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Health and Food Safety Directorate General

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**SUMMARY REPORT OF THE  
STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANTS, ANIMALS, FOOD AND FEED  
HELD IN BRUSSELS ON 05 FEBRUARY 2018 - 07 FEBRUARY 2018  
(Section *Animal Nutrition*)**

**CIRCABC Link:** <https://circabc.europa.eu/w/browse/033b60fb-5b0a-4e5d-b950-61e243014a8b>

**A.01 Feed Additives - Applications under Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003 Art. 4 or 13.**

The new application requested to be used for the reduction of antibiotic consumption was discussed. The Member States' representatives concluded that this effect was not under the scope of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003.

**A.02 Feed Additives - Applications under Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003 Art. 9.**

**A.02.1. AviMatrix (benzoic acid, calcium formate and fumaric acid) for chickens for fattening, chickens reared for laying, minor avian species for fattening and minor avian species reared to point of lay - Annex**

A discussion was held. A draft Regulation will be presented in a future meeting.

**A.02.2. bentonite as a feed additive for all animal species**

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

**A.02.3. Beltherm MP/ML (endo-1,4-beta-xylanase) as a feed additive for chickens for fattening, chickens reared for laying, turkeys for fattening, turkeys reared for breeding, turkeys for breeding purposes and minor poultry species**

After the discussion on the presence in the final product of rDNA, it was confirmed that the additive containing the rDNA falls under the rules of Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003. Taking into account the previous discussion at December meeting on the inconclusive EFSA opinion on efficacy for turkeys, the Commission's representative has been requested to ask the applicant for supplementary information on the presence of rDNA and efficacy for turkeys.

**A.02.4. VevoVital® (benzoic acid) as feed additive for minor porcine species - Annex**

A discussion was held. A draft Regulation will be presented in a future meeting.

**A.02.5. FRA® Octazyme C Dry (a-galactosidase, a-amylase, endo-1,3(4)-b-glucanase, endo-1,4-b-glucanase, mannan-endo-1,4-b-mannosidase, pectinase, protease, endo-1,4-b-xylanase) for chickens for fattening and weaned piglets**

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

**A.02.6. hydroxy analogue of methionine and its calcium salt for all animal species**

This sub-point was postponed as EFSA will issue a revised opinion.

**A.02.7. *Origanum vulgare* ssp. as a feed additive for all animal species - Annex entry**

An annex entry was distributed for discussion although the Commission's representative informed that a letter requesting complementary information will be sent to the applicant. The applicant informed the Commission that the levels proposed in the EFSA opinion for certain species were not acceptable, therefore, it will submit new studies supporting higher levels.

**A.03 Discussion on amendment of Regulation (EC) No 429/2008.**

This item was not discussed.

**A.04 Issues related to Regulation (EC) No 183/2005 laying down requirements for feed hygiene.**

**A.04.1. Commission working document - Guidance document on the implementation of certain provisions of Regulation (EC) No 183/2005 on the hygiene of feedstuffs.**

The Commission's representative presented for discussion a new version of the document. There seems to be agreement on most of the issues in line with the discussion of the Guide for the use of former foodstuffs as feed. Further discussion is still required. A new version of the document will be presented during the next Committee meeting.

**A.04.2. Guide to good practice for the manufacture of safe pet foods - FEDIAF.**

Latest observations submitted by the Member States have been taken into account by FEDIAF. Therefore, after positive assessment of the Committee, the final version of the document is endorsed.

**A.04.3. Interpretation of interim measures provided in Article 24 of Regulation (EC) No 183/2005**

The Commission's representative informed the Committee on the Commission's legal interpretation of some aspects of the interim measures for import conditions of feed, as laid down in Article 24 of Regulation (EC) No 183/2005.

Insofar as Article 24 of Regulation (EC) No 183/2005 refers to the conditions laid down in Article 6 of Directive 98/51/EC, a clarification was needed on the scope of the imported products subject to the requirement of a representative – of the third-country establishment of dispatch - established within the EU.

Considering the context, the objectives and the provisions of Regulation (EC) No 183/2005, the words "*the import ... of products*" should be read as import of feed, as referred to in Article 23(1) of Regulation (EC) No 183/2005, for the purposes of assessing the conditions laid down in Article 6 of Directive 98/51/EC under which such imports of feed are to be authorised.

On that basis, Member States presently may only authorise the imports of feed from third countries from establishments which have a representative established within the EU.

