subject. The Member States' delegations and the Commission concluded sodiumbutyrate could be considered as an additive for
animal feedingstuffs too. A Member state felt that this substance should be considered only as an additive. The same conclusion could be reached for calcium butyrate.

6. **Status as regard feed legislation for short –chain fructooligosaccharides (scFOS).**

Member states were required to investigate and to report on the availability of scFOS on their markets and to inform the Commission on the legal status of these substances.


It is of major importance for public and animal health protection that the maximum levels for dioxins established by Council Directive 2001/102/EC of 27 November 2001 and which are in application since 1 July 2002 remain in force.


As the scope of Directive 2002/32/EC of the European Parliament and Council, compared with Council Directive 1999/29/EC, has been extended to cover additives, the intention is also to incorporate the maximum levels of additives belonging to the group ‘binders, anti-caking agents and coagulants’ in the Annex. Furthermore, additives belonging to the group ‘trace elements’ authorised for use in feedingstuffs have been found to be contaminated by dioxins at levels endangering public and animal health. The establishment of a maximum level for dioxins in these additives is necessary to protect public and animal health.

Discussion has taken place on the maximum level for dioxins in additives belonging to the group ‘binders, anti-caking agents and coagulants’ and trace elements and on the maximum level for dioxins in fish protein hydrolysates and fresh fish fed to non-food producing animals.

The Commission representative indicated that the draft Commission Directive will be amended to take into account the discussions at the meeting and will be presented for opinion at the next meeting of the Standing Committee.


When the above mentioned Directive was adopted, the Commission made a commitment to undertake a review of the provisions laid down in Annex of the Directive on the basis of updated scientific risk assessments and taking into account the prohibition of any dilution of contaminated non-complying product intended for animal feed.

The Commission has therefore without delay requested the Scientific Committee for Animal Nutrition (SCAN) to provide these updated scientific risk assessments.

For the time being, an opinion of SCAN is available on mycotoxins and ions and elements (heavy metals). The opinion still requires the addition of parts on organic contaminants and natural inherent plant toxins (botanical impurities). These parts are expected to become available shortly.

It is acknowledged that for a complete revision of the annex, additional requests will have to be addressed to EFSA (Scientific Panel on contaminants) for scientific opinion.

Nevertheless, the opinion of SCAN highlighted some issues which might necessitate a timely follow-up. Furthermore, there is a need to identify the feed materials where it is known or has been demonstrated that normal background levels for a certain undesirable substance regularly exceed the maximum levels currently established in the Annex. Such cases have already been brought to the attention of the Commission.

On the basis of the available information, the following issues were identified as requiring further consideration at this stage:
- presence of arsenic in seaweed meal, fish feed, fish meal, magnesium oxide, calcium carbonate and palm kernel expeller
- presence of lead in green fodder, phosphates, feedingstuffs for sheep, calcium carbonate (lime products)
- presence of fluorine in feed for poultry, horses and rabbits, in feedingstuffs of marine origin, in particular marine krill, in magnesium oxide, calcium carbonate (lime products)
- presence of mercury in fish feed, calcium carbonate,
- presence of cadmium in pig feed, calcium carbonate and magnesium oxide

These issues will be considered further at the next meeting of the Standing Committee, and a meeting of a working group will be organised to discuss these issues in detail.

9. Exchange of views and possible agreement on the harmonised model for the annual report on the implementation of the national programmes of control and the co-ordinated inspection programme in animal nutrition: SANCO/1095/2003-rev 1.
All delegations agreed to adopt the harmonised model for reporting the results of official feed controls. Some Member States will apply this template for reporting the results from 2002; others will implement it for the results of 2003 to be reported before 1 April 2004, or as soon as these Member States implement internal changes to data collection systems.

10. SETTING TIMETABLE FOR ADDITIVES

1. New dossiers

1.1. Microorganisms


2. Current dossiers

2.1. Enzymes

2.1.1. Belfeed B1100 MP/ML (Endo-1,4-beta-xylanase EC 3.2.1.8) Extension of use for the animal category: laying hens (solid/liquid form) (Day 0: 11 February 2003 end of sixty-day period as provided under article 4 par 4 of Dir. 70/524/ECC: 11 April 2003). Rapporteur: Belgium.

