

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ANIMAL FEEDINGSTUFFS

Discussion Paper

Revision of the ACAF Review of On-Farm Feeding Practices

Action required:

The Committee is asked to:

- **note the contents of this paper;**
- **review the Annex to ensure that there are no areas that require further consideration; and**
- **subject to any further comments received from external stakeholders, confirm that the Committee is content for the document to be published.**

**Secretariat
February 2016**

ACAF Paper on review of the Report of on-farm feeding practices**Purpose**

1. This paper provides information on the developments to review and update ACAF's report on the review of on-farming feeding practices that was published in 2003. Additionally, the paper seeks the views of the Committee on areas or gaps in the review document (see Annex) that require further consideration or investigation. Finally, the Committee is asked to endorse the document and agree to its publication, subject to any comments received following a proposed consultation with external stakeholders.

Background

2. At its 26 February 2014 meeting, Members agreed that the Committee should review and update the report. The Committee agreed that the document was still very important and that it should provide consistent guidance and reflect current trends which are currently not included.
3. A sub-group comprising Ms Angela Booth (Chairperson), Mr Tim Brigstocke, Mrs Stephanie Young, Dr David Peers, Dr Tim Riley and Mr Edwin Snow was tasked to take this work forward. Subsequently, Mr Geoff Brown was invited to join the sub-group. Mr Peter Francis the farmer representative, has also reviewed the document.
4. Throughout the development of the review document, regular updates (at the February, June and October 2015 meetings) have been provided to the Committee. In turn, the Committee has provided comments which have been included in the final document. Additionally, the sub-group sought comments from colleagues in FSA Wales, Defra, Animal and Plant Health Agency, Veterinary Medicines Directorate and Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Northern Ireland.

Discussion

5. The revised draft document is attached at the Annex. The sub-group's approach, agreed main changes and new additions are described below.
6. The sub-group held meetings in June and September 2014. At the first meeting, the sub-group scoped out what it intended to consider as part of the

review, and what the final report would look like. To this end the sub-group agreed that the revised guidance should provide helpful information about food safety as well as feed safety. The guidance should consist of an executive summary, a one page list of recommendations, and an introduction outlining the background and charting progress since 2003. The document should outline the levels of hazards and minimise risks. There should also be a glossary of terms, an annex outlining the relevant legislation and an annex referring the reader to various related links. There should also be reference to guidance from the National Farmers' Union, the Agriculture Industries Confederation and Scottish guides on grain storage. Defra and colleagues from devolved administrations should be invited to update sections of particular interest to them.

7. At its meeting held in September 2014, the sub-group reviewed an initial document agreeing the scope, contents and structure of the document.
8. Subsequent to the September 2014 meeting, the Committee provided the sub-group with comments which have been incorporated into the latest version of the review document. A further meeting of the sub-group was held on 28 October 2015 where Members agreed the recommendations and conclusions section of the review document. The sub-group also agreed that the document should be circulated to external stakeholders for comment.
9. Although the sub-group is satisfied that the review document is ready for publication, the document has still to be sense checked with external stakeholders. The sub-group therefore proposes to carry out a sense check exercise seeking views from external stakeholders including other government departments, with a view to publication prior to the Committee's June 2016 meeting.

Conclusion

10. The Committee is asked to:

- note the contents of this paper;
- review the Annex to ensure that there are no areas that require further consideration; and
- subject to any further comments received from external stakeholders, confirm that the Committee is content for the document to be published.

ACAF Secretariat

February 2016