SUMMARY RECORD OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE FOOD CHAIN AND ANIMAL HEALTH
HELD ON 16-17 FEBRUARY 2012 IN BRUSSELS
(Animal Nutrition Section)

Chairman: Mr James Moynagh.

26 Member States were present, EL was absent and represented by CY.

1. Feed Additives

1.1. Applications under Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003 Art. 4 or 13

1.1.1. New applications

The latest applications were circulated for possible comment.

1.2. Applications under Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003 Art. 9

1.2.1. Discussion on EFSA opinion: Scientific Opinion on the safety and efficacy of Lactobacillus plantarum (NCIMB 41028) and Lactobacillus plantarum (NCIMB 30148) as silage additives for all animal species. – Annex

Following the discussion, a draft Implementing Regulation will be proposed for possible vote at a future meeting.

1.2.2. Discussion of EFSA opinion: Scientific Opinion on safety and efficacy of propionic acid, sodium propionate, calcium propionate and ammonium propionate for all animal species. – Annex

Following the discussion, a draft Implementing Regulation will be proposed for possible vote at a future meeting.
1.2.3. Discussion of EFSA opinion: Scientific Opinion on safety and efficacy of Ronozyme® HiPhos M/L (6-phytase) as a feed additive for poultry and pigs -- Annex

Following the discussion, a draft Implementing Regulation will be proposed for possible vote at a future meeting.

1.2.4. Discussion of EFSA statement on the safety and efficacy of the product ‘Rosemary extract liquid of natural origin’ as a technological feed additive for dogs and cats

Following the discussion, the Commission will contact the applicant. A draft Implementing Regulation may be proposed for possible vote at a future meeting.

1.2.5. Discussion on EFSA opinion on Erythrosine (E127) for cats and dogs, ornamental fish and reptiles -- Annex entry

The Commission reported that besides the information on ornamental fish already considered at the earlier meeting on this application, additional safety data not considered by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) FEEDAP Panel had been communicated by the applicant and that therefore this should be examined by EFSA, together with the information on ornamental fish. An assessment on this information would allow the re-evaluation resulting in a single regulation for all animal species rather than several partial ones.

1.2.6. Discussion on EFSA opinion Anthranilate derivatives (CG 27) for all species -- Annex entry

A discussion took place on the re-evaluation of these compounds following the EFSA opinion. A draft implementing Regulation will be submitted for possible vote in a forthcoming meeting.

1.2.7. Discussion on EFSA opinion: Allylhydroxybenzenes (CG 18) for all species -- Annex entry

A discussion took place on the re-evaluation of these compounds following the EFSA opinion. A draft implementing Regulation will be submitted for possible vote in a forthcoming meeting.

2. Coordination of the work relating to the Codex Alimentarius Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Task Force on Animal Feeding

Some of the issues being raised during the coordination at the Council meeting were considered in order to better prepare the discussions in Berne.
3. Update and exchange of views on recent RASFF notifications related to undesirable substances in feed

The attention of the Committee was drawn to the following RASFF notifications as regards a high level of:

⇒ arsenic in copper sulphate from Poland, mineral feed from France and feed for cats from Thailand
⇒ lead in mineral feed from the Netherlands. This concerns a mineral feed in the form of a bolus. Investigations have shown that the high level of lead was not related to the mineral feed but to the coating of the bolus
⇒ free gossypol in cotton seeds from Brazil. The problem of variable analytical results was highlighted and the Commission's representative indicated that this would be examined in more detail
⇒ aflatoxins in cotton seeds from Greece.

Furthermore a delegation reported the presence of high levels of aflatoxins in maize of EU origin.

Finally the attention was drawn to 18 RASFF notifications as regards the presence of aflatoxins in groundnuts for bird feed from India, in some cases with very high levels of aflatoxins.

4. Discussion on a possible amendment to Commission Recommendation 2006/576/EC of 17 August 2006 on the presence of deoxynivalenol, zearalenone, ochratoxin A, T-2 and HT-2 and fumonisins in products intended for animal feeding, following the availability of the scientific opinion on T-2 and HT-2 toxin in feed (and food)

In accordance with the conclusions of the EFSA opinion, guidance values for the presence of T-2 and HT-2 toxin for feed materials and compound feed were presented for inclusion in Commission Recommendation 2006/576/EC. A detailed examination and discussion on these guidance levels will take place at a next meeting of the Standing Committee.


The Committee discussed the draft for a substantial update of the EU Catalogue as submitted by the Feed Chain Task Force. It was appreciated that the Task Force tackles the issue of residues of processing aids and chemical impurities (Annex I.I.). However, the approach of a general de minimis threshold was perceived with concern as long as there is no transparency on what substances would be covered by such a limit. In exchange, the Committee suggested to consider the "Inventory of substances used as processing aids (IPA)" of the CODEX Committee on Food Additives.
Furthermore, there was reluctance towards the introduction of the expression "feed grade" and the new approach with respect to rumen protection against the background of functionality. On the entries with respect to the oil refining, biodiesel and the oleo-chemical industry, considerable improvements have been stated but detailed comments from the Member States were still outstanding. The Commission services will debrief the Task Force and the Committee will come back on the issue in one of its next meetings.

5.2. Borderline products: feed materials - feed additives - veterinary medicinal products

- Clinoptilolite of volcanic and sedimentary origin: The Commission has received applications for the re-authorisation of clinoptilolites as feed additives. On the other hand several natural minerals are listed in the Catalogue of feed materials. The Committee concluded that the products described in the applications for clinoptilolite of volcanic and sedimentary origin are considered to be feed additives whereas the most important argument was the safety issue.

