SUMMARY REPORT OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE FOOD CHAIN AND ANIMAL HEALTH
HELD IN BRUSSELS ON 16 DECEMBER 2013 - 17 DECEMBER 2013
(Section Animal Nutrition)

Documents were distributed.

Discussion on EFSA Scientific Opinions on the safety and efficacy of:
A.2.1. Lenziaren (iron, aqua carbonate hydroxyl oxo starch sucrose complex) as a feed additive for cats - Annex

Following the discussion, a new Annex will be submitted to a future meeting and new information will be requested to the company.

A.2.2. Rovabio Excel (endo-1,3(4)-beta-glucanase and endo-1,4-beta-xylanase) as a feed additive for chickens and turkeys for fattening, laying hens, piglets (weaned) and pigs for fattening, ducks, guinea fowls, quails, geese, pheasants and pigeons - Annex

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

A.2.3. Quantum Blue (6-phytase) as a feed additive for poultry (except laying hens) and pigs and Scientific Opinion on the safety and efficacy of Quantum Blue (6-phytase) as a feed additive for laying hens and minor laying poultry species - Annex

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

A.2.4. Lactobacillus plantarum (ATCC 55058 and ATCC 55942) and Pediococcus acidilactici (CNCM I-3237) 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 on Pediococcus. On the other micro-organism, a discussion will be hold in a future meeting.

A.2.5. **Econase® GT** (endo-1,3(4)-beta-glucanase) as a feed additive for chickens for fattening and weaned piglets - Annex

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

A.2.6. **Amylofeed®** (endo-1,3(4)-beta-glucanase, endo-1,4-beta-xylanase and alpha-amylase) as a feed additive for piglets and young minor porcine species

Following the discussion, new information will be requested to the applicant.

A.2.7. **Propionic acid, sodium propionate and ammonium propionate** for all animal species as silage additives - Annex

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

A.2.8. **Enterococcus faecium** (NCIMB 10415, DSM 22502, ATCC 53519 and ATCC 55593) as silage additives for all species - Annex

Following the discussion, a draft Implementing Regulation will be proposed for possible vote at a future meeting on Enterococcus faecium NCIMB 10415 and DSM 22502. On the other micro-organisms, new information will be requested to the applicant.

A.2.9. **L-carnitine** and its forms for all animal species (05/2012 & 05/2012) - Annex

Following the discussion, a new Annex will be submitted to a future meeting.

A.2.10. **Vitamin B1** and its forms for all animal species - Annex

Following the discussion, a new Annex will be submitted to a future meeting and new information will be requested to the company.

A.2.11. **Taurine** and its forms for all animal species - Annex

Following the discussion, a new Annex will be submitted to a future meeting.

A.2.12. **Pantothenic acid** and its forms for all animal species - Annex

Following the discussion, a new Annex will be submitted to a future meeting.

A.2.13. **Vitamin C** and its forms for all animal species - Annex
Following the discussion, a new Annex will be submitted to a future meeting.

A.2.14. **Betaine** and its forms for all animal species - Annex

Following the discussion, a new Annex will be submitted to a future meeting.

A.2.15. **Tocopherol extracts of natural origin** for all animal species - Annex

Following the discussion, a new Annex will be submitted to a future meeting.
As regards the authorisation of this active substance as vitamin E (Regulation (EC) No 26/2011), a discussion took place to clarify that preparations are authorised.

A.2.16. **L-cysteine hydrochloride monohydrate**.

Following the discussion, a new Annex will be submitted to a future meeting and new information will be requested to the company.

**A.03**  
Not discussed.

**A.04**  
A list of the products requested to be authorized in water was submitted. The discussion took place on a possible amendment of Regulation (EC) No 183182003. The possibility to have different legal solution will be assessed in a future meeting.

**A.05**  
Following the discussion, verification on the National Reference Laboratories was requested.

**A.06**  
Applications for amending Directive 2008/38/EC by modifying the list of intended uses as particular nutritional purposes.
The state of play on the applications for high concentrate products and the new applications for the revision of the Annex to Directive 2008/38/EC was given. A draft Regulation for an update of the Annex with the most proceeded dossiers will be prepared for one of the next Committees.
A.07  **Follow-up of positive PCR results for ruminant material in aqua feed samples.**

The Commission presented to the Committee the state of play of the current analytical procedures in place for the detection of the presence of ruminant material in feed for aquaculture animals and recalled to the MS that the guidelines issued by the EURL on this matter should be strictly followed. A representative of the EURL informed Committee about the recent launch of a survey aiming to gather information on difficulties encountered as regards the implementation of the current analytical procedures and presented the ongoing scientific works as regards the development of new analytical methods in view of a further relaxation of the feed ban provisions for pig and poultry.

