

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ANIMAL FEEDINGSTUFFS

59th Meeting of ACAF on 19 September 2012

Information Paper

EU AND OTHER DEVELOPMENTS

Secretariat: September 2012

EU AND OTHER DEVELOPMENTS

1. This paper outlines the main developments in relation to EU legislation and related matters since the ACAF meeting held on 15 June 2012.

Official feed and food controls – Regulation (EC) No 882/2004

2. Regulation (EC) 882/2004 sets out the general principles that EU Member States must adopt when performing official controls to verify compliance with feed and food and animal health and welfare law. These principles are harmonised at EU level to protect the health of consumers and to ensure safety and quality of goods for international trade.
3. The Commission is undertaking a recast of Regulation (EC) 882/2004 following a 2009 evaluation study of its implementation. The study findings suggested that some improvements were necessary in a number of areas to clarify the official controls framework. These included: controls on residues of veterinary medicines; EU border controls on live animals and products of animal origin; and the rules governing the financing of official controls. The study also indicated that, in order to streamline and eliminate redundant control requirements, Regulation (EC) 882/2004 should also cover controls to verify compliance with plant health and seeds and propagating material law.
4. To achieve those necessary improvements the Commission has been working on a package of four measures: the recast of Regulation (EC) 882/2004 and three sector specific legislative reviews on Animal Health, Plant Health and Plant Reproductive Material. Given the complexity of this task, the Commission's original timescale for presenting the draft proposal for EC 882/2004 has slipped to the end of 2012.
5. A major component of the recast will be changes to the current rules that Member States must follow for the financing of official controls. The Commission, to ensure the long term sustainability of official controls, is considering a number of options to amend the current fees system, including a possible extension of mandatory charges for controls carried out in food and feed establishments, approved and/or registered under EU food/feed hygiene law. Measures may be provided to reduce the impact on micro businesses¹.

¹ Those businesses employing less than 10 persons and whose annual turnover and/or balance sheet does not exceed 2 million euros.

**Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health (SCoFCAH):
Animal Nutrition Section.**

6. At the 5 – 6 July 2012 meeting of SCoFCAH, Members States voted in favour of a draft Commission Regulation to extend the European Union's Catalogue of feed materials to include tolerances for processing aids and for processing residues.
7. There were a total of 13 votes in favour of European Commission proposals for feed additive authorisations at the June and July 2012 Standing Committee meetings. These are summarised in the tables below.

Feed additive authorisations