

# **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ANIMAL FEEDINGSTUFFS**

**51st Meeting of ACAF on 22 September 2010**

## **Discussion Paper**

### **FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME & HORIZON SCANNING**

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

**Secretariat  
September 2010**

## ACAF FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

### Background

1. The Committee last discussed horizon scanning and future work at its forty-seventh meeting on 23 September 2009. Once again the Secretariat has combined both exercises. The Committee's current Forward Work Programme is at Annex I; suggestions for possible new areas of work, including those submitted by members, are at Annex II.
2. Annex I has been divided into high, medium and low priority items, as well as items that are suggested for deletion from the work plan. The Secretariat has listed the items in a suggested order of importance for the Committee to consider.
3. It is proposed that the following items can be deleted from the work plan:
  - non-feed use of additives (boluses, additives in water, etc), including legal categorisation;
  - animal welfare implications arising out of the use of certain feeds or feed management;
  - horizon scanning;
  - proposals for Research & Development (R&D) and surveillance projects as the need is identified;
  - herbal additives; and
  - Commission proposals to establish maximum limits for coccidiostats in non target feed. To review the limits, consider impact on food and the consumer as well as current residue testing programmes for home produced and imported foods.

The rationale for deletion of the above items has been provided in Annex I attached.

4. The Committee is asked to consider if it is content for these issues to be deleted from the work plan.
5. In addition, it is proposed that items shown in the same colour should be grouped together in Annex I. Members are requested to consider and confirm that they are content with these proposals.
6. As regards new work, only two items are suggested – incorporation of markers into feed and sustainability. On the latter topic, subject to the Committee's agreement, the Secretariat proposes to present a scoping paper at the December 2010 meeting.

**Action**

7. The Committee is invited to review its current work programme, agree to the prioritisation of items and desired outcomes.

**ACAF Secretariat  
Food Standards Agency  
September 2010**



## ACAF Forward Work Programme

### High Priority - position of ACAF to be considered proactively

Item no.	Topic	Progress	Rationale
1	<p>Primary production and changing demands:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- enhancing selenium content of livestock produce (milk, meat, eggs);</li> <li>- enriching foods with polyunsaturated fatty acids (PUFAs);</li> <li>- developing foods with increased levels of omega-3 through feed or ingredients in foods;</li> <li>- livestock feeding regimes that are designed primarily to improve the nutritional quality of products;</li> <li>- supplementing animal feed with requirements for a healthy diet (e.g.</li> </ul>	<p>This work item stems from General Advisory Committee on Science (GACS) horizon scanning workshop held on 24 June 2009. The work is considered important by the Committee and will require closer working with other scientific advisory committees.</p>	<p>Propose that this item and item on manipulation of animal feed to enhance the nutritional value of food could be merged.</p>

	omega-3) that remain in the end product for human consumption.		
	The manipulation of animal feed to enhance the nutritional value of food.	The Committee first considered this issue in 2004-2005. A horizon scanning workshop organised by the GACS took place on 24 June 2009 attended by a number of ACAF Members. Following the workshop, ACAF was requested to take forward the ideas discussed. At ACAF's September 2009 meeting Dr Ian Givens agreed to carry out a literature review of research being carried out at Universities on this subject area. The report of the review was circulated to Members on 27 November 2009 and the key areas of research summarised.	See comment relating to item 1 above.
2	<p>Biofuels:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>possible impact of the availability and cost of widely used selected feedingstuffs ; and</li> <li>the use of feed co-products from the production of biofuels.</li> </ul>	<p>The Committee has considered this subject area in depth and its position paper was published on 30 April 2008.</p> <p>At its 3 March and 3 June 2010 meetings the Committee received presentations on biofuels. The Committee agreed that its position paper should be revised and adapted to take account of quantifiable data and new developments. It was agreed that the Foodchain and</p>	Propose that a revised position paper should be prepared for the Committee's consideration and possible agreement at its December 2010 meeting.

