STANDING COMMITTEE

1. Progress report by candidate countries on the transposition of the “Acquis communautaire”.

Poland and Hungary reported on the progress of transposition.

2. Status of feed legislation for short-chain fructooligosaccharides (scFOS)

The legal status of short-chain fructooligosaccharides (scFOS) was discussed.

Various delegations expressed their opinion on these substances. A majority considered the product to be a feed material. No claims should be made on the label, packaging or accompanying documents attributing to the product effects as specified in Directive 70/524/EEC for additives.

The discussion is to be continued.

3. Examination of a question submitted by Denmark: alternative methods of administration of feed additives. (top dressing or bolus). Letter of 28-03-03

A discussion took place on the categorisation of the fungus Duddingtonia flagrans.

The discussion is to be continued.


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

This draft Directive is to include the maximum levels for dioxins, established by Council Directive 2001/102/EC, in Annex I of the Directive 2002/32/EC.
As the scope of Directive 2002/32/EC of the European Parliament and Council in comparison with Council Directive 1999/29/EC has been extended to cover additives, it is also planned to incorporate the maximum levels of the additives belonging to the group ‘binders, anti-caking agents and coagulants’ in the Annex.

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. After discussion, it was decided to postpone the establishment of a maximum level for dioxins in these additives until more data on the presence of dioxins in these additives are available.

Furthermore, a level of 2.25 ng WHO PCDD/F-TEQ /kg has been set for fish protein hydrolysates containing more than 20 % fat and a level of 4 ng WHO PCDD/F-TEQ /kg has been set for fresh fish directly fed to non-food producing animals (pet animals, circus and zoo animals)

The vote was taken and the Committee unanimously adopted an opinion in favour of the proposed measures.


5.1 Continuation of the discussion.

Directive 2002/32/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 May 2002 on undesirable substances in animal feed will apply from 1 August 2003 onwards. One of the main provisions of this Directive is the total prohibition of the dilution of non-complying products intended for animal feed.

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 requested the Scientific Committee for Animal Nutrition (SCAN) to provide these updated scientific risk assessments without delay

The opinion of SCAN is available on mycotoxins and ions and elements (heavy metals). The opinion has been supplemented by the parts on organic contaminants and natural inherent plant toxins (botanical impurities) adopted by SCAN on 25 April 2003. These parts of the opinion are not yet available, due to editorial finalisation, but are expected to become available shortly.

The Committee agreed to discuss in detail the issues identified at the previous meeting of the Committee during a meeting of the Expert Committee “undesirable substances” on 28 May 2003. In addition, the presence of aflatoxin B1 in copra and copra products also needs to be considered.
Issues related to the presence of organic contaminants and botanical impurities in feed materials and feedingstuffs 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 will be identified and discussed at the meeting on 28 May when the SCAN opinion will be available.

Attention was also drawn to the fact that specific provision has to be made for cases where feed materials are directly fed to animals or mixed on the farm to prevent animals being exposed to higher levels of an undesirable substance than when they are fed with complete feed.

6. SETTING TIMETABLE FOR ADDITIVES

6.1 "Finase" (3-Phytase, EC 3.1.3.8, produced by Trichoderma reesei (CBS 528.94) (Enzyme N. 28). Extension of use for the animal categories: laying hens, turkeys for fattening and sows.

