SUMMARY REPORT OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE FOOD CHAIN AND ANIMAL HEALTH
HELD IN BRUSSELS ON 17 JANUARY 2013 - 18 JANUARY 2013
(Section Animal Nutrition)

A.1 Feed Additives - Applications under Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003 Art. 4 or 13

Documents were distributed.

A.2 Applications under Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003 Art. 9 - Discussion on EFSA Scientific Opinions on:

A.2.1. the safety and efficacy of Lactobacillus plantarum (NCIMB 30083 and NCIMB 30084) as feed additives for all species. Annex

Discussion on EFSA opinion on silage additive (re-evaluation). Draft authorisation decision to be presented at a future meeting.

A.2.2. Roxazyme® G2 G/L (endo-1,4-beta-glucanase, endo-1,(3)4-beta-glucanase and endo-1,4-beta-xylanase) for chickens and turkeys for fattening, laying hens, ducks, poultry and piglets (weaned). Annex

Discussion on EFSA opinion on silage additive (re-evaluation and extension of use). Draft authorisation decision to be presented at a future meeting.

A.2.3. the safety and efficacy of Prostora Max (Bifidobacterium animalis) as a feed additive for dogs.

Discussion on negative opinion because of antibiotic resistance. New application so additive is not on the market. Applicant to be contacted re their intentions.

A.2.4. sodium benzoate, propionic acid and sodium propionate as preservative for pigs, poultry, bovines, sheep, rabbits and horses. Annex

Point withdrawn.

A.2.5. Bactocell as a feed additive for use in water for drinking for weaned piglets, pigs for fattening, laying hens and chickens for fattening. Annex
Discussion on draft legal annex for re-evaluated feed additive and extension of use. Draft authorisation decision to be presented at a future meeting.

A.2.6. ammonium chloride for bovine, sheep, dogs and cats. Annex

Discussion on draft legal annex for re-evaluated feed additive. Draft authorisation decision to be presented at a future meeting.

A.2.7. the safety and efficacy of Biomin C3 (Enterococcus faecium, Bifidobacterium animalis and Lactobacillus salivarius) for chickens for fattening. Annex

Discussion on draft legal annex for re-evaluated feed additive. Draft authorisation decision to be presented at a future meeting.

A.2.8. the safety and efficacy of Miya-Gold (Clostridium butyricum) for chickens for fattening, chickens reared for laying and minor avian species. Annex

Discussion on draft legal annex for re-evaluated feed additive. Draft authorisation decision to be presented at a future meeting.

A.2.9. the safety and efficacy of Enterococcus faecium (CNCM I-3236) as a silage additive for all species.

Discussion on negative opinion because efficacy not satisfactorily demonstrated (safety OK). Applicant to be contacted re their intentions.

A.2.10. the safety and efficacy of Bacillus amyloliquefaciens (NCIMB 30229) as a silage feed additive for all species.

Discussion on negative opinion because of toxin and spore production. Re-evaluation. Applicant to be contacted re their intentions. Member States were asked to forward detailed comments as opinion has just been published.

A.2.11. the safety and efficacy of clinoptilolite of sedimentary origin for all animal species. Annex

Discussion on draft legal annex for re-evaluated feed additive. Postponed as opinion not available.

A.2.12. the safety and efficacy of hydroxy-analogue of selenomethionine as feed additive for all species.

The EFSA opinion was discussed. Further reflections, particularly on the quantification and stability of the active substance in water, need to be undertaken.

A.2.13. the safety and efficacy of methionine-zinc, technically pure as amino acid for ruminants, and as compound of trace element for all species.
Withdrawn as EFSA opinion not available.

A.3 Update and exchange of views on recent RASFF notifications related to undesirable substances in feed.

A.3.1. Recent RASFF notifications

The Committee was informed on the following RASFF notifications:

- two notifications on the presence of aflatoxins in maize from Bulgaria;
- one notification on the presence of arsenic in peat from piglets from Austria;
- one notification on the presence of high levels of arsenic and lead in sunflower meal/seed expeller from Spain. The contaminated product was distributed to Spain and Portugal and the contaminated lots have been blocked. The levels found are very variable: for arsenic from 1.78 to 23.7 mg/kg and for lead from 1.5 to 43.45 mg/kg. The source of contamination is for the time being unclear. The Spanish delegation confirmed that investigations are still on-going;
- one notification on the unsuitable means of transport for salt for feed use from Belarus. The salt was transported in railway wagons labelled "inorganic fertiliser". The salt was disposed for uses other than feed or food use.