An exchange of views took place, concerning also the other aspects related to the import conditions of feed within the EU and the systems put in place by the Member States.

## **A.05 RASFF.**

### **- Update and exchange of views on recent RASFF notifications.**

The Commission representative informed the Committee on the RASFF notifications related to undesirable substances in animal feed, issued since the meeting of the Committee in December 2017.

The notifications related to a too high level/content of :

- aflatoxins in groundnuts from Argentina (2)
- rye ergot in rye from Latvia
- dioxin-like PCBs and non-dioxin-like PCBs in sunflower cake from Ukraine
- lead in feed for dogs from Sweden and from Germany
- lead in manganese oxide from India
- ragweed (*Ambrosia spp*) in soybean from Romania and in feed for wild birds from Hungary
- fluorine in boldo leaves from Chile.

The finding of dioxin-like PCBs and non-dioxin-like PCBs in sunflower cake from Ukraine was highlighted given that there have been already several findings of non-compliance as regards the presence of dioxins; dioxin-like PCBs and non-dioxin-like PCBs in feed materials from Ukraine. The source of contamination is related to a contamination with PCBs (according to the congener pattern it would be PCBs of the type Clophen A40-A50 or Arochlor 1248-1254). A delegation mentioned the recent finding of high levels of dioxins in rapeseed from Ukraine (still to be notified to RASFF). Therefore there is a need to be vigilant as regards the presence of dioxins, dioxin-like PCBs and non-dioxin-like PCBs in feed materials originating from Ukraine, and this vigilance should also apply to the import of vegetable oils.

## **A.06 Undesirable substances.**

### **A.06.1 Discussion on amendment of the annexes of Directive 2002/32/EC**

The amendment to the annexes relate to changes in the maximum level of :

- arsenic in leonardite and peat
- arsenic in dimanganese chloride trihydroxide (see discussion under point A.06.5)
- lead (corrections following errors in the Regulation (EU) 2017/2229 of 4 December 2017 amending Directive 2002/32/EC)
- mercury in canned fish based feed materials for direct consumption by cats and dogs.
- free gossypol in cotton seed
- dioxins and PCBs in binders and anti-caking agents.

An exchange of views has taken place. It was highlighted that it is important that the maximum level for dioxins and PCBs in binders and anti-caking agents are also applicable to these feed additives when used as mycotoxin or radionuclide binders

#### **A.06.2. Further exchange of views on nitrates and nitrites in feed**

The Committee was informed that a request to EFSA for an opinion on the risks for animal health related to the presence of nitrates and nitrites in feed is under preparation and that a report on the state of the art on the methods of analysis for analysing the presence of nitrites in (wet) feed has been requested to the European Reference Laboratory on metals and nitrogenous compounds.

#### **A.06.3 Update on assessment by EFSA on detoxification processes – next steps**

The Committee was informed of the adoption of the assessment by EFSA of the decontamination process :

- [for dioxins and dioxin-like PCBs in fish oil by physical filtration with activated carbon](#) (July 2017)
- [for hydrocyanic acid in linseed](#) (October 2017)
- [for dioxins and dioxin-like PCBs in fish oil by physical filtration with activated carbon](#) (December 2017)
- [for dioxins and PCBs from fish meal by replacement of fish oil](#) (February 2018)
- [for dioxins and PCBs from fish meal by hexane extraction and replacement of fish oil](#) (February 2018).

The decontamination process for aflatoxin B1 of groundnut meal by ammoniation is still under assessment and finalisation of the assessment can be expected in the second half of 2018.

The Commission informed the Committee to have the intention to create a website on the application of [Regulation \(EU\) 2015/786](#), providing links to the EFSA opinions. Furthermore, details of the detoxification process (application) shall be made available to the competent authority (certain parts of certain applications are confidential) where the establishments are located. This information shall enable the competent authorities to assess the application of the decontamination process by the establishment in view of the approval of the establishment in accordance with Article 10(3) of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003. Competent authorities shall inform the Commission and other Member States of the approval of the establishment for detoxification and the Commission provides that information on the abovementioned website (to be created).

#### **A.06.4. Discussion on provisions in Directive 2002/32/EC related to the presence of Ambrosia seeds**

A short exchange of views took place.

#### **A.06.5. Arsenic in dimanganese chloride trihydroxide**

Data provided by the company indicate levels of arsenic in dimanganese chloride trihydroxide in the range of 28-30 mg/kg making use of the method of analysis based on inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry (ICP-MS) and in the range of 50-65

mg/kg making use of the method of analysis based on inductively coupled plasma atomic emission spectroscopy (ICP-AES).