A.08  **Update and exchange of views on recent RASFF notifications.**

The Committee was informed on the recent RASFF notifications related to presence of too high levels of

- dioxin-like PCBs in copper sulphate from China
- aflatoxin B1 in maize from Hungary, groundnuts from Nigeria, corn gluten from Germany, maize from Spain and groundnuts from Nicaragua
- cadmium in fishmeal from Argentina
- mercury in shark cartilage powder from New Zealand

Furthermore the Committee was informed of the reply received from the Indian authorities on 27 November 2013 as regards the contamination with high levels of chloramphenicol in enzymes originating from India. Following investigations in the concerned companies, the Indian authorities reported that no contamination with chloramphenicol in the enzymes produced by the companies could be found. Consequently also no source of contamination was identified. Nevertheless, measures would have been taken to ensure that enzymes exported to the EU are meeting the EU requirements. The Commission representative indicated that the reply given by the Indian authorities is unsatisfactory. Therefore The Commission services shall propose at the next review of the list of feed and food of non-animal origin to be subjected to an increased frequency of controls in accordance with Article 15.5 of Regulation (EC) 882/2004 [1] to include enzymes intended for feed and food originating from India for a control frequency of 50 % at import for the presence of chloramphenicol. The Committee supported his measure.


A.09  **Undesirable substances in feed : issues for discussion for possible amendment to the Annex to Directive 2002/32/EC on undesirable substances in feed.**
- Arsenic in calcareous marine shells;
- Provisions as regards endosulfan;
- Other.

As regards arsenic in calcareous marine shells, it is proposed to align the maximum level of arsenic with calcareous marine algae.

As regards endosulfan, the Commission representative indicated that it would be appropriate to align the maximum levels established by Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 on maximum residue levels of pesticides in or on food and feed of plant and animal origin and the maximum levels established by Directive 2002/32/EC on undesirable substances in feed, unless there is a sound justification for the difference. This concerns mainly the maximum levels for maize and maize products derived from the processing thereof and oilseeds and products derived from the processing thereof other than soya bean and cotton seed. The stakeholders shall be consulted. A final discussion on possible changes will take place at the next meeting of the Committee.

The Committee was furthermore informed that with Commission Regulation (EU) No 1275/2013 of 6 December 2013 amending Annex I to Directive 2002/32/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards maximum levels for arsenic, cadmium, lead, nitrites, volatile mustard oil and harmful botanical impurities, the footnote related to the maximum level of seeds from *Ambrosia* spp in feed materials was unintentionally deleted. It concerns the following footnote: “*In case unequivocal evidence is provided that the grains and seeds are intended for milling or crushing, there is no need to perform a cleaning of the grains and seeds containing non-compliant levels of seeds of Ambrosia spp. before milling or crushing. Prevention measures shall be taken to avoid dissemination of Ambrosia spp. seeds into the environment during transport, storage or processing of these seeds and grains*”. The Commission representative indicated to initiate the procedure to correct this unintentional deletion as soon as possible and requested the Member States to continue to apply the footnote in the meantime.

Other issues which were raised and which might require special attention of the Committee are (not exhaustive)

- the provisions as regards quaternary ammonium compounds (didecyldimethylammonium chloride (DDAC) and benzalkonium chloride (BAC): these are currently under discussion in the frame of Regulation (EC) 396/2005. However as no specific maximum residue levels for processed products are established in the frame of Regulation (EC) 396/2005 and as the contamination could occur during the processing, it might be necessary to consider in the future to establish specific maximum levels for certain feed materials.

- The maximum levels of nitrites in feed materials.

- Erucic acid.

- Hydroxymethylfurfural (HMF) in feed for bees.
A.10 Aflatoxins in maize : discussion on a guidance to ensure more consistent control results along the chain.

In 2012/2013, several problems have been identified with the presence of aflatoxins in maize.

In case of a non-compliant finding, the feed business operator shall immediately initiate procedures to withdraw the feed in question from the market and inform the competent authorities thereof (Article 20 of Regulation (EC) 178/2002).