		Biomass Renewable Association (Fabra) would assist the Committee in this update exercise.	
<b>3</b>	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 a report from the GM Sub-group Chairman at every meeting. This includes future developments in biotechnology and the possible links that GM has with animal and human nutrition.</p> <p>Additionally, The Secretary provides an oral update on EU developments at each meeting of the Committee.</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.</p>	
<b>4</b>	<p>Review of TSE controls and consideration of future risks to animal feed- recent EU reports mention removing some of the TSE controls to improve animal feed supply.</p> <p>Meat and bone meal - the feed/food safety implications</p>	Update on TSE and Bone meal issues was provided by Mr Patrick Burke (Defra) at the Committee's December 2008 meeting.	Propose that this item and the item on Changes to Animal By-Products rules be amalgamated into one item.

	on the EFSA suggestion of a possible controlled lifting of the ban in rations for monogastrics.		
	Changes to Animal By-Products rules.	The Committee received a presentation from Mr Neil Leach (Defra) at its meeting in December 2009. Members agreed that this item should remain on its work plan and be periodically reviewed.	See above.

**Medium Priority - position of ACAF responsive to developments and considered regularly:**

<b>5</b>	The Committee to receive regular updates on EU developments as they affect animal feedingstuffs and to advise/comment on UK negotiating lines.	The Committee receives EU development updates at every meeting. The Committee provides valuable input to the UK delegation on a range of animal feed issues.	
	EC proposal on the Marketing and Use of Feed.	<p>During 2008, the Committee provided inputs to the UK negotiating line on the proposed EC Regulation on the Marketing and Use of Feed. The Regulation was adopted in June 2009 and came into effect in 1 September 2010.</p> <p>The Annexes to the Regulation are subject to amendment, and it is envisaged that an extended Catalogue of</p>	Propose that this item is merged with item 5 above.



		Feed Materials and Codes of Practice on Feed Labelling will be drawn up. The Committee's views will be sought on these developments.	
<b>6</b>	Aquaculture.	The Committee will continue to be updated as appropriate on developments and will give advice as required. It is intended that prior to its out of London meeting in June 2011, the Committee will visit a aquaculture business.	
<b>7</b>	Climate change impact on feed production.	The Committee is to receive a presentation from Professor Tim Wheeler (University of Reading/Deputy Chief Scientific advisor to DFID) at its 22 September 2010 meeting.	Committee to decide on desired outcomes and actions to be taken following the presentation at September 2010 meeting.
<b>8</b>	Global demand for livestock and prices for primary production.	This item stems from a GACS horizon scanning workshop held on 24 June 2009. The item is a socio-economic issue which the Committee agreed it would like to explore further at its 3 December 2009 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 these presentations will help it determine its	

		formal stance on these issues.	
<b>9</b>	<p>European Food Safety Authority's (EFSA) work in relation to animal feed.</p> <p>Discussions on future EFSA Opinions on additives and contaminants in animal feed.</p>	The Secretariat will continue to draw relevant EFSA opinions and documents to the attention of ACAF for discussion.	Propose that the item on European Food Safety Authority's work in relation to animal feed and the item entitled discussions on future EFSA Opinions on additives and contaminants in animal feed should be amalgamated. Suggested new title 'Work of EFSA including opinions on additives and contaminants relating to animal feed'.
<b>10</b>	Review of feed additives under EC Regulation 1831/2005.	Information paper prepared by Secretariat for March 2008 meeting. Further consideration by the Committee after November 2010 when the assessment of applications for new authorisations of feed additives will commence.	This item and the following two items to be amalgamated into one item entitled 'Feed additives'. Secretariat to prepare an update paper on the re-authorisation of feed additives for Committee's March 2011 meeting.
	The use of prebiotics and probiotics in animal feed and the effect on animal health, particularly the use of probiotics to reduce the prevalence of coccidiosis and histomoniasis.	Former member Dr Domingue to be asked to clarify the background and need for this work. The Committee is aware of a rise in the use of pre/probiotics in response to the removal of antibiotic growth promoters from feed. The Committee requires clarification on whether the work falls within its remit. Defra, VMD and the Food Standards	See item 10 above.

		Agency to consider working together to provide a paper on this issue for the Committee's consideration.	
	<p>The Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition's (SACN) Report on Vitamin A.</p> <p>Other vitamins and nutritional additives to be kept under scrutiny.</p>	<p>Specifically, the recommendation<sup>1</sup> on animal feed was discussed at the July 2005 meeting. The Agency's Animal Feed Branch is continuing to pursue this matter with the European Commission and EFSA. At its 4 March 2009 meeting, the Committee was advised that EFSA had published an Opinion on vitamin A in February 2009.</p> <p>At its September 2009 meeting, the Committee was informed that the Commission had sought the views of Chief Veterinary Officers (CVOs). Following advice from Member State CVOs, the Commission has decided to await the outcome of the re-assessment of vitamin A under Article 10 of the EC Feed Additives Regulation 1831/2003 (i.e. post – November 2010) before considering whether the current</p>	See item 10 above.