The delegation of Sweden informed the Committee of findings of low levels of chloramphenicol in pig meat. Investigations did not reveal any presence of chloramphenicol in feed and no other source could be identified. Investigations are continuing to identify the source. The delegation of Sweden requested if other Member States have experienced similar problems. One delegation mentioned that the presence of chloramphenicol has been detected in straw because of bacterial activity but further investigations would be needed to assess to which extent this could be the source of residues in pig meat.

A.3.2. Guidelines for the measures to be taken following the finding of non-compliant feed in particular the case of feed already distributed (in small quantities) over a large number of establishments. Finalisation of the discussion.

The guidelines, updated taking into account the comments made at the last meeting, were briefly discussed and no major comments were made. Given the late availability of the document, the Commission representative indicated that it is foreseen to finalise the document at the next meeting and asked the delegates to send their comments, if any, in advance the meeting to the Commission.

A.3.3. Maximum levels of undesirable substances, in particular heavy metal in high concentration - slow release formulations. Discussion on different options to address the problem.

Given that certain slow release formulations with an efficiency over a longer period are highly concentrated in trace elements, the maximum level might be difficult to comply with even when applying good practices. Assuming that the rate of any release of lead (or any other undesirable substance) is not significantly greater than the rate of release of nutritional additives (e.g. trace elements), then the current maximum content for normal complementary feeds seems not
justifiable for such products on scientific (animal and public health) grounds.

Several options are explored in the discussion paper to possibly address the problem. Considering the different options, a pragmatic, straightforward solution is proposed to solve the problem. A first exchange of views has taken place and the issue will be further discussed at the next meeting.

A.3.4. Discussion on the maximum level of volatile mustard oil in Camelina sativa and derived products.

Data have been provided by the delegation of Estonia on the presence of volatile mustard oil in Camelina seed and Camelina expeller. Based on these data it can be derived that the current maximum level of 4000 mg/kg of volatile mustard oil expressed as allyl isothiocyanate in rape seed cake would also be appropriate to be established for Camelina derived products. Therefore it is proposed to establish for Camelina sativa and derived products the maximum level of 4000 mg/kg for volatile mustard oil, expressed as allyl isothiocyanate and to update the terminology to the terminology used in the feed catalogue.

Furthermore the attention was drawn to the Committee to possible inconsistency between the entries in feed catalogue of mustard bran and mustard seed meal, listed as feed material in the feed catalogue and the listing of certain mustards (Brassica Juncea, Brassica nigra and Brassica carinata) as harmful botanical impurity in the annex to Directive (EC) N° 2002/32/EC. It is suggested to remove this apparent inconsistency by deleting the Brassica sp. as harmful botanical impurities and to establish for these Brassica sp. and their derived products a maximum level of volatile mustard oil of 4000 mg/kg.

A.4 Exchange of views on the work of the Task Force on Animal Feeding of the Codex Alimentarius.

The Committee reviewed the comments available sent by the different delegations and identified the most outstanding issues. The coordination at the Council of Ministers will take place on 22/01.

A.5 Feed Marketing under Regulation (EC) N° 767/2009

A.5.1. Implementation of Article 13 considering the use of certain claims including health-symbols.

Aiming at a harmonised implementation of the feed marketing Regulation, an extensive discussion on the use of claims with respect to its Articles 11 and 13 took place on the basis of concrete pet food labels.

- It was concluded that certain properties such as fibre, calcium or protein content should not, as a matter of course, be linked with basic knowledge claims like "improves digestion", "makes strong bones" or respectively "makes lean muscles". Thus, the mere fibre content should only allow a claim such as "rich in fibre" but not in itself "optimisation of digestion". Similarly, the mere
presence of fish meal or oil is not considered to be sufficient to justify a claim on skin and coat.