However also in the case of compliance, there is a need for greater transparency as regards the findings. The known heterogeneous distribution of the aflatoxin contamination and the representativeness of the samples taken from the lot (especially of large lots) can result in a variability of aflatoxin results between several samples taken from the same lot and between samples taken from the same lot but at different stages of the distribution chain.

The document under discussion provides guidance to improve the transparency in the production and trade chain and in order to improve the consistency of analytical results following sampling at different stages of the trade.

An initial discussion took place. Generally the document was welcomed although a further scrutiny is needed. A delegation suggested that it might be appropriate to consider the setting of an action level of 5?g/kg aflatoxin B1 in feed materials in Annex II to the undesirable substances Directive 2002/32/EC as a warning tool.

The Commission representative indicated to consult the relevant European stakeholder organisation on the document under discussion and the suggestion made at the Committee. The discussion on the document will be continued at the next meeting of the Committee also taking into account the comments made by the stakeholder organisations.


The Committee was informed that a first discussion has taken place at a meeting of the working group “Sampling feed” on 31 October 2013. On the basis of the discussions at that meeting, a discussion paper will be prepared for a next meeting of the working group to be scheduled in January 2014.

B.01 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation concerning the authorisation of preparations of Pediococcus pentosaceus DSM 14021, Pediococcus pentosaceus DSM 23688, Pediococcus pentosaceus DSM 23689 as feed additives for all animal species.

The draft proposes to re-authorise the above micro-organisms as silage. A
discussion took place.

**Vote taken:** unanimous in favour.

**B.02** Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation concerning the authorisation of L-selenomethionine as a feed additive for all animal species.

The draft concerns a new authorisation of an organic source of selenium produced by chemical synthesis. Specific measures have been introduced for the reduction of the selenium content in the feed additive. Furthermore, a provision for the protection of the users of the products is foreseen now. The draft was voted. The UK delegation made the following declaration:

"The United Kingdom notes that Commission proposal SANCO/12316/2013 for the authorisation of selenomethionine produced by chemical synthesis would impose a statutory maximum content for this organic form of selenium of 0.2 mg/kg complete feed. Previously, organic forms of selenium authorised as feed additives had a maximum content of 0.5 mg/kg. Work undertaken on behalf of the United Kingdom Government suggests that a significant proportion of our population is under-exposed to dietary selenium – a trace element that is essential for human health. In view of the possibility that the low maximum limit for this organic form of selenium could result in lower levels of this essential trace element in the diet of consumers, the United Kingdom cannot support the European Commission’s proposals for point B.02 and will abstain in the decision taken for this item."

**Vote taken:** qualified majority (323 votes in favour, 29 abstentions).

**B.03** Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation concerning the authorisation of L-tyrosine as a feed additive for all animal species.

The draft concerns a new authorisation of this amino acid produced by hydrolysis of keratin from poultry feathers. Recommendations for the inclusion rates of L-tyrosine in feed for food producing animals and for pets are included.

**Vote taken:** unanimous in favour.

**B.04** Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation on the withdrawal from the market of cobaltous chloride, cobaltous nitrate and cobaltous sulphate as feed additives and amending Implementing Regulation (EU) No 601/2013.

The draft concerns modifications of five cobalt compounds re-authorised by Regulation (EU) No 601/2013. For better clarity and to avoid confusion with the identification numbers of selenium compounds authorised as feed additives, the identification numbers for the cobalt compounds had been adapted. Additionally, the respective requirement that compounds with a high dusting potential must be
placed on the market in a pelleted form had been changed in a requirement that the they must be placed on the market in a non-powder form. Additionally, for coated granulated cobalt(II) carbonate hydroxide (2:3) monohydrate the substance which is coated is cobalt(II) carbonate and not cobalt(II) carbonate hydroxide (2:3) monohydrate. The draft was voted.

The Spanish delegation made the following declaration:

"La delegación española se abstiene en la votación porque considera que la modificación propuesta debería basarse en una evaluación del riesgo de la información adicional aportada por los solicitantes en lo que se refiere a las condiciones de uso para garantizar la seguridad de los trabajadores y a la identidad de una de las sales autorizadas. Esta evaluación debería haberla realizado EFSA y no las delegaciones de los Estados Miembros. Además nuestra delegación considera que la información adicional suministrada por parte de los solicitantes es limitada y, en algunos casos, contradictoria."

