Chairman : Mr Willem PENNING

1. **Use of sodium hydroxide and ammonia for the treatment of feed materials.**

   The treatment of straw with NaOH is a common practice since long and mirrored in the draft EU Catalogue of feed materials. It is outspoken that the application of the sodium hydroxide requires appropriate safety provisions. It was concluded that the sodium hydroxide used for the straw is to be considered a processing aid and not a feed additive. In principle this conclusion could be expanded to the NaOH-treatment of cereal grains with the same intention (digest the external fibres). However, if the NaOH is used to produce a silage of cereal grains with a high moisture content (instead of drying them), it would be considered a silage additive.

   On the administration of ammonia more information is necessary on the field of application and the treatment process. Analogy has been mentioned with the use of urea, a nutritional feed additive.

2. **Working document concerning monitoring on dioxin in fats, oils and products derived thereof.**

   The working document was discussed thoroughly. On the reporting obligation of non-compliant dioxin results for private laboratories there was general support with some comments on the legal implications.

   On the monitoring plan, some MS expressed their general support with some suggestions for fine-tuning. Several MS wanted to have details on the risk assessment which is the basis for the monitoring plan. Concrete suggestions were to reduce the testing frequency and foresee a review clause of the mandatory monitoring plan. Very few MS opposed to
oblige the feed business operators to undertake these harmonised dioxin controls and pleaded rather to work with guidelines for industry controls.

It was concluded to continue the work constructively on the details of the monitoring plan in a working group.


(Document SANCO/10282/2011)

A working document on the approval and separation of establishments handling oil or by-products from vegetable origin was presented by the Commission. Ten Member States took the floor. Eight Member States supported the proposal to request approval of establishments manufacturing, blending or placing on the market vegetable oils and their by-products intended for feed (establishments of animal fat are already subject to approval according to the animal by-product Regulation). Nobody contested the complete separation of establishments blending oils for feed purposes. On dedicated storage and transport of oils, mainly further clarifications were requested. It was concluded to organise a working group with the Member States to discuss this proposal with the one on dioxin monitoring and clarify the technical issues raised during the meeting. A separate meeting with the stakeholders is also planned.


A discussion took place concerning the elements for the preparation of a future Regulation on the withdrawal from the market of feed additives which were not subject to a re-evaluation application within the time prescribed by Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003.

4. Use in water of certain feed additives.

A discussion took place on the situation of additives for which an application for use in water has been submitted. It was generally agreed that, in accordance with the basic principles laid down in Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003, the authorisation of the use in water of certain feed additives should be based on an appropriate risk assessment taking into account the specific characteristics, including the possible various forms, of the additives concerned, and this on a case-by-case basis.

In particular, some specific studies or data might be required as regard the safety (and efficacy) of the additives to be used in water, in line with the provisions laid down in Regulation (EC) No 429/2008.

5. Discussion on the latest opinions of the European Food Safety Authority concerning the feed additives.

The Commission's representative informed delegates on the recent opinions of EFSA.
6. Undesirable substances:

⇒ Update on the acceptability criteria for detoxification processes.

This point was not discussed

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

An overview of recent RASFF notifications was provided with additional information

- Since 21 February 2011, there are 17 RASFF notifications on peanuts from India intended for animal feed, due to the presence of sometimes very high levels of aflatoxin B1

- A non-compliant level of dioxins and dioxin-like PCBs was found in a complementary feedingstuff from the UK for livestock, possibly linked to the high level of incorporation of salmon oil in the complementary feed.

- A non-compliant level of dioxins and dioxin-like PCBs was found in ground dried basil from Egypt, possibly linked to an inappropriate drying.

- A non-compliant level of dioxins and dioxin-like PCBs was found in feed oil in Germany. After investigation it was found out that this non-compliance related to the presence of dioxins and dioxin-like PCBs at levels ranging from 2 to 4 ng WHO-TEQ/kg in cacao butter fatty acids. The presence is possibly related to inappropriate drying procedures/conditions or contamination via forest fires in the country of origin (Brazil). The cacao butter (intended for food) was found to be compliant with the EU maximum level for vegetable oils indicating that a concentration is occurring in the fatty acid fraction.