2.1.2. Rovabio™ Excel LC &AP (Endo-1,3(4)-betaglucanase EC 3.2.1.6 Endo-1,4-beta-xylanase EC 3.2.1.8) produced from Penicillium funiculosum (IMI SD101) (solid/liquid form) Extension of use for the animal categories: piglets. (Day O: 29 January 2003 end of sixty-day period as provided for under article 4 par 4 of Dir. 70/524/ECC: 30 Mars 2003) Rapporteur: UK

2.1.3. Rovabio™ Excel LC &AP (Endo-1,3(4)-betaglucanase EC 3.2.1.6, Endo-1,4-beta-xylanase EC 3.2.1.8) produced from Penicillium funiculosum (IMI SD101) (solid/liquid form) Extension of use for the animal categories: ducks for fattening. (Day O: 18 February 2003, end of sixty-day period as provided for under article 4 par 4 of Dir. 70/524/ECC: 19 April 2003) Rapporteur: UK


Member states were informed by the Commission on ongoing work on the meat and bone meal ban. An interesting debate took place.

Other business :

At the request of one delegation, the Commission representative explained that the scope of the Directive 2002/32/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 May 2002 on undesirable substances in animal feed includes additives. However, so long as there are no specific provisions for maximum levels of undesirable substances
established for additives in the Annex of this Directive, no such maximum levels apply to additives, other than those specified in the conditions of authorisation under Directive 70/524/EEC concerning additives in feedingstuffs.

Nevertheless, Article 3 of the Directive provides that products intended for animal feed, including additives, may enter the Community from third countries, be put into circulation and/or used in the Community only if they are sound, genuine and of merchantable quality, and hence when correctly used do not constitute any danger to human health, animal health or to the environment or could adversely affect livestock production.

1.4. Enzymes

1.4.1. “Bio-feed plus” (endo-1,4-beta-xylanase EC 3.2.1.8 and endo-1,4-beta-glucanase EC 3.2.1.4 produced by *Humicola insolens* (strain n. DSM 10442)). Animal categories: chickens for fattening. The provisional authorisation of the product “Bio-feed plus” will expire on 30 June 2004. Rapporteur: DK.

1.4.2. “Avizyme Ducks” (endo-1,4-beta-xylanase 3.2.1.8; endo-1,3(4)-beta-glucanase 3.2.1.6; alpha-amylase 3.2.1.1; subtilisin 3.4.21.62; polygalacturonase 3.2.1.1.15). Animal category: Ducks, (*Day O 31 October 2002* end of sixty-day period as provided for under article 4 par 4 of Dir. 70/524/EEC 30 December 2002). Rapporteur: UK.

1.4.3. “Porzyme SF100” (endo-1,3(4)-beta-glucanase 3.2.1.6; endo-1,4-beta-xylanase 3.2.1.8 polygalacturonase 3.2.1.1.15). Animal category: pigs for fattening. Application for permanent authorization. Rapporteur: UK.

1.4.4. “Porzyme SP” (endo-1,3(4)-beta-glucanase 3.2.1.6; endo-1,4-beta-xylanase 3.2.1.8 alpha-amylase 3.2.1.1). Animal category: piglets. Application for permanent authorization. Rapporteur: UK.

1.4.5. “Porzyme TP100” (endo-1,3(4)-beta-glucanase 3.2.1.6; endo-1,4-beta-xylanase 3.2.1.8; alpha-amylase 3.2.1.1; polygalacturonase 3.2.1.1.15). Animal category: pigs for fattening. Application for permanent authorization. Rapporteur: UK.

1.4.6. “Endofeed DC” (Endo-1, 3(4)-beta-glucanase EC 3.2.1.6 Endo-1, 4-beta-xylanase EC 3.2.1.8). Animal category: laying hens. Application for permanent authorization. Rapporteur: ES.

1.4.7. “Bio Feed Alpha” (alpha-amylase EC 3.2.1.1 and endo-1, 3 as foreseen under article 4, paragraph 6 (4)-beta-glucanase EC 3.2.1.8). Animal category: chicks for fattening. Extension of storage period. Rapporteur: DK.

1.4.8. “Porzyme 9100 Double Strength” (endo-1,3(4)-beta-glucanase 3.2.1.6; endo-1,4-beta-xylanase 3.2.1.8). Animal category: pigs for fattening. Rapporteur: UK.

1.4.9. “Porzyme 9300 Double Strength” (endo-1,4-beta-xylanase 3.2.1.8). Animal category: pigs for fattening, piglets. Rapporteur: UK.
1.4.10. “Avizyme 1200 Double Strength” (endo-1,3(4)-beta-glucanase 3.2.1.6; endo-1,4-beta-xylanase 3.2.1.8; subtilisin 3.4.21.62). Animal category: chickens for fattening, laying hens. Rapporteur: UK

2. Evaluation of bioprotein dossiers

2.1- NUTRIGROW: Yeast cells (Candida guillermondii) from the production of citric acid. Rapporteur: IRL.

An exchange of views took place.

3. Exchange of views on the definition of medicinal products in Codex Alimentarius

Dr. W. Penning