<sup>1</sup> A reduction in retinol content of poultry and livestock feed as part of a strategy to reduce the retinol intake of regular consumers of liver should be explored further. The implications of lower levels of retinol supplementation for the welfare and productivity of poultry and livestock would need to be determined should such a strategy be considered.

		maximum permitted levels for this feed additive should be changed. The matter will then be discussed again by ACAF.	
<b>11</b>	Forge closer links with other advisory committees and tackle issues of common interest.	ACAF already liaises as necessary with other Committees.	
<b>12</b>	‘Animals, animal feed and the environment: the inescapable consequence of food production.’	The Committee received a presentation from Professor Chris Reynolds (University of Reading) at its 3 March 2010 meeting. Following the presentation, Members agreed that the Committee continued to have an interest in this subject and therefore the work area would remain in the Committee’s forward work plan.	It is possible that this item could be subsumed into proposed new work on sustainability.
<b>13</b>	EC Feed Hygiene Regulation (183/2005) and related issues.	EC Regulation 183/2005 envisages that microbiological criteria (e.g. controls on <i>Salmonella</i> ) should be set in respect of animal feeds. The Committee has been consulted on preliminary discussions on the introduction of such controls. The Committee will be updated and asked for an opinion when the Commission makes firm proposals.	
<b>14</b>	Establish if there are any feed implications from research on the potential for multiple	Yet to be considered.	Secretariat to liaise with Agency colleagues and colleagues at the Veterinary Medicines Directorate to

	residues of pesticides and veterinary medicines in food to produce effects on human health.		consider if there is a need for this item to remain on the work programme.
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**Low Priority - items to be kept under observation but major changes not expected.**

<b>15</b>	Nanoscience	Members have been briefed on issues by means of an EFSA opinion on nanoscience. A House of Lords Select Committee paper on this issue was published in January 2010; it contained little information relating to animal feed.	
<b>16</b>	Feed issues relating to organic production.	Yet to be considered.	Secretariat to liaise with lead government department (Defra) with a view to arranging a presentation in 2011.

**Items proposed for Deletion**

	Non-feed use of additives (boluses, additives in water, etc), including legal categorisation.	At the Committee's meeting in September 2009, Members noted that the non-feed use of additives had been brought within the scope of EC Regulation 767/2009 on the Market and Use of Feed.  Manufacturers will need to apply for the	Propose that in future this item should be covered in the regular EU developments papers. Therefore, delete from the main forward work programme.
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		authorisation of products. The Committee will be kept abreast of developments and invited to comment as necessary.	
	Animal welfare implications arising out of the use of certain feeds or feed management.	Regularly arises during discussions.	Propose that this specific formal item is deleted as the topic is regularly raised during discussions.
	Horizon scanning.	The Committee regularly horizon scans for topics of future consideration.	Propose that this item is deleted as the Committee regularly reviews and considers topics for future consideration.
	Make proposals for Research & Development (R&D) and surveillance projects as the need is identified.	The Committee will make suggestions for R&D and surveillance work when appropriate.	Propose that this item is deleted from the work programme as it is part of the Committee's formal remit.
	Herbal additives.  This is a specific topic linked to items 9 and 10 above.	At its meeting on 8 February 2005 the Committee had a discussion on the use of herbal additives. EFSA undertook a self-tasking study on the assessment of herbs, essential oils and other plant products as "additives" for use in animal nutrition. EFSA published its report in August 2007. The Committee received a presentation at its September 2008 meeting and agreed to await the views of the FEEDAP panel before providing an opinion on this issue.	Propose that this item is deleted as it falls under the generic item covering the work of EFSA (see item 9 above).

	<p>Commission proposals to establish maximum limits for coccidiostats in non-target feed. To review the limits, consider impact on food and the consumer as well as current residue testing programmes for home-produced and imported foods.</p>	<p>The Committee to provide input to the UK line during negotiations.</p> <p>The Committee has not reviewed the impact of the limits, as the controls have yet to come into force.</p>	<p>Propose deletion of this item as the limits are now in legislation.</p>
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**Annex II**

Suggestions for possible new areas of work for the Committee

1. Incorporation of markers in feed.
2. Sustainability.