The Italian delegation made the following declaration: "Dal confronto fra i pareri dell'EFSA, il parere del laboratorio europeo di riferimento e i dossier dei richiedenti (inclusa la documentazione integrativa) non risulta ancora sufficientemente chiara l’identità dei carbonati di cobalto di cui in tale regolamento. Non è chiaro, quindi, se le sostanze utilizzate corrispondano ai numeri di CAS indicati (n. CAS 513-79-1, n. CAS 51839-24-8) o se trattasi di relative miscele. Inoltre, visto che l’additivo coincide con la sostanza attiva, per due dei tre additivi a base di carbonato di cobalto, essendo i processi di produzione identici, si sarebbe dovuto indicare l’impurezza dell’additivo (es idrossido di cobalto) anche in corrispondenza della caratterizzazione della sostanza attiva. In relazione a ciò anche i considerandi (2) e (5) del regolamento non risultano definiti in modo appropriato."

The French delegation made the following declaration:

"La délégation française reconnaît que les dispositions proposées améliorent la rédaction du règlement (CE) n°601/2013 et n'entraîne pas un risque accru (par rapport à ce règlement) pour la sécurité du travailleur. Néanmoins, compte tenu des informations contradictoires transmises par l'industrie, les autorités françaises considèrent que l'évaluation sur la sécurité du travailleur n'a pas été menée jusqu'à son terme et nécessiterait une réévaluation par l'AESA, conformément à l'article 13 du règlement (CE) n°1831/2003. En l'absence de l'engagement de la Commission sur une réévaluation programmée à court terme de cet additif, les autorités françaises s'abstiennent donc sur ce projet de règlement."

Vote taken: qualified majority (267 votes in favour, 85 abstentions).
This draft Commission Regulation provides that the analytical method with GC-MS/MS can be used as confirmatory method for checking compliance with maximum levels in addition to the HRGC/HRMS for the analysis of dioxins and PCBs in food. The method has demonstrated to have a similar level of reliability at the range of levels of the maximum levels than the HRGC/HRMS and is cheaper as regards equipment and analysis.

Furthermore, following the experience gained with the application of the rules currently in place, minor changes or clarifications are proposed as regards the necessity of duplicate analysis, the compliance in case of duplicate analysis and the requirement as regards the acceptable difference between upperbound and lowerbound results.

The comments made at the previous meeting of the Committee have been extensively discussed at the EURL/NRL workshop of 26-27 November 2013 and changes were agreed at the workshop.

Furthermore the explicit reference to the applicability of the criteria for the method of analysis for the auto-control performed by feed business operators has been deleted pending further discussions with stakeholder organisations. However it was stressed that the criteria for the method of analysis remain applicable for the auto-control performed by feed business operators in application of the provisions of Commission Regulation (EU) No 225/2012 of 15 March 2012 amending Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 183/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the approval of establishments placing on the market, for feed use, products derived from vegetable oils and blended fats and as regards the specific requirements for production, storage, transport and dioxin testing of oils, fats and products derived thereof.

**Vote taken:** unanimous in favour.

**B.06**

Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation on the withdrawal from the market of the feed additives cobaltous chloride hexahydrate, cobaltous nitrate hexahydrate and cobaltous sulphate monohydrate and amending Regulation (EC) No 1334/2003.

The draft concerns the withdrawal from the market of cobaltous chloride hexahydrate, cobaltous nitrate hexahydrate and cobaltous sulphate monohydrate. No application for re-authorisation had been received for these products.

**Vote taken:** unanimous in favour.

**B.07**

Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation correcting the French version of Implementing Regulation (EU) No 601/2013 concerning the authorisation of cobalt(II) acetate tetrahydrate, cobalt(II) carbonate, cobalt(II) carbonate hydroxide (2:3) monohydrate, cobalt(II) sulphate heptahydrate and coated granulated cobalt(II) carbonate hydroxide (2:3) monohydrate as feed

**Vote taken:** unanimous in favour.
additives.
The draft was withdrawn from the agenda.

M.01 Any Other Business.
A presentation was given by Bjorn Berendsen from the RIKILT Wageningen. Monitoring studies on the presence of chloramphenicol in straw was performed in several countries. In a significant number of straw samples, quantifiable amounts of chloramphenicol were found. However no correlation could be found between concentration and origin, type or sampling time. Silage studies have shown that it is unlikely that chloramphenicol is produced during fermentation because of unfavourable conditions for chloramphenicol production. Chloramphenicol is unstable in soil and the transfer from soil to crops is relatively low. The transfer study suggests that chloramphenicol residues in crops can be explained by the natural production of chloramphenicol in soil and its subsequent transfer.