

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ANIMAL FEEDINGSTUFFS

68th Meeting of ACAF on 28 October 2015

Discussion Paper

**FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME &
HORIZON SCANNING**

Action: The Committee is invited to review its current work programme, agree desired outcomes and future priorities.

**Secretariat
October 2015**

ACAF FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Background

1. The Committee's forward work plan ACAF paper 14/22 was uploaded onto the ACAF website in May 2015. As is the usual practice, the Secretariat has combined horizon scanning and future work of the Committee into one exercise. The Committee's current Forward Work Programme is in the Annex including suggestions for new work which are highlighted in green.
2. As previously agreed by the Committee Annex I has been divided into high, medium, low priority and periodical update items. The Secretariat has listed the items in a suggested order of importance for the Committee to consider.
3. Please note that the Secretariat has proposed that the following items (highlighted in purple) are moved from medium priority to low priority:
 - Feed Safety – Potential Gaps.
4. The Secretariat has also suggested the following new items (highlighted in green) to be included in the high and medium priority of the forward work plan respectively. Please can you consider if you agree with these suggestions:
 - refuse-derived fuel market;
 - biostimulants; and
 - outcome of Review of Scientific Advisory Committees and follow-up action.
5. A Member has suggested that further discussion may be needed on the way that work streams are classified and has suggested the following interpretations:

High- Topics that ACAF will proactively work on in the next 12 months. Given the small number of meetings this will inevitably be a fairly short list. They will be important items but may not include all important items if, for example, the Committee is waiting for new information on a particular issue before considering further.

Medium- Topics that ACAF will proactively work on in the coming 12 months if time permits after High priority items have been completed. Medium priority items not done may move up to High category in the following year.

Low –Low priority items are those items for which ACAF will keep a watching brief. Since this is similar to the category 'Periodical update items' it would be sensible to amalgamate these categories.

Based on the observations above the Member has suggested the following items are listed in the high and medium priorities, and periodical updates:

Items listed in the High priority section

- Feed Incidents and related issues: an important issue, however unless there is a specific action for ACAF, suggest that this item is moved to ‘Periodical update items’;
- FVO audits: should remain ;
- Antimicrobial Resistance: an important topic but it is unclear what work ACAF could contribute on this topic. Although another Member queried if this topic should have a higher priority for ACAF than legislation or feed/food security the Member confirmed it was a topic on which ACAF should have ‘periodic updates’; and
- Refuse-derived fuel market: it is clearly stated that ACAF will ‘provide recommendations and advice on potential impacts...’.

Items listed in the Medium priority section

- ‘Consolidation of Legislation’: It is said that the action is ‘To note updates and provide comments if desired’. This does not seem something which will be done proactively and therefore this item should be in ‘periodic updates’;
- ‘Trace element status of Feeds etc.’: to be discussed at the meeting;
- ‘Proposed revision of the ACAF Review of On-Farm Feeding Practices’: the ACAF sub-committee is still working on this and assuming that there is more that will be done as part of the review, logically this should be in the High category;
- ‘Food/feed security’: the current work plan says that ‘the Committee agreed to revisit the area of sustainability at a future meeting’ and therefore this item should remain in the medium category;
- ‘Feed Safety – Potential Gaps’: this work goes back to 2011 and again whilst no doubt a very important topic it is not clear, what additional work the Committee has in mind. (see comment below from other Members);
- ‘New Developments in feed for livestock species (including aquaculture)’: the descriptor does not clearly state what proactive action the Committee intends taking on this item. It says ‘To be aware of new developments in feed manufacture and novel techniques and to make recommendations on potential safety issues’. Therefore suggest that this item could be moved into ‘periodic

updates' then moved to 'High' or 'Medium' as and when the Committee is requested to specific issues;

