Not discussed.

A.2.1. Bonvital (Enterococcus faecium) as a feed additive for sows.
Not discussed.

A.2.2. Malic acid and a mixture of sodium and calcium malate when used as technological additives for all animal species.
Not discussed.

A.2.3. Formaldehyde for all animal species.
A discussion took place for both opinions published by EFSA. Because of the complexity of the situation related to this product, it was decided to wait for the last EFSA opinion of on the same product to draw a conclusion on it.

A.2.4. Choline chloride with GM rice BT63 - discussion on the contamination.
The Commission has illustrated a proposal of the provisions to be adopted. An amendment to Implementing Decision 2011/884 to extend the controls to all feed additives and premixtures containing rice should be introduced. The additives already on EU and contaminated should be withdrawn from the market, as well as all premixtures produced with these additives. Moreover, the feed business operators can check in order to verify the real contamination and, if not founding of rice BT63 is detected, the premixture can be put on the market. A request from same Member States was discussed to make possible a modification of the control measures on the premixtures to link them to the percentage of inclusion of the contaminated additive.
A mention on the possible lack of the availability of the additive in the market was also raised. The same subject will be discussed in the Standing Committee of Biotechnology.

A.2.5. L-carnitine and its forms for all animal species (05/2012 & 05/2012) – Annex

Following the discussion, a draft Implementing Regulation will be proposed for possible vote once the discussion on the preparations is concluded.

A.2.6. Vitamin B1 and its forms for all animal species – Annex

Following the discussion, a draft Implementing Regulation will be proposed for possible vote once the discussion on the preparations and the availability on the method of analysis are concluded.

A.2.7. Taurine and its forms for all animal species – Annex

Following the discussion, a draft Implementing Regulation will be proposed for possible vote once the discussion on the preparations is concluded.

A.2.8. Pantothenic acid and its forms for all animal species – Annex

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

A.2.9. Vitamin C and its forms for all animal species – Annex

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


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


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

A.2.12. Biotin for all animal species – Annex

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

A.2.13. Vitamin A for all animal species and categories – Annex

A short discussion took place on the use of vitamin A/D in drinking water. The Commission distributed a working document with examples for labelling that may contribute to inform the user in order to prevent exceeding the maximum level of the vitamins in feeds. A new Annex will be submitted to a future meeting.

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

A.2.15. Canthaxanthin as feed additive for poultry and for ornamental birds and ornamental fish – Annex

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

A.2.16. Scansmoke SEF7525 for cats and dogs – Annex

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

A.2.17. Brilliant Blue FCF (E 133) as feed additive for cats and dogs

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

A.2.18. Vitamin D for all animal species and categories – Annex

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

A.2.19. Quinoline Yellow (E104)

Due to the short period since the opinion was published it was not possible to comment on the opinion.

A.2.20. Allura red – update

Supplementary information was requested to the applicant in order to clarify safety issues. The applicant was willing to provide the information according to a letter dated June 2012.

A.2.21. DL-selenomethionine as a feed additive for all animal species

The discussion of the EFSA opinion took place. An Annex entry will be prepared for the next Committee. One delegation raised the issue of worker protection with respect to exposure of selenium to the users in general. The Commission representative referred to the respective chapter in the particular EFSA opinions which is considered in the successive authorisation acts. An internal reflection will be launched with the concerned services and, if appropriate, a specific mandate will be sent to EFSA.

A.03 Feed marketing Regulation (EC) N° 767/2009

• Substances used in the processes of sectors of the EU Feed Chain Task Force whose residues fall below the 0.1% threshold as referred to in paragraph 5 of Part A of the Annex to Regulation (EU) No 68/2013.

The Committee took note of the list of substances elaborated by the EU Feed Chain Task Force.
• Revised COPA-COGECA / FEFAC Code of Good labelling practices for compound feed for food producing animals.

The Committee discussed revised COPA-COGECA / FEFAC Code of Good labelling practices. It was acknowledged that the new version has significantly improved. Several Member States made comments on the new text, mainly concerning Annex I about claims. The Committee will continue the discussion in its next meeting and meanwhile the Member States are invited to send in their comments in written.