The EURL on metals and nitrogenous compounds has been requested to provide an explanation on the divergence of analytical results obtained by ICP-MS versus ACP-AES. The EURL indicated that ICP-AES is not very sensitive for arsenic determination and that the arsenic determination suffers of interference from other elements, e.g. iron and lanthanum. If these interfering elements are present in the samples and these are not corrected for in the measurement, a positive bias (i.e. too high results) are the consequence. The EURL concluded that for the analysis of arsenic in dimanganese chloride trihydroxide, ICP-MS has to be used and not ICP-AES.

#### **A.06.6. Presence of THC in hemp derived products**

Commission Regulation (EU) No 68/2013 of 16 January 2013 on the Catalogue of feed materials (as amended by Commission Regulation (EU) 2017/1017) provide that hemp derived feed materials have to be derived from varieties of *Cannabis sativa* L. with a maximum tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) content (0.2 %) according to Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003.

For hemp derived products intended for use in animal feed placed on the market (including import) in EU, it would be appropriate, if possible, to define the THC level above which it can be reasonably be assumed that the hemp derived product has not been produced from hemp varieties complying with the requirement that only varieties with a maximum of 0.2 % of THC can be used for use in feed.

An exchange of views took place where the difference of the content of THC in the different part of the hemp plant was highlighted (seeds stems, leaves).

#### **A.06.7. Follow-up to recent EFSA opinions/statements. Undesirable substances of relevance for future monitoring in feed**

The document referring to recent EFSA opinions/statements and Commission recommendations on monitoring was presented :

- Pyrrolizidine alkaloids
- Deoxynivalenol and modified forms
- T-2 and HT-2 toxin
- Zearalenone and modified forms
- Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC)
- Nickel
- Aluminium
- Tropane alkaloids
- *Alternaria* toxins
- Ergot alkaloids
- Mineral oil.

A delegation indicated before initiating a monitoring on non-regulated substances that it would be appropriate to have a compilation of available information on the toxicity

of the undesirable substances to be monitored. This would enable the competent authorities to identify these situations where action has to be taken to protect public and animal health in case of findings of high levels. The Commission representative acknowledged the usefulness of such a compilation and indicated to verify with EFSA the feasibility to perform such a compilation.

#### **A.06.8. Other issues**

No other issues raised.

#### **A.07 Review of Commission Regulation (EC) No 152/2009 of 27 January 2009 laying down the methods of sampling and analysis for the official control of feed.**

The Commission's representative indicate that there is a need to review Regulation (EC) 152/2009 thereby highlighting already identified issues, namely the method of analysis for urea, for diclazuril and for trace elements iron, copper, manganese and zinc.

Delegations were requested to verify if other methods of analysis provided for by Regulation (EC) No 152/2009 would need to be subject to review and to inform the Commission thereof. It is the intention to organise a meeting of analytical experts to discuss in detail this review.

#### **A.08 Feed marketing Regulation (EC) N° 767/2009.**

##### **A.08.1. Dietetic feed (Directive 2008/38/EC) - state of play of pending evaluations, new applications and draft Regulation for repealing the Directive.**

The Commission's representative gave an update on the pending applications.

A draft text to repeal Directive 2008/38/EC will be prepared for the next Committee meeting.

#### **A.09 Notification of the UK under Article 50 of the Treaty of the European Union - for information.**

The Commission's representative briefly informed about the Technical Expert Seminar for the preparation of the UK withdrawal in the area of animal nutrition. The seminar was convened in the morning back to back to the PAFF Committee. The objective of the meeting was to raise awareness about the obligations for applicants and authorisation holders of feed additives, the obligations for applicants of feed intended for particular nutritional purposes, the obligations of feed business operators intending to export to the EU and the consequences for Member States as regards the authorisation of imports.

#### **A.10 Outcome of the final consultation about the Guidelines for the use of former foodstuffs as feed.**

The Commission's representative presented the latest draft of the guidelines which considers the comments received from the Member States in 12 January 2018 and the proposals from the Legal Service of the Commission. The written procedure for the adoption of the draft Notice will now be launched.