- EU developments etc: suggests that this item is moved into 'periodic updates';
- EFSA: suggests that this item is moved into 'periodic updates';
- The manipulation of animal diets etc: to be discussed at the meeting;
- Emphasis on reduction in food waste: Given the Commission's intention this item should remain in this category;
- Forge closer links with other Advisory Committees etc. A very worthwhile task so suggests that this item remains in this category;
- Microbiological issues: Given the possible action of the Commission suggests that this item remains in this category;
- Biostimulants: There is a clear plan in that 'The ACAF Secretariat proposes to invite an expert to provide a presentation at a future ACAF meeting'. suggests that this item remains in this category; and
- Outcome of Review of SACs and follow-up action: the descriptor says that 'there may be follow-up work requiring assistance from Committee Members' so suggests that this item remains in this category.

Items currently listed in the Low priority section

- Feed issues relating to organic production: could be removed or moved to 'periodic updates' section;
 - Biofuels: could be removed or moved to 'periodic updates'; and
 - Brominated flame retardants (BFRs): could be removed or moved to 'periodic updates'.
6. The Member has also suggested that there may be value in having a document which lists all the items that ACAF has dealt with and when, avoiding the need to keep items in the work plan just in case they may become important again or to avoid criticism that our work plan does not list some topics etc.
7. In addition other Members of the Committee have provided the following comments on the revised forward work plan as described below:
- The Committee may wish to start to address "Feed optimisation" i.e. to look at how supplemental feed (for ruminants) and principle diet feed

(monogastrics) could be optimised to minimise economic inputs without compromising food safety (and hopefully to provide positive risk benefits to food safety and human nutritional value). The objective would be one of increased profitability as well as enhanced food safety. The Member appreciates that elements of this are caught up in very specific topics (sometimes responsively). However, this outlook could provide a strategic framework that fits with the FSA's reinvigorated strategy to proactively meet consumer needs. It could also deliver on public health objectives and cross-Agency working. A concern may be that such an approach could be seen as narrowing market opportunity for feed-producers although if the Committee are to be objective, that would be balanced against wider economic and environmental benefits.

- Feed safety-potential gaps should actually be promoted to high priority rather than reduced to low priority. The rationale is that the more widespread is good feed/food safety, the harder it is to find the gaps and the more complacent one can become. ACAF should always be reviewing the gaps and checking recommendations have been delivered.
- There is a lack of any formal training availability, other than a specific short HACCP course, for individuals in the animal feed sector who have feed/food safety roles. There is no degree or Masters course which has any delivery in this area and yet it is fundamental to all who operate there. Training is always done by the companies themselves. Could the Committee carry out a formal review and make some recommendations?; Another Member of the Committee agrees with the point made on training, citing that in many sectors specific qualifications are needed for a person to take responsibility for certification of safety. There is an argument that as there have not been any issues up to now, the *status quo* should be maintained and that regulation is not required. The reputational risk of cutting corners is too great for the major companies. However, a qualification to allow individuals and companies to gain knowledge even if it is not a regulatory requirement cannot be a bad thing. Sharing an approach to safety within the industry is an excellent idea. What mechanism can ACAF use to take this forward?
- Medium priority – Consolidation of Legislation. Whilst there is a further amendment of the UK Regulations in process, the Committee should consider if this as a specific topic is worthy of remaining medium priority? In terms of the consolidation, the work will be complete and any further updates will be 'routine'. It is suggested that the title of this topic should be amended to 'Alignment of national and EU feed legislation' so that this topic remains on the radar. Additionally the item could be moved to a lower category so that it is picked up as and when required. It would also allow discussion of national discrepancies in interpretation.