A.04 Feeding of calves with milk / colostrum containing residues of antibiotics on farm – Enquiry about the existence of national rules and the practice on feeding such milk/colostrum in the Member States.

Feeding of calves with milk containing residues of antibiotics on farm is exempted from the scope of Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009 on animal by-products and thus not harmonised at EU-level. This practice might increase the risk for antimicrobial resistance. In order to be able to properly embrace the issue, the Commission Services will send out a letter to the competent authorities in the Member States to gather information on the existence of national rules, the practice on feeding such milk/colostrum and the antibiotics used in practice.

A.05 Exchange of views on a possible proposal to modify Annex IV of Regulation (EC) N° 1831/2003 - labelling requirements for certain feed additives to be used in water.

A Commission representative indicated that Annex IV to Regulation (EC) N° 1831/2003 can be modified where necessary, as a result of technological progress or scientific development. The Commission may adapt the general conditions set out in Annex IV. Those measures, designed to amend non-essential elements of this Regulation, shall be adopted in accordance with the regulatory procedure with scrutiny referred to in Article 22(3). This possibility can be explored for the use of vitamins with a maximum limit or for laying down requirements for preparations.

A.06 Update and exchange of views on recent RASFF notifications.

An overview of the recent notifications were provided:

- 1 notification of a high level of cyanide in sorghum from France. In relation with this notification a delegation indicated to observe this year several notifications on high levels of cyanide/hydrocyanic acid in linseed and asked if there was a particular reason for that (weather conditions, variety). No particular reason could be identified.
- 2 notification on a high level of aflatoxins in maize from India and 1 notification on a high level of aflatoxins in maize from Romania.
- 1 notification on a high level of rye ergot in rye from Germany.
- 1 notification on a high content of ragweed (Ambrosia sp.) seeds in complete feed for birds from Belgium.
- 1 notification on a high level of dioxin in fish oil from herring from Germany.
• 1 notification on a poisonous dry dog food from Spain suspected to having caused severe diarrhoea with weight loss. The delegations of Spain and France provided detailed information on the ongoing investigations. The source of disease was not yet identified but all possibly affected feed has been blocked.

• Furthermore a delegation requested in relation to a RASFF notification which method of analysis was used to determine that the cobalt was present as cobalt proteinate. The delegation concerned committed to provide the information.

A.07 Undesirable substances in feed.

• Discussion on possible future amendment to the Annex to Directive 2002/32/EC on undesirable substances in feed as regards nitrites and mercury.

  i. - the Committee was reminded of the position paper from an UK based organisation questioning the appropriateness and need of the existing maximum levels for nitrites in feed materials as the establishing of maximum levels for nitrites in feed materials does not necessarily protect livestock from nitrite poisoning. Given that endogenous conversion of dietary nitrate to nitrite occurs, the levels of nitrate in the diet are therefore likely to have the largest impact on nitrite exposure. A more in depth discussion on this paper will take place at the next meeting.

  ii. - the letter from FEFANA as regards the mercury contamination in wet pet food containing ingredients of marine origin was discussed. Also the request from FEFANA for a higher level than currently provided for in Directive 2002/32/EC for mercury in fish, other aquatic animals and products derived thereof, used for the production of compound feed for dogs, cats and fur animal was considered. Taking into account the discussion in the Committee, the Commission representative indicated to provide for next meeting a proposal for amendment to Directive 2002/32/EC for discussion.

  iii. - the Committee was also informed of the Guidance on the application of Commission Recommendation 2013/165/EU on the presence of T-2 and HT-2 toxin in cereals and cereal products. The document has been elaborated within the Expert Committee “Agricultural Contaminants” (related to food) but is also fully applicable to feed. No particular comments were raised and the Committee agreed to submit this draft Guidance document to a stakeholder consultation.

• Clarification of the term "trace amounts not quantitatively determinable". This point was not discussed and postponed to a next meeting.