- Myogaster (Vitamin E acetate, sodium selenite pentahydrate): A Commission representative informed the Committee that according to a preliminary notice of the CMDv Borderline Working Group the majority of national veterinary drug authorities considers this product, due to the claimed properties for treating and preventing diseases, to be a veterinary medicinal product (VMP). Several Member States noted that the product can be a VMP but in the same time also a dietetic feed if its intended use is to prevent a shortage in vitamin E or selenium i.e. to prevent nutritional imbalances. However, the selenium compound must be an authorised feed additive.

- Turf pills containing fulvic acids: On request of a Member State the Committee discussed the status of products containing fulvic acid with the intended use to protect dogs against ticks. The Committee concluded that the product is not a biocide if it is orally administered and ingested. Whether it is a feed or a VMP should be decided considering the claimed properties or indications.

5.3. State of play on packaging in former foodstuffs recycled for use in animal feed

A Commission representative informed the Committee that the Commission did not yet receive, apart from UK and NL, the requested information from the Member States about quantities of different potential feed materials and the respective packaging materials. He reiterated the request because the information is crucial to draft an EFSA mandate.

6. Exchange of views and possible opinion on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 1730/2006 as regards the conditions use of benzoic acid (holder of authorisation Emerald Kalama Chemical BV)

(Document SANCO/12344/2012)
A discussion took place and the vote was taken. The draft Implementing Regulation received a favourable opinion by unanimity.

7. Exchange of views and possible opinion on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation concerning the authorisation of *Lactococcus lactis* (NCIMB 30117) feed additive for all animal species

(Document SANCO/12884/2012)

A discussion took place and the vote was taken. The draft Implementing Regulation received a favourable opinion by unanimity.

8. Exchange of views and possible opinion on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation concerning the authorisation of alpha-galactosidase (EC 3.2.1.22) produced by *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* (CBS 615.94) and endo-1,4-beta-glucanase (EC 3.2.1.4) produced by *Aspergillus niger* (CBS 120604) as a feed additive for chickens for fattening (holder of authorisation Kerry Ingredients and Flavors)

(Document SANCO/12886/2012)

A discussion took place and the vote was taken. The draft Implementing Regulation received a favourable opinion by unanimity.

9. Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation concerning the authorisation of di copper chloride trihydroxide as feed additive for all animals species

(Document SANCO/10057/2012)

A discussion took place and the vote was taken. The draft Implementing Regulation received a favourable opinion by unanimity.

(Document SANCO/10920/2011)

(Legal basis: Article 8 (1) of Directive 2002/32/EC) (Opinion of the Committee via the regulatory procedure with scrutiny)

The point was postponed to the next meeting of the Committee as the internal consultation procedure within the Commission was not yet finalised.

11. Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation on the withdrawal from the market of certain feed additives

(Document SANCO/10243/2012)

(Legal basis: Article 10 (5) of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003) (Opinion of the Committee via the examination procedure)

The draft Commission Regulation intends to withdraw from the market certain feed additives belonging to the functional group of silage additives, for which no application for re-evaluation was submitted within the prescribed period, as required by Article 10(5) of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003.

The preliminary draft Regulation was presented and some comments were made by the Committee members, which will be taken into account, as far as possible.

The Chairman indicated the intention to submit the draft Commission Regulation to the Committee for a formal opinion at a future meeting, after completion of the internal consultation procedure.

12.A.O.B.

⇒ The Commission reported on the progress on the organization by the EURL on Feed Additives of a proficiency test with participation of National Reference Laboratories on the determination of carry over levels of coccidiostats in compound feed for non-target animals (Directive 2002/32/EC on undesirable substances in animal feed). This activity will be carried out during 2012 and is supported financially by DG Health and Consumers. The NRLs appointed by the Member States under Regulation (EC) No. 882/2004 on Official Controls will be invited by the EURL on Feed Additives to participate to the proficiency test. The NRLs participating in the Consortium of NRLs under Regulation (EC) No. 1831/2003 on feed additives will be invited also.

⇒ Following the request of a delegation, the Committee was informed about a discussion paper on management practices for the prevention and reduction of contamination of food and feed with pyrrolizidine alkaloids (PAs), which will be discussed at the sixth session of the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods end of March 2012. At that session it will be decided if further work on a Code of Practice will be undertaken and which topics such a Code should address. The EU position on this discussion paper will be finalised at the Council Codex co-ordination working group on 8 March.
The delegations were invited, in case they have comments, to send them to the Commission and to liaise with the representative at the Council Codex coordination working group.

⇒ A delegation mentioned that currently a discussion at EU level is taking place on the review of maximum levels for cadmium in food and the possible consequences for the provisions as regards maximum levels of cadmium in feed. The Commission's representative indicated that they were aware of these discussions and were following them closely. The issue will be raised again at the Committee as regards the consequences for feed, once the discussion as regards the review of the maximum levels of cadmium in food are in a more final stage.

⇒ A Commission representative clarified that for the placing on the EU market according to Regulation (EC) No 767/2009 only the person responsible for the labelling must be indicated. It is not mandatory to label the distributor of a feed in a certain Member State in addition to the feed business operator responsible for the labelling.

⇒ A Commission representative clarified that paragraphs 2a) and 2c) of Article 17 of Regulation (EC) No 767/2009 apply simultaneously i.e. if the feed materials of a pet food are indicated as categories but one specific feed material is emphasised on the labelling, this very feed material has to be indicated with its percentage of weight.