- Following the suggestion by one Member of the Committee, other Members agree that ACAF should be monitoring developments in ‘nano-technology’ as it applies to the feed chain. The rationale is that this is a much discussed topic in the food sector and ACAF should fully understand the potential pros and cons of this technology. The definition of nano-particles as applied to food use has been very contentious. However the Secretariat wishes to remind Members that Nanoscience was previously included in the Committee’s Forward Work plan. However, a House of Lords Select Committee paper on this issue was published in January 2010, but contained little information. At its September 2012 meeting, Members agreed to the removal of this issue from its Forward Work plan.
- Anti-microbial resistance is a vitally important topic but as the descriptor indicates the Committee has a peripheral interest. Although ACAF certainly needs to be kept aware of developments – it suggested that this item may be a more high priority for ACAF than legislation or feed/food security, for example.
- There are a number of developments in feed which has been suggested the Committee should consider an update at future meetings. These include ‘Research into insects as animal feed’ as the research continues with much more information available. Additionally the development of algae based products for animal nutrition is starting to take shape. So called phytogenics/phytobiotics/botanicals e.g. herbs, spices, plant aromatic oils with antimicrobial activity have been the focus of several studies in recent years.

Secretariat Recommendations

8. Based on the above, and subject to the Committee’s agreement the Secretariat would suggest that the amendments shown in the Annex and described below are made to the Committee’s forward work plan:

The following items are demoted (shown in purple) from their current position:

- Feed Incidents and related issues;
- Antimicrobial Resistance;
- Consolidation of Legislation – to be retitled as ‘Alignment of National and EU Feed legislation’;
- New Developments in feed for livestock species (including aquaculture).
- EU developments – including providing advice on UK negotiating lines; and
- Work of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), including opinions on additives and contaminants relating to animal feed.

The following items to be amalgamated into one section retitled as periodic updates (shown in orange) and the descriptor to also be amended.

- Feed issues relating to organic production;
- Biofuels; and
- Brominated flame retardants (BFRs).

The following should be promoted (shown in red):

- Feed Safety – Potential Gaps.

New work items for consideration by the Committee (shown in green)

- Refuse-derived fuel market;
- biostimulants;
- outcome of review of Scientific Advisory Committees and follow-up action.
- feed optimisation;
- training; and
- nano-technology.

Action

9. The Committee is invited to review its current work programme, agree desired outcomes and future priorities.

**ACAF Secretariat
Food Standards Agency
October 2015**

ACAF Forward Work Programme

Introduction

The Committee is committed to taking a proactive approach to ensure developments in animal feed and feed safety are identified and prioritised as appropriate. Therefore this is a living document which can be amended to take account of changing priorities as new issues arise or the urgency of existing priorities change due to impacts on feed safety.

High Priority issues. ACAF to consider proactively based on emerging and current issues with high and/or immediate impact on feed safety and short term policy issues and strategic objectives for FSA and agricultural departments. Considerations include short term uncertainty risks, media interests and consumer perception.

Item no.	Topic	Progress	Expected Output
	Feed Incidents and related issues.	In June 2012 the Committee received a presentation from the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development on Feed Incident Management in Northern Ireland from an enforcement perspective. It outlined the level of preparedness in Northern Ireland for the handling of feed related incidents, including contingency planning, and risk assessment activities. The Committee was encouraged by the arrangements in place.	To maintain safety of consumers by ensuring that systems in place to deal with incidents are robust and mitigate risks within a timely response.

	<p>Recommendations from the Food and Veterinary Office (FVO) audit to UK on feed law enforcement.</p>	<p>The Committee was updated in December 2011, March, June and September 2012 of the recommendations of FVO audits on the enforcement of feed legislation and work the Agency and other control authorities were carrying out to address the recommendations.</p> <p>The FVO conducted an audit of UK feed enforcement in January 2014. The official report and recommendations have been received and a formal UK response was sent to the Commission in September 2014.</p> <p>During the period 8 -15 June 2015, the FVO carried out a general follow-up audit to UK. This was a desk based review of progress on the implementation of all outstanding recommendations from recent audits in the UK including the feed audit in January 2014. One of the outstanding recommendations from that audit was - to ensure that the labelling of oils and fats is not altered from technical grade into feed grade as required by Article 5(2) of Regulation (EC) No 183/2005. Although the FSA had provided the FVO audit team with an example of actions that it has taken to resolve the outstanding recommendation,</p>	<p>To ensure that the proposed actions to implement the recommendations of the FVO are proportionate and protect the consumer.</p>
--	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