#### **A.11 A.O.B.**

##### **A.11.01. Feed labelling : use of the expression "probiotic" in compound feed**

On request of one Member State, the Commission's representative clarified that the claim "probiotic" on a compound feed often is used if it contains an authorized feed additive of the functional group "gut flora stabilizer". However, subject to the substantiation as referred to in Article 13(1) of Regulation (EC) N° 767/2009, other constituent of the compound feed such as specific plant extracts or fermentation microorganisms can have a probiotic effect. Moreover, the claim "prebiotic" can be, subject to the substantiation mentioned above, attributed to certain feed materials. In reverse, expressions such as "veterinary diet", "veterinary solution" or "prescription diet" used on the labelling of compound feed would not be in line with the labelling rules of compound feed.

#### **A.11.2. Update of the COPA-COGECA/FEFAC Code of practice for labelling of compound feed for food producing animals**

The updated Code of practice for labelling of compound feed for food producing animals from COPA-COGECA/FEFAC was presented to the Committee. The main amendments are due to the revision of the labelling Annexes of Regulation (EC) N° 767/2009. The Member States were asked to comment on the Code possibly by 20 March 2018.

#### **A.11.3. Register of Feed Materials**

In the light of problems with the delisting of false notifications to the Register of Feed Materials, a discussion took place on how to improve the quality of the Register. Several options were discussed. The Commission's representative announced to meet the owners of the Register (representatives of the European feed business sectors) in order to tackle the listing and delisting of specific materials in the Register.

#### **B.01 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation concerning an authorisation of the preparation of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* CNCM I-1079 as a feed additive for sows and piglets and amending Regulations (EC) No 1847/2003 and (EC) No 2036/2005 (holder of authorisation Danstar Ferment AG represented by Lallemand SAS).**

The draft Regulation refers to an authorization as zootechnical additive. A discussion took place.

**Vote taken:** Unanimity.

#### **B.02 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation concerning the authorisation of a preparation of endo-1,4-b-xylanase (EC 3.2.1.8) produced by *Trichoderma citrinoviride* Bisset (IMI SD135) as a feed additive for carp (holder of authorisation Huvepharma NV).**

The draft Regulation refers to an authorization as zootechnical additive. A discussion took place.

**Vote taken:** Unanimity.

#### **B.03 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation concerning the authorisation of a preparation of *Lactobacillus buchneri* NRRL B-50733 as a feed additive for all animal species.**

The draft Regulation refers to an authorization as silage additive. A discussion took place.

**Vote taken:** Unanimity.

- B.04 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation concerning the authorisation of a new use of the preparation of *Bacillus subtilis* DSM 29784 as a feed additive for chickens for fattening and chickens reared for laying (holder of authorisation ADISSEO France SAS).**

The draft Regulation refers to an authorization as zootechnical additive. A discussion took place.

**Vote taken:** Unanimity.

- B.05 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation concerning the authorisation of a preparation of *Lactobacillus hilgardii* (CNCM I-4785) as a feed additive for all animal species.**

**Vote Postponed**

- B.06 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation concerning the authorisation of a preparation of 6-phytase, produced by *Aspergillus niger* (DSM 25770) as feed additive for chickens for fattening, chickens reared for laying, pigs for fattening, sows, minor porcine species for fattening or for reproduction, turkeys for fattening, turkeys reared for breeding, all avian species for fattening or growing or reared for laying and weaned piglets (holder of the authorisation BASF SE).**

The draft Regulation refers to an authorization as zootechnical additive. A discussion took place.

**Vote taken:** Unanimity.

- B.07 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Regulation correcting Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 2017/1145 of 8 June 2017 on the withdrawal from the market of certain feed additives authorised pursuant to Council Directives 70/524/EEC and 82/471/EEC and repealing the obsolete provisions authorising those feed additives.**

The draft Regulation intends to correct certain mistakes on Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 2017/1145 of 8 June 2017 as regards Regulations that were repealed or amended by mistake or Regulations that were not repealed. Also it was necessary to correct some spelling mistakes and the references to certain colourants as the species and the functions for those colourants to be withdrawn were not specified correctly.

For the colourant E 153 Carbon black it was agreed that, even if it is not regarded as a feed additive, a decision needs to be taken on the basis of Article 2(3) to Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003 to withdraw this substance as an additive. The Commission intends to adopt a Regulation to clarify the status of certain substances that were initially regarded as feed additives but now they are not anymore feed additives. It was agreed also to move the entry of E 153 Carbon black from Annex II of the Register of feed additives to Annex I.

**Vote taken:** Unanimity.



**C.01 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation (EU) amending Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the establishment of a new functional group.**

After an exchange of views, it was agreed to bring back the item to the next PAFF Committee meeting for further discussion.