SUMMARY REPORT OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE FOOD CHAIN AND ANIMAL HEALTH
HELD IN BRUSSELS ON 04 JULY 2013 - 05 JULY 2013
(Section Animal Nutrition)

A.1 Feed Additives - Applications under Regulation (EC) No 1831/2013 Art. 4 or 13.
Documents were distributed.

Discussion on EFSA Scientific Opinions on the safety and efficacy of:

A.2.1 Probiotic Lactina (Lactobacillus acidophilus, Lactobacillus helveticus, Lactobacillus bulgaricus, Lactobacillus lactis, Streptococcus thermophilus, Enterococcus faecium) for chickens for fattening and pigs (piglets) - Annex

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

A.2.2 Propionic acid, sodium propionate and ammonium propionate for all animal species as silage additives - Annex

Not discussed.

A.2.3 Scientific Opinion on the safety and efficacy of Lactobacillus plantarum (NCIMB 40027) as a silage additive for all animal species - Annex

Not discussed.

A.2.4 Scientific Opinion on the safety and efficacy of micro-organism DSM 11798 when used as a technological feed additive for pigs - Annex

Not discussed

A.2.5 Scientific Opinion on the safety and efficacy of Lenziaren (iron, aqua carbonate hydroxyl o xo starch sucrose complex) as a feed additive for cats.

Following the discussion a new Annex will be submitted at a future meeting.
A.2.6 Scientific Opinion on the safety and efficacy of Lancer (lanthanide citrate) as feed additive for weaned piglets.

Following the discussion, supplementary information will be requested from the applicant.

A.2.7. Discussion on Bentonite (dioctahedral montmorillonite) - Annex

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

A.2.8. Vitamin A (retinyl acetate, retinyl palmitate and retinyl propionate) as a feed additive for certain animal species and categories

The details of the conditions of reauthorisation were discussed. There was progress regarding specifications, identity, stability, methods of analysis, possible use in water for drinking and other issues. The discussions will continue at a future meeting.

A.2.9. Betaine forms as a feed additive for all animal species

On the basis of the three EFSA opinions relating to three applications, the conditions of reauthorisation of the different forms of beta carotene as a nutritional additive were reviewed. The discussion will be continued at a future meeting.

A.2.10. L-selenomethionine as feed additive for all animal species

Discussion on EFSA opinion including the different recommendations for the authorisation act. An annex entry will be prepared for the next meeting.

A.2.11. L-cystine for all animal species - Annex entry

Discussion of the proposed approval annex for this amino acid. A draft authorisation decision will be prepared for a future meeting.

A.2.12. Carophyll® Red 10% (preparation of canthaxanthin) for all poultry for breeding purposes (chickens, turkeys and other poultry)

On the basis of the EFSA opinion, the conditions of authorisation of this preparation containing canthaxanthin as a zootechnical additive were reviewed. The discussions will be continued at a future meeting.

A.3 Update on the legislation related to the establishment at EU level of criteria for decontamination processes.

Given that there was no progress achieved for the time being in the consultations within the European Commission, the point was not discussed.
A.4 Discussion and endorsement on a guidance level for T-2 and HT-2 toxin for cat feed.

Given the toxicity of T-2 and HT-2 toxin for cats, it is appropriate to establish a guidance value for the sum of T-2 and HT-2 toxin in cat feed to be applied for judging the acceptability of cat feed as regards the presence of T-2 and HT-2 toxin. Therefore it is proposed to include a guidance level of 0.05 mg/kg for the sum of T-2 and HT-2 toxin in compound feed for cats in 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.

The Committee agreed to this modification of Commission Recommendation 2006/576/EC.

A.5 Update and exchange of views on recent RASFF notifications.

The Committee was informed of the following recent RASFF notifications as regards undesirable substances in feed.