		<p>the FVO advised that they require evidence of general adoption of the procedures such as technical notes and confirmation of adoption of the revised procedures. The FSA had therefore been in touch with industry representatives to provide the necessary information which should satisfy the auditors.</p>	
	Antimicrobial Resistance	<p>The Committee received a presentation on this issue in September 2012. It agreed this topic was complex and wished to discuss it in more depth at a future meeting, to explore whether antimicrobial resistance was a significant issue for animal feed.</p> <p>The Committee received a presentation from the Chief Executive of National Office of Animal Health (NOAH) on work the organisation had carried out on antimicrobial resistance with regard to the use of veterinary medicines. The Committee noted that although it has a peripheral interest in the subject, it was an important area and wished to be kept informed of developments.</p> <p>At its May 2013 meeting a Member of the Committee informed ACAF Members that they had been invited to be a Member of an</p>	<p>To be aware of updates and discussions affecting feed safety. To provide recommendations and comments on feed safety issues as necessary.</p>

		<p>Advisory Committee on Microbiological Safety of Food Working Group on antimicrobial resistance. The Member agreed to keep ACAF Members informed on the Working Group's discussions. The ACAF Member has attended five meetings of the working group providing feedback including requests for information from these meetings at subsequent ACAF meetings.</p>	
	<p>Refuse Derived Fuel Market</p>	<p>The Director General of the Grain Trade and Feed Trade Association (GAFTA) has asked the FSA to consider the issue of Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) Markets and the potential risks to the safety of animal feed. The potential risks are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • lack of legislation in storage of RDF / legislation not keeping up with the new market; • storage of baled RDF at ports / no zoning; • health and safety issues; and • increased pest and vermin in RDF storage areas. <p>The ACAF Secretariat proposes to invite</p>	<p>To provide recommendations and advice on potential impacts on feed safety as appropriate.</p>

		GAFTA and Defra (who have lead responsibility for this area) to provide a presentation at a future ACAF meeting.	
--	--	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--

Medium Priority issues. - ACAF to respond to developments and consider regularly. This will be based on emerging and current issues with potential increasing impact on feed safety along with medium term policy issues and strategic objectives for FSA and agricultural departments. Considerations for determining medium priority include medium term uncertainty of risks, media interests and consumer perception.

	Consolidation of Legislation – to be retitled as ‘Alignment of National and EU Feed legislation’.	<p>The Government has set a clear aim to reduce the overall burden of regulation. To this end and under the auspices of the Red Tape Challenge, the national animal feed regulations will be simplified by consolidating the four main pieces of legislation into two. The following came into force on 6 April 2015:</p> <p>(i) Animal Feed (Composition, Marketing and Use) (England) Regulations 2015 (SI 2015 No. 255) http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2015/255/contents/made; and</p> <p>(ii) Animal Feed (Hygiene, Sampling, etc. and Enforcement) (England) Regulations 2015 (SI 2015 No. 454)</p>	To note updates and provide comments if desired.
--	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------

		<p>http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2015/454/contents/made</p> <p>However a further amendment is required on (i) which is expected to be finalised in 2016.</p>	
	Trace element status of Feeds	<p>There is some concern that changes in feed legislation leading to the manufacture of animal feed with lower levels of certain trace elements might lead to inadequate nutrient supply to humans. Key issues currently are iodine and selenium. The Committee received a presentation from an ACAF Member and a representative from the University of Surrey on iodine in feed at its October 2013 meeting. New advice from EFSA is being considered by its FEEDAP Panel to see whether this impacts on its previous advice regarding revised controls for iodine-based additives.</p> <p>The Committee to decide at its 28 October 2015 meeting whether item 12 - the manipulation of animal diets to enhance the nutritional value of food (milk, meat, eggs, fish) should be amalgamated with this item.</p>	To provide recommendations and advice on potential impacts on feed safety as appropriate.
	Proposed revision of the	A sub-group of the Committee has been	To review and update the Committee's 2003