- With respect to Art 11 (1b), the highlighting of a specific composition, e.g. high in fructo-oligosaccharides (FOS), of a feed could be allowed even if similar feed contains comparable levels of FOS.
- Concerning feed claims in the borderline with medicinal claims, the concrete wording has to be considered. Whereas "improves the immune system" might be considered a medicinal claim, the "support of the immune system" by a feed naturally rich in immunoglobulins might be an acceptable feed claim. With respect to the scientific substantiation, it was not considered to be proved that the pet food in question supports the immune system due to its FOS, but only its positive effect on the gut microflora. Another outcome of the discussion was that in the case by case examination the respective evaluations in the food area should, as appropriate, be fully taken into account.
- A very cautious scrutiny was also suggested for symbols because they might suggest certain functions to the clients that are not objectively justified. Also, claims on feed materials require a prudent scrutiny because they might have interactions with other feed materials and additives in the final diet of the animal.

A.5.2. Discussion of applications for high concentrate products under Article 32(2) and other proposals for the revision of Directive 2008/38/EC including the revision of the existing entry "Support of heart function in the case of chronic cardiac insufficiency", the introduction of the new particular nutritional purpose "Regulation of thyroid hormone metabolism in the case of hyperthyroidism" and of a new specification for the particular nutritional purpose "Support of joint function in the case of osteoarthritis".

Further progress was made with respect to the draft annex entries for the advanced high concentrate applications. With respect to the better description of the ParNut "Support of heart function in the case of chronic cardiac insufficiency" broad agreement was noted. In this context and considering the discussion on the substantiation of claims under point A.5.1, it was agreed to delete those entries from the annex to the Directive, for which vague or just very general essential nutritional characteristics exist. Considering the progress on the high concentrate dossiers and the inappropriateness of some existing descriptions, the Commission services intend to draft a legal act for the amendment of Directive 2008/38/EC to be discussed at a future meeting.

Concerning the two applications for the introduction of the new particular nutritional purpose "Regulation of thyroid hormone metabolism in the case of hyperthyroidism" and of a new specification for the particular nutritional purpose "Support of joint function in the case of osteoarthritis" the opinions of the French agency were presented. The conclusions of the second opinion were supported. In the light of these discussion and depending on the reactions of the applicants, the Committee will come back on the applications.

• Implications of the listing of soapstocks as feed materials.

Soapstock is for the first time listed as feed material in the new EU-Catalogue (13.6.8). However, if soapstock from integrated crushing and refining plants is not placed on the market but reintroduced into expeller or meal feed, this final product is considered a feed material. Furthermore it was concluded, that such expeller or meal feed is not identical to respective new listings in the Catalogue and would consequently require to be entered in the EU-register for feed materials if they are meant to be placed on the EU-market. Additionally the issue of soapstock being covered by paragraph 2 (a)(ii) of Regulation (EU) No 225/2012 was discussed. It was concluded that, in case soapstock is reintroduced in integrated crushing and refining plants into expeller or meal feed, not the soapstock but the feed material shall be sampled for dioxin in line with paragraph 2 (a)(ii) of Regulation (EU) No 225/2012.

• Discussion on Proposed Change to CCFICS Texts on Emergencies and Rejections to Address Feed (20th Session) Chiang Mai, Thailand, 18-22 February 2013

France drew the attention to the discussions in the Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems (CCFICS) about changes to CCFICS texts to address feed scheduled for discussion at its meeting on 18/22 February 2013. This was following the proposals made by the electronic Working Group on Animal Feeding on these matters. Delegations were asked to liaise with their counterparts in the CCFICS to follow up the issue and help in coordinate the EU positions.

• Discrepancy between the labelled added amount of feed additives and the amount analysed

It is scientifically established that levels of certain technological additives (e.g. antioxidants) and nutritional additives of the functional groups vitamins and amino acids change: vitamins and amino acids change during the processing (e.g. if added before pelleting or extrusion) and the storage of finished feed; levels of antioxidants decrease while protecting the products during their shelf life. On request of one Member State, the discussion from the meeting in January 2012 was resumed. Several Member States reported that in their country a double labelling is practised with satisfactory results: in the list of additives, the quantitative declaration refers to the added amount and in the list of analytical constituents the value refers to the quantity in the finished feed. Of course, the latter should be in the focus of verification by the control authorities via lab analysis. However, Member States were not in the position to exclude, that the added amounts in the list of additives could, apart from pure document control, also be verified by lab analysis. It was concluded that in such a control of compliance with feed law, the scientifically established factor with respect to discrepancy between declared amount and analytically detected amount are taken into account in a case by case assessment.
A.6 Discussion and possible endorsement of a draft Commission Recommendation on the presence of T-2 and HT-2 toxin in cereals and cereal products.