- 4 notifications on the presence of a too high level of aflatoxin B1 in maize from Ukraine, maize from Bulgaria and maize from Spain (2). The delegation from Bulgaria provided extensive information on the RASFF notification on the maize from Bulgaria stressing that testing of that maize in Bulgaria demonstrated compliance with the EU level. The Commission representative acknowledged the problem of the heterogeneity of the aflatoxin contamination in a lot of maize. Therefore, a favourable control result on a consignment at the start of the feed chain does not necessarily guarantee that all controls performed later in the chain on that consignment will result in favourable results, also because the aflatoxin contamination can increase as the consequence of inappropriate transport and storage conditions. He indicated that it is foreseen to have an extensive discussion at the mycotoxin forum on 5-6 September 2013 on ways to improve the consistency of aflatoxin results on a consignment all along the chain;
- 2 notifications on the presence of a too high level of aflatoxin B1 in copra from Indonesia;
- 1 notification on a too high content of ragweed (Ambrosia spp.) seeds in red sorghum seeds from Belgium with raw material from France;
- 1 notification on the presence of non-dioxin like PCBs in mixed fatty acids from Spain. No analysis has been provided on the presence of dioxins and dioxin-like PCBs. The Commission representative highlighted the need that for every finding of dioxins and/or PCBs an investigation on the source should be performed to increase knowledge on pathways of contamination and to enable to take appropriate prevention measures to avoid such contamination in the future. The Committee was informed that the EUR for dioxins in feed and food together with the network of NRLs are working on the elaboration of a database of congener patterns which can be linked to specific sources of contamination. Therefore it is appropriate that with every finding of non-compliance a full analysis is performed. In case no resources are available to do this and although it is the responsibility of the feed business operator to trace
the source of contamination, Member States should not hesitate to send such samples to the EURL for a complete analysis of different parameters to increase knowledge on congener patterns and sources of contamination. Reference was also made to a recent RASFF notification on dioxins in soya meal from Italy of which the congener pattern points to a contamination with chlorophenols. However this can only be confirmed by an analysis of the chlorophenols. In relation with this last notification, there has been a confusion related to the translation of the feed material and to avoid this in the future it would be appropriate where possible to provide also the number corresponding to the feed material as provided for in the Catalogue of feed materials (Commission Regulation (EU) No 68/2013);

• 1 notification on the presence of sufadimidine unauthorised in calcium pidolate from Spain as the consequence of the use of a not properly cleaned atomizer (cross-contamination);
• 1 notification on the presence of a too high level of mercury in fishmeal from Spain;
• 1 notification on a too high level of cadmium in zinc oxide from Turkey.


A Commission's representative informed the Committee on the current situation regarding imports of feed of non-animal origin, in particular the import procedure if sampling is made at the point of entry and customs clearance is in another Member State (certificate required). In addition, the Committee was informed about the possible impact of the new control legislation which is, at present, in the co-decision procedure.


A.7.1. State of play on applications for high concentrate products under Article 32(2), modification and deletion of existing entries

A Commission's representative informed the Committee on the pending applications for approval as high concentrate products. For those with a negative evaluation report from the assessing expert, the applicants will be contacted in order to reflect on further steps to undertake. Furthermore, an overview was given on the new applications for particular nutritional purposes and applications to improve vague current descriptions. The Member States were reminded to proceed with the evaluation of the open dossiers in order to allow a smooth finalisation of the procedures.

A.7.2. Classification of products due to their presentation: discussion based on concrete examples such as "prevention of known symptoms of vitamin E and/or selenium deficiency", "regulation of glucose supply (diabetes mellitus)", "reduction of stress reactions" or "reduction of the risk of recurrent tying up or exertional rhabdomyolysis"
A short discussion on claims took place, particularly where claims for feed may be viewed as being in grey zone with veterinary medicines. Based on the particular nutritional purpose "reduction of stress reactions", the Member States were asked to check whether there is a trend within their authorities to classify products without pharmaceutically active substances as veterinary medicines just because of the similar wording to a claim (indication) for an existing veterinary product. It is important not to undermine the principles of the dietetic feed legislation which has been operating successfully for many years.

A.8  **Guidance for a harmonised implementation of Regulation (EC) N°225/2012.**

The working document in order to harmonise the enforcement of the ‘dioxin regulation’ was further revised. Critical points that could be sorted out were the status of products derived from refined oil, the scope of the monitoring plan with respect to feed materials into which used bleaching earth, filter aids and soapstock had been incorporated and the demarcation between fat blending establishments and compound feed operators. As the guidance is meant to be a living document Member States are welcome to transmit further comments. The stakeholders will also be involved in the further evolution of the document.

A.9  **Import procedure for non-animal origin feed.**

See point A.6.

B.1  **Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation amending Directive 2008/38/EC by modifying the list of intended uses as particular nutritional purposes.**

This draft Regulation involved seven particular nutritional purposes for which the concentration factor in the dietetic feed of feed additives of 100 times the content authorised for complete feed can be exceeded. Furthermore it contained the authorisation of the new particular nutritional purpose "Reduction of iodine levels in feed in case of hyperthyroidism". A discussion took place. The need to foresee a transitional period for existing products had been considered and particular diligence was given to the provisions for the dietetic feed for which an application in form of a bolus is foreseen. The Commission intends to launch a general discussion on the legislative implications for the use of boluses in animal nutrition.