A.08 Aflatoxins in maize - discussion on a guidance document to ensure more consistent control results along the cereal chain.

The comments received from the stakeholders were discussed. The Commission representative committed to provide at the next meeting a new version for discussion of the guidance document taking into account the outcome of the discussions and certain constructive comments from the stakeholders.
A.09 Regulation (EU) N° 691/2013 on sampling - discussion on the guidance document under elaboration (awaiting comments from stakeholders).

The Committee was informed that the document is currently under consultation of the stakeholders with possibility to comment until 25 April 2014. In case substantial comments are received from the stakeholders, the working group “Sampling feed” will be convened to consider these comments before tabling the guidance document for agreement to the Committee.


The point was not discussed. However the Commission representative indicated to re-launch the discussion within very short notice with the aim to finalise it before the summer break of 2014.

B.01 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.

A discussion of the draft Regulation took place, especially about the particular nutritional purposes “Support of renal function in case of chronic renal insufficiency” and “Stabilisation of water and electrolyte balance to support the physiological digestion”.

Vote postponed

B.02 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation concerning the authorisation of the preparations of Lactobacillus brevis DSM 23231, Lactobacillus brevis DSMZ 16680, Lactobacillus plantarum CECT 4528 and Lactobacillus fermentum NCIMB 30169 as feed additives for all animal species.

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

Vote taken: Favourable opinion


The draft Regulation provides for
- The setting of a maximum level of arsenic of 10 mg/kg in calcareous marine shells.
- Lowering of the maximum level of endosulfan for maize and oilseeds and derived products with the exception of soybean and soybean products.
- Re-introduction of the footnote which was erroneously deleted by the last amendment to Directive 2002/32/EC, i.e. Commission Regulation (EU) No 1275/2013 of 6 December 2013.
No objections were raised as regards these proposed changes.

M.01 Any Other Business

- Revised proposal for exploring issues associated with innovative novel feed ingredients - OECD Task Force for the Safety of Novel Foods and Feeds
  
i. A Commission representative informed the delegations that the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) organised several meetings on different topics related to feed. The Task Force for the Safety of Novel Foods and Feeds has developed a revised proposal for exploring issues associated with innovative novel feed ingredients. Cooperation between Member states and the Commission is important to follow the discussions and to deliver good results.

- Intra-E.U. transfers of unauthorised feed additives intended to be exported to third countries
  
i. Further to a question raised by a delegation, a representative of the Commission referred to the position expressed on the occasion of previous meetings of the Standing Committee (cfr in particular summary minutes of the meetings held on 20 March 2009 and on 5-6 June 2008). The intention of the legislator was to maintain the situation derived from Article 22 of Directive 70/524/EEC, i.e. to exclude from the scope of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003 operations concerning products intended for exports. Those products are to be clearly shown, at least by an appropriate indication, to be for export to third countries, and not to be used as/in feed on the E.U. market. It is the responsibility of operators to provide the necessary guarantees and to ensure full traceability, in accordance with the rules laid down in Regulation (EC) No 178/2002.

  ii. It was further reminded that the scope of Regulation (EC) No 183/2005 includes exports of feed to third countries and that the conditions of Article 12 of Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 have to be fulfilled for the export of feed.

- On request of one delegation a Commission representative clarified that Omega-3 Fatty acids are still listed in the EU Register of feed additives. Consequently, they cannot be considered feed materials.

- On request of one delegation a Commission representative informed the Committee that the EFSA opinion on solanum glaucophyllum is still pending and will not be adopted before mid 2014.
• On the occasion of a request of one delegation about on farm mixing of compound feed a Commission representative reminded the Member States to police the correct labelling of complementary feed and premixtures.

• On request of delegation, the use of insects in animal nutrition was discussed. Several Member States stated that the current legal framework is in some cases inconsistent and not appropriate. The Commission representative explained that the Working group on the 25th March will discuss a specific issue in this context and that DG Sanco is working on a coherent legislative framework for a safe food and feed use of insects.