	ACAF Review of On-Farm Feeding Practices.	<p>tasked to revise the Committee's Review of On-Farm Feeding Practices which was published in September 2003 and report back to the full Committee. The sub-group held its inaugural meeting on 2 June 2014 where Members agreed the sub-groups' terms of reference, and timetable for production of a revised document. A further meeting was held on 3 September 2014, where Members reviewed a first draft of the revised document.</p> <p>An update on the progress of the review was provided at the Committee's February and June 2015 meetings.</p>	report on on-farm feeding practices identifying developments since the report was published.
	<p>Food/feed security:</p> <p>a) climate change and the impact on feed production;</p> <p>b) animal production including feeding systems and the effect on the environment; and</p> <p>c) global demand for animal derived foods and prices</p>	<p>During 2010, the Committee received presentations from a representative from the University of Reading/Deputy Chief Scientific Advisor to the Department for International Development (DfID) and another representative from the University of Reading on items (a) and (b), respectively. The Committee agreed to keep these items on its workplan.</p> <p>Item (c) stems from a GACS horizon scanning workshop held on 24 June 2009.</p>	To identify and address potential feed safety issues arising due to food/feed security considerations and provide recommendations as necessary.

	for primary production.	<p>The Committee agreed it would like to explore this area further at a future meeting. It was agreed that the Secretariat should arrange for presentations to cover: (a) the UK position; (b) the European position; and (c) the worldwide position. The Committee envisages that the proposed presentations will help it to determine its formal stance on these issues.</p> <p>In October 2014 Members received a presentation from the Chairman of the AIC's Sustainability Committee. The Committee agreed to revisit the area of sustainability at a future meeting.</p>	
	Feed Safety – Potential Gaps	<p>In June 2011, the Committee was asked to consider potential safety gaps in the feed sector. It agreed to consider in further detail the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identification of feed businesses; • awareness/competence of feed business operators (FeBOs); and • imports. <p>The Committee explored the three areas during 2012 and 2013 including</p>	To identify potential gaps in feed safety and provide recommendations to address the gaps identified.

		<p>presentations from industry organisations (e.g. the Agricultural Industries Confederation and the British Society of Animal Science on work they are doing on the awareness and competence of FeBOs). At its May 2013 meeting the Committee considered the conclusions it had reached during its exploration of potential safety gaps in the feed sector. These were published on 10 December 2013.</p> <p>http://acaf.food.gov.uk/papers/reviewgaps</p>	
	<p>New Developments in feed for livestock species (including aquaculture).</p>	<p>The Committee will continue to be updated on developments and will be asked for advice as required.</p> <p>The Committee received a presentation on work by Fera on insect protein as potential animal feed at its October 2013 meeting. The Committee was keen to receive further updates on this work.</p> <p>The Committee received a presentation at its February 2014 meeting on work being carried out by The National Institute of Agricultural Botany (NIAB) to develop a new type of wheat which could increase productivity by 30% offering greater yields. It asked for further updates on the work</p>	<p>To be aware of new developments in feed manufacture and novel techniques and to make recommendations on potential safety issues.</p>

		<p>being carried out by NIAB.</p> <p>In May 2014 the Committee received a presentation from Dr Wendy Harwood on new plant breeding techniques. The Committee noted that clarity was required on the legislative aspects of these techniques. It was interested in the research and wished to be kept informed of developments.</p>	
	EU developments – including providing advice on UK negotiating lines.	The Committee receives EU development updates at every meeting and provides input to the UK delegation on a range of issues.	To note updates and provide comments if desired.
	Work of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), including opinions on additives and contaminants relating to animal feed.	The Secretariat will continue to draw relevant EFSA Opinions and documents to the attention of ACAF for discussion.	To note updates and maintain links with EFSA, providing comments as necessary.
	<p>The manipulation of animal diets to enhance the nutritional value of food (milk, meat, eggs, fish). Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - enhancing the selenium content of livestock 	The Committee first considered this issue in 2004-2005. A horizon scanning workshop organised by the GACS took place in June 2009 and was attended by a number of ACAF Members. ACAF was requested to take forward the ideas discussed. At ACAF's September 2009 meeting a Member of the Committee	To be aware of developments and provide comments on potential issues for feed/food safety.