Germany issued the following statement:

"Die deutsche Delegation kann dem Vorschlag der Kommission zur Festlegung neuer besonderer Ernährungszwecke nicht zustimmen. Die deutsche Delegation vertritt die Auffassung, dass die Tierfütterung über gebräuchliche Futtermittel geeignet ist, normal gesunde Tiere ausreichend mit Nährstoffen, einschließlich Vitaminen und Spurenelementen, zu versorgen und dass daher die zwangsweise Verabreichung von Ergänzungsfuttermitteln in Form von Boli in der Tierernährung im Hinblick auf die Tiergesundheit und den Tierschutz stark begrenzt werden sollte. Die deutsche Delegation sieht daher auch nicht die
Notwendigkeit, Ergänzungsfuttermittel mit höheren Gehalten an Futtermittelzusatzstoffen, als dem 100fachen des Höchstgehalts in dem Maße zu unterstützen, wie es der Vorschlag vorsieht.

Vote taken: qualified majority (296 in favour, 56 against)

B.2 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation concerning the authorisation concerning the authorisation choline chloride as a feed additive for all animal species.

The draft proposes to re-authorise choline chloride preparations falling under the category nutritional additives, functional group vitamins, pro-vitamins and chemically well-defined substances having similar effect.

Such preparations may be produced with feed materials and/or technological additives to modify the physicochemical characteristics of the active substance i.e. stability, homogeneity, flowability or dusting potential.

Vote taken: unanimous in favour.

B.3 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation concerning the authorisation concerning the authorisation of folic acid as a feed additive for all animal species.

The draft proposes to re-authorise folic acid preparations falling under the category nutritional additives, functional group vitamins, pro-vitamins and chemically well-defined substances having similar effect.

The Member States and the Commission considered the following at the time of the vote of this Regulation that such preparations may be produced with feed materials and/or technological additives to modify the physicochemical characteristics of the active substance i.e. stability, homogeneity, flowability or dusting potential.

Vote taken: unanimous in favour.

B.4 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation concerning the denial of authorisation of the substance 3-acetyl-2,5-dimethylthiophene as a feed additive.

The draft proposes the denial of the authorisation of this flavouring substance under re-evaluation, following new studies relating to its genotoxicity assessed by the European Food and Safety Authority (EFSA).

Vote taken: unanimous in favour.
B.5 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation concerning the authorisation of Enterococcus faecium NCIMB 11181 as a feed additive for calves and piglets (holder of authorisation Chr. Hansen A/S) and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1333/200.

The draft proposes to re-authorise this microorganism preparation for calves for rearing and for fattening and for weaning piglets as a zootechnical additive, following the submission of an application for its re-evaluation under article 10.

*Vote taken:* unanimous in favour.

B.6 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation concerning the authorisation of a preparation of Enterococcus faecium DSM 7134 as a feed additive for chickens reared for laying and minor poultry species other than those used for laying (holder of authorisation Lactosan GmbH & Co KG).

The draft proposes to authorise a new use of the above additive as zootechnical additive in feed. A discussion took place.

*Vote taken:* unanimous in favour.

B.7 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation concerning the authorisation of a preparation of Lactobacillus kefiri DSM 19455 as a feed additive for all animal species.

The draft proposes to authorise the use of the above additive as a silage additive. A discussion took place.

*Vote taken:* unanimous in favour.

B.8 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation concerning the authorisation of a preparation of Bacillus subtilis (ATCC PTA-6737) as a feed additive for turkeys for fattening and turkeys reared for breeding (holder of authorisation Kemin Europa N.V.).

The draft proposes to authorise a new use of the above additive as zootechnical additive in feed. A discussion took place.

*Vote taken:* unanimous in favour.

M.1 Any Other Business.

- On request of one delegation a Commission representative confirmed that in application of the maximum content of organic selenium in complete feed as laid down in Regulation 427/2013, complementary feed may not contain more than 20mg organic Selenium per kg.
The Commission updated Member States on the progress on evaluations in the feed flavourings sector. Approximately 50% of the opinions are now available. A need for additional studies has been identified, particularly for flavourings which may be fed at higher levels. The industry has informed the Commission that they are willing to carry out more tests as necessary. Specifically they propose to carry out tolerance tests on feed containing mixtures of flavourings at much higher concentrations to normal feed use levels. The Commission expects to shortly receive a formal proposal on the methodology which they will circulate to MSs for their information and also to EFSA. The Committee would also encourage the applicants to discuss the work programme with EFSA in advance to ensure that it is appropriate.

In response to a query from a delegation, the Commission detailed the legal issues concerning the production of insect protein for use in animal feed. The issue was under review within the Commission and would be raised in working groups concerning processed animal proteins and animal by-products in the coming months.

The Committee was informed that the working group on sampling to elaborate a guidance on the sampling of forages and on other aspects of the new Commission Regulation on sampling of feed shall be convened in the second half of August 2013 to start the discussions with the aim to finalise the guidance document before 1 January 2014, the date of application of the new Commission Regulation on sampling of feed.

The Committee was informed that following a delay to transmit the request to EFSA, EFSA is now working on a scientific opinion related to the presence of nickel in feed.