- Finding of a non-compliant level of aflatoxin B1 in feed sorghum from Egypt.

- Finding of non-compliant level of pirimiphos-methyl in feed for laying hens from Germany. The Commission representative made the Committee aware that the discussions on setting MRLs for pesticide residues in feed have recently started in the frame of Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 February 2005 on maximum residue levels of pesticides in or on food and feed of plant and animal origin.


(Document SANCO/11556/2010) ((Legal basis: Article 9 of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003) (Opinion of the Committee via the examination procedure)

A discussion took place. Vote: unanimity in favour.
8. Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation concerning the authorisation of dimethylglycine sodium salt as feed additive for chickens for fattening (holder of the authorisation Taminco N.V.).


A discussion took place. Vote: unanimity in favour.


(Document SANCO/13550/2010) (Legal basis: Article 9 of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003) (Opinion of the Committee via the examination procedure)

A discussion took place. Vote: unanimity in favour.

10. Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation concerning the authorisation of maduramicin ammonium α as a feed additive for chickens for fattening (holder of authorisation Alpharma Belgium BVBA) and amending Regulation (EC) No 2430/1999.

(Document SANCO/13551/2010) (Legal basis: Article 9 of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003) (Opinion of the Committee via the examination procedure)

A discussion took place. Vote: unanimity in favour.

11. Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation concerning the authorisation of an enzyme preparation of endo-1,4-beta-xylanase, subtilisin and alpha-amylase as feed additive for laying hens (holder of the authorisation Danisco Animal Nutrition).

(Document SANCO/10111/2011) (Legal basis: Article 9 of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003) (Opinion of the Committee via the examination procedure)

A discussion took place. Vote: unanimity in favour.

12. Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 2380/2001 as regards the composition of the additive of maduramicin ammonium alpha, belonging to the group of coccidiostats and other medicinal substances.
A discussion took place. Vote : unanimity in favour.


Following a comment from a delegation, an extensive justification was provided on the proposed level for non-dioxin-like PCBs in fish oil. No further comments were made.


A delegation made the comment that there are some provisions in the draft Regulation which are appropriate for food but not for feed. The Commission representative committed to look into this in detail and to make the necessary changes. No further comments were made.

Any Other Business

⇒ Residues of packaging material in feed containing formal foodstuffs

In reply to a question raised by a Member State delegation, the Chairman reminded that, as provided for in Annex III of Regulation (EC) No 767/2009, zero tolerance is to be applied concerning the presence in feed of packaging materials from the use of products from the agri-food industry.

⇒ Mycotoxins binders

The Committee agreed to ask for an additional data set on the stability of the bond between bentonite in the gastrointestinal tract of monogastric animals. It is the intention of the Commission services to ask for an additional opinion on the efficacy of bentonite prior to proceeding with the authorisation of bentonite as a mycotoxin binder.
⇒ On request of one Member State, the Committee discussed the status of a product for pets with the claim "promote fresh breath and optimal oral care". Considering the various functions of feed including additives and that the product is intended to be sprinkled onto the pet food and that it consists of feed materials to be ingested by the animals, the Committee concluded that the product would fall under the scope of feed law.

⇒ One Member State asked for the state of play concerning the application to use a powder of Solanum Glaucophyllum for the reduction of milk fever in dairy cows (particular nutritional purpose). A Commission representative confirmed the conclusion of the initial SCFCAH discussion, that the powder would be considered a feed material. Nonetheless, due to the risk of hypervitaminosis D the Commission services asked the applicant to provide for a dossier on the safety of the product for the animals with specific emphasis on the high content of a glycoside form of 1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D in the plant powder. The applicant is committed to deliver this dossier within the coming month. Meanwhile, the product should not be placed on the EU market as feed, in particular not as a source of Vitamin D3 because 1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D is not an authorised form of Vitamin D3.

Bernard Van Goethem,
Director (signed)