STANDING COMMITTEE

1. Discussion and possible request for opinion on a draft Commission Regulation concerning permanent authorisation of a certain additive in feedingstuffs (Enterococcus faecium NCIMB 11181) (SANCO/1707/2004)

The vote was taken and the Committee adopted, by a qualified majority, an opinion in favour of a Regulation concerning a permanent authorisation for the micro-organism Enterococcus faecium NCIMB 11181, trade name “lactiferm”, for calves and piglets.

2. Discussion and possible request for opinion on a draft Commission Regulation concerning permanent authorisation of certain additives in feedingstuffs (SANCO/1603/2004)

The vote was taken and the Committee adopted, by a qualified majority, an opinion in favour of a Regulation concerning the permanent authorisation of two enzyme preparations. One was a preparation of endo-1,4-beta-xylanase produced by Aspergillus oryzae, trade name “bio feed wheat”, for chickens for fattening, turkeys for fattening and piglets. The other was a preparation of endo-1,4-beta-xylanase and endo-1,4-beta-glucanase produced by Humicola insolens, trade name “bio feed plus”, for chickens for fattening.
3. **Discussion and possible request for opinion on a draft Commission Regulation concerning permanent authorisation of the additive ELANCOBAN in feedingstuffs belonging to the group of coccidiostats and other medicinal substances (SANCO/1833/2004)**

The vote was taken and the Committee adopted, by a qualified majority, an opinion in favour of a Regulation concerning the authorisation – for ten years – as a coccidiostat of the additive “Elancoban®”, Monensin sodium, for chickens for fattening, for chickens reared for laying and for turkeys.

The French delegation made the following statement:

“Au cours de la réévaluation, selon l’article 9g de la directive 70/524, de l’additif Elancoban (monensin sodium) destiné aux poulets à l’engrais, aux poulettes destinées à la ponte et aux dindons, le pétitionnaire n’a pas répondu de façon satisfaisante aux questions des experts français sur la stabilité et l’homogénéité de l’additif dans les prémélanges. La France ne peut donc voter en faveur du texte proposé par la Commission concernant la nécessité d’ajouter une mention « dangereux pour les lapins » la France a noté que la Commission saisirait l’AESA. Le pétitionnaire ayant amené les preuves de l’innocuité de l’Elancoban sur les espèces cibles, la France s’abstient.”

4. **State of play regarding implementation of Directive 2002/2/EC**

No new development was referred to by the Member States. Germany indicated that the interim relief of suspension ruled by the administrative court of the Land of North Rhine-Westphalia applied only in that Land.

At the request of a delegation, the Chairman made it clear that the “Cassis de Dijon” case-law could not apply to the circulation of compound feedingstuffs because this matter was legally harmonised at Community level.

5. **Implementation of Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 on GM food and feed: operation of the 0.9 % labelling threshold**

The interpretation of Article 24(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 was discussed. Article 24(2) reads as follows:

“This section shall not apply to feed containing material which contains, consists of or it is produced from GMOs in a proportion no higher than 0.9% per cent of the feed and of each feed of which it is composed, provided that this presence is adventitious or technically unavoidable.”

The group agreed with the following approach:

When the feed was composed of one feed (e.g. a feed material) the threshold must be calculated on the basis of such feed.
In compound feedingstuffs the adventitious or technically unavoidable presence of a material consisting of, containing or produced from genetically modified organisms (hereinafter referred as GM material) might be detected. In that case, it was necessary to examine each of the different feeds of which the compound feed was composed to know where such adventitious or technically unavoidable presence came from. The calculation of the threshold should be done on the basis of each of the components of the feed where the GM material was present. If the threshold was exceeded in one of those components of the feed, then the compound feed should indicate on the label the presence of the GM material in relation to that specific feed.


There was a debate about the items that should be included in the coordinated inspection programme for 2005 in the field of animal nutrition. One line to be followed could be the continuation of some of the programmes already being carried out in 2004, in particular checks on the feed ban. Another option could be to design programmes to monitor certain contaminants or to verify compliance with maximum limits for some trace elements. The Commission departments would present written proposals at a forthcoming meeting of the Standing Committee.