	<p>produce;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - enriching foods with polyunsaturated fatty acids (PUFAs) including long chain n-3 PUFA; - developing foods with reduced concentrations of saturated fatty acids; 	<p>agreed to carry out a literature review of research being carried out in this area. The report of the review was circulated to Members on 27 November 2009 and the key areas of research summarised.</p> <p>At its September 2012 meeting, Members were informed of developments on iodine and vitamin D. A Member of the Committee agreed to provide details of these developments to Members, which was circulated on 11 October 2012.</p> <p>This area will be revisited when significant developments occur.</p> <p>The Committee to decide at its October 2015 meeting whether item 5 - trace element status of feeds should be amalgamated with this item.</p>	
	<p>Emphasis on reduction in food waste</p>	<p>Yet to be considered in general terms.</p> <p>The Committee is already aware of work being done in respect of the presence of adventitious packaging material in feed produced from surplus food.</p> <p>At its February 2014 meeting, Mr Paul Featherstone the newly-elected Chairman</p>	<p>To provide comments to help to inform the FSA position on such initiatives.</p>

		<p>of the United Kingdom Former Foodstuff Processors Association (UKFFPA) provided a presentation on the work of the UKFFPA and its European equivalent, the European Former Foodstuff Processors Association (EFFPA). Members were interested in the Association's work which dovetails with initiatives on minimising packaging material in feed produced from former foodstuffs.</p> <p>The European Commissioner has indicated that it intends to issue a working document at the turn of the year.</p>	
	Forge closer links with other Advisory Committees and tackle issues of common interest.	<p>ACAF will continue to take opportunities to develop links with other SACs in respect of cross-cutting issues.</p> <p>ACAF Members and the Secretariat continued to work with the Advisory Committee on Microbiological Safety of Food (antimicrobial issues) and the Advisory Committee on Novel Food and Processes (GM Feed).</p>	To identify opportunities for working with other SACs to ensure potential feed safety issues in discussions by other SACs are identified and addressed appropriately.
	Microbiological issues	At its September 2011 meeting the Committee was asked to consider whether the policy adopted by the Food Standards Agency in relation to Salmonella in feed was appropriate. The Committee endorsed	To note developments and provide recommendations as necessary.

		<p>the line taken by UK officials in negotiations where a Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP)-type approach, as considered by EFSA and as set out in the UK Code of Practice, would be preferable to amendment of the Feed Hygiene Regulation.</p> <p>In light of comments by some Member States that the European Commission should consider a harmonised EU Salmonella strategy, ACAF Members may be asked for their views should the exercise go forward.</p>	
	Biostimulants	<p>A Committee Member has suggested that ACAF should explore this issue further. Plant biostimulants contain substance(s) and/or micro-organisms whose function when applied to plants or the rhizosphere is to stimulate natural processes to enhance/benefit nutrient uptake, nutrient efficiency, tolerance to abiotic stress, and crop quality.</p> <p>The ACAF Secretariat proposes to invite an expert to provide a presentation at a future ACAF meeting.</p>	To be aware of developments and provide comments on potential issues for feed/food safety.
	Outcome of Review of	The Cabinet Office (CO) requires all	To note updates and provide comments if

	Scientific and Advisory Committees and follow-up action	government departments to review their Non-Departmental Public Bodies (NDPBs) at least once every three years in order to increase transparency and accountability, reduce duplication of activity, and to discontinue activities which are no longer needed. The FSA will review all six of its SACs as a cluster to provide efficiencies in delivering the review. It will use common channels and sources of evidence and will consider how the SACs work with each other, and any gaps and overlaps in their functions and delivery. Following the review there may be follow-up work requiring assistance from Committee Members.	desired.
	Training		
	Feed optimisation		

Low Priority issues. - ACAF will keep a watching brief on these items based on emerging and current issues with low impact on feed safety along with long term policy issues and strategic objectives for FSA and agricultural departments. . Major changes not expected. The following considerations for determining low priority will include long term uncertainty of risks, media interests and consumer perception.