The document was presented. Taking into account the conclusions of the scientific opinion from EFSA, together with the large year-to-year variation in occurrence of T-2 and HT-2 toxin, it is necessary to collect more data on T2 and HT-2 in cereals and cereal products and more information on the effects of feed and food processing on the presence of T-2 and HT-2 toxin. Furthermore, it is necessary to obtain more information on the different factors which lead to relatively high levels of T2 and HT-2 toxin in cereals and cereal products in order to be able to identify the measures to be taken to avoid or to reduce the presence of T2 and HT-2 toxin cereals and cereal products. Investigations have to be undertaken in order to collect information on the factors resulting in relative high levels of T2 and HT-2 toxin in cereals and cereal products and on the effects of feed and food processing. Based on the available data, T-2 and HT-2 do not occur or only in very low levels in rice and rice products and therefore it is appropriate to exclude these products from the scope of this Recommendation.

To provide orientation in which cases it would be appropriate to perform such investigations, it is appropriate to provide indicative values above which such investigations would be appropriate. To determine these indicative values the occurrence data available in the EFSA database have been used. In 2015, an assessment of the gathered information in the frame of this Recommendation should be undertaken. The monitoring data obtained as a result of this Recommendation will also enable a better understanding of the year–to-year variance and the presence of T-2 and HT-2 toxin in the wide range of cereal products the factors resulting in higher levels and the measures which could be taken to prevent the presence or mitigate the presence through processing.

The following suggestions were made:

• to verify with the EUR on mycotoxins in feed and food, the feasibility of the mentioned Limit of Quantification (LOQ);
• to highlight in the recitals the high sensitivity of cats to T-2 and HT-2 toxin and that therefore this Recommendation is not applicable to feed for cats, for which stricter measures will be considered.

The Commission's representative indicated that he would take these comments into account. After the adoption of the Recommendation by the Commission a fusarium toxin forum will be organised by the Commission to discuss the practical implementation of the Recommendation with representatives of the stakeholder organisations.

No objections were raised to the draft Recommendation.

The draft amends the name of the authorisation holder for diclazuril following the acquisition of Janssen Animal Health by Eli Lilly and Company Ltd.

Vote taken: 335 votes in favour, 10 votes absent and not represented.

B.2 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation concerning the authorisation of a preparation of sodium hydroxide as a feed additive for cats, dogs and ornamental fish.

The draft re-authorises the use of sodium hydroxide as a feed additive for dogs and cats and authorises it for a new use for ornamental fish.

Vote taken: 323 votes in favour, 22 votes absent and not represented.

B.3 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation concerning the authorisation of a preparation of sodium benzoate, propionic acid and sodium propionate as a feed additive for pigs, poultry, bovines, sheep, goats, rabbits and horses and amending Regulations (EC) No 1876/2006,

The draft proposes to re-authorise the preparation for use as a preservative in feed for various species.

Vote taken: 335 votes in favour, 10 votes absent and not represented.


The document was briefly presented, highlighting the main changes introduced since the last meeting of the Standing Committee.

The following main comments were made:

- to introduce legal references in the scope;
- to introduce the following provision when only part of the lot is sampled: "In the case of sampling a part of a lot of feed of the same class or description, it shall be presumed that all of the feed in that lot is so affected, unless following a detailed assessment there is no evidence that the rest of the lot fails to satisfy the EU requirements";
- to re-introduce the provisions as regards the double determinations.

Furthermore the inapplicability of the sampling provisions in case of silages was highlighted.
The Commission representative committed to take these proposed changes into account and indicated the intention to submit the draft Regulation for vote at the next meeting of the Standing Committee.


The text was circulated to delegations and discussed. The text proposes the suspension of the preparation as a feed additive in the light of the EFSA opinion. It will be voted in the next Committee.