7. Setting Timetable for Additives


On expiry of the sixty-day period of Article (4) of Directive 70/524/EEC, no objections regarding the acceptability of that dossier were registered. The first evaluation period (Clock 3: Article 4(6) of that Directive) started on 24.06.2004.


7.5 “Sunset yellow FCF”: colourants including pigments. Animal category: grain-eating ornamental birds and small rodents. Application for permanent authorisation The temporary authorisation to expire on 30.09.04. Rapporteur: DE.


The second part of the evaluation period was stopped on 24.06.2004.

8. Undesirable substances – Continuation of the discussions on aflatoxin B1 as regards the follow-up on the EFSA opinion

A representative of SANCO presented the opinion of EFSA concerning Aflatoxin B1 and the opinions on cadmium and lead which were adopted recently and were available on the EFSA Web. A short discussion took place on the appropriate measures to be taken within the framework of Directive 2002/32/EC on undesirable substances in feedingstuffs.

A representative of SANCO informed the Committee that some delegations have indicated to require more time to define their definitive position regarding the appropriateness of setting action levels for aflatoxin B1 in addition to the existing maximum levels as a follow-up to the EFSA opinion.

It was furthermore mentioned that EFSA adopted recently opinions on lead, cadmium and deoxynivalenol in feed and the opinions are available at the EFSA website. It is also expected that the opinion on zearalenone in feed will be adopted shortly. In order to discuss the follow-up on these opinion s in detail and to continue the discussions on pending issues regarding undesirable substances such as the carry over of coccidiostats and veterinary medicines used in target feed into non-target feed, dioxin-like PCBs and pesticide residues, the Commission representative announced the organisation of a meeting of the Expert Committee “Undesirable substances” on 9 July 2004.

9. Miscellaneous

- Expiry of provisional authorisations of additives under Directive 70/524/EEC: the Chairman indicated that Article 9e of the Directive did not provide for the possibility to keep on the market additives for which the maximum period of provisional authorisation had been completed.

  Member States should assume their responsibilities as regards applying the Directive to the use of existing stocks of those additives, notably in the light of Article 9b(3) and 9m of the Directive as well as Article 14(4) of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2004.

- Chelated forms of the trace elements iron, copper, manganese and zinc with chemically synthesised aminoacids: request for authorisation under Article 4 of Directive 70/524/EEC. Rapp: UK.

  The dossier was distributed to the delegations to start the procedure provided for in Article 4 of Directive 70/524/EEC.

- During the discussion of the newly arrived applications for authorisations for feed additives under item 7 of the agenda, the departments clarified several issues regarding new dossiers and the transition between Directive 70/524 and Regulation 1831/2003. The Commission departments indicated that:
- The Commission could not process an application for authorisation under Article 7 of Regulation 1831/2003 before 18.10.2004 because that part of the Regulation was not applicable until that date.

- It was not possible to consider applications for authorisations under Article 4 and Article 9d of Directive 70/524 after 18.10.2004.

- It was not possible to introduce applications for authorisations under Article 7 of Regulation 1831/2003 via a Member State Rapporteur. Applications were to be sent directly to the Commission (and to EFSA).

- Applicants for new products therefore had at present the choice of submitting an application under Article 4 of Directive 70/524 before 18.10.2004 or submitting an application under Article 7 of Regulation 1831/2003 after 18.10.2004.

- Working Group meeting of 21.6.2004 on implementation of Regulation 1831/2003. The Commission reported briefly on the meeting, saying it had made good progress on the implementing rules governing the tasks and duties of the Community Reference Laboratory for feed additives authorisation, on the development of new guidelines, and some other aspects related to implementation of the Regulation. It was also announced that a workshop with laboratories interested in taking part in the consortium of laboratories assisting the CRL was going to be organised by the JRC for the end of September.

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