	Feed issues relating to organic production.	The Committee received an update on UK negotiations on organic farming in December 2011. It agreed that this was an	To be aware of developments in relation to organic production providing as necessary recommendations to take account of potential
--	---------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

		<p>important issue and requested it be kept informed of developments.</p> <p>At its October 2014 meeting the Committee received a presentation from a Defra official on proposals on organic products and labelling of organic products. Members agreed to provide comments to Defra on the Commission proposals.</p>	feed safety issues.
	<p>Biofuels:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • possible impact on the availability and cost of widely used selected feeds; and • the safety and use of feed co-products from the production of biofuels. 	<p>The Committee has considered this subject area in depth and its position paper was published on 30 April 2008.</p> <p>At its March and June 2010 meetings the Committee received update presentations on biofuels and agreed that its position paper should be revised and adapted to take account of quantifiable data and new developments.</p> <p>The Committee updated its position paper on biofuels at its September 2011 meeting and agreed to publish a revised document, which is available at: http://acaf.food.gov.uk/papers/biofuels</p>	To be aware of developments in relation to biofuels production providing as necessary recommendations to take account of potential feed safety issues.
	Brominated flame retardants (BFRs)	The Committee received a presentation on this issue at its December 2011 meeting. Following the meeting a project on BFRs in	To be aware of developments in relation to brominated flame retardants providing as necessary recommendations to take account

		food and feed took place. This is now complete and a draft report received. Initial conclusions include that BFRs occur in feed but, on the basis of limited investigation, their presence is probably as a result of low background environmental contamination.	of potential feed safety issues.
--	--	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------

Periodical update items for the Committee to be aware of that have long term impacts on feed safety that may or may not change rapidly over a period of time. The following considerations for determining periodical updates will include long term uncertainty of risks, media interests and consumer perception.

	GM issues including future developments in biotechnology (e.g. use of second generation GMOs) and possible links with GM nutritional work.	<p>The Committee receives regular update reports from the Secretary on EU developments; these include future developments in biotechnology.</p> <p>The issue of asynchronous approvals of GM varieties and its future impact on the security of feed supply has been brought to the attention of the Committee and is being monitored by the Secretariat.</p>	To note updates and provide comments if desired.
	Feed additive developments and issues.	An information paper was prepared by the Secretariat for ACAF's March 2008 meeting. The Committee considered this topic again at its June 2011 meeting. It noted that the assessment of applications for the re-authorisation of feed additives according to Article 10 of Regulation	To note updates and provide comments if desired.

		1831/2003 had started. The Secretariat will keep the Committee informed of developments.	
	Updates on BSE and TSE developments.	<p>An update on TSE and Meat and Bone meal (MBM) issues was provided by an official from Defra at the Committee's December 2008 and June 2011 meetings.</p> <p>At its June and September 2011 meetings, Members agreed to receive updates and monitor developments in respect of the European Commission's draft proposal to establish new criteria for feeding non-ruminant processed animal protein (PAP - excluding fishmeal) to non-ruminants of a different species.</p> <p>The Committee also received a presentation from another official from Defra on an update of EU Animal By-Product controls at its meetings in December 2009 and September 2011.</p> <p>Members were provided with an oral update at the September 2012 meeting.</p> <p>Members agreed that this item should remain on its work plan and be periodically reviewed.</p>	To note updates and provide comments if desired.
	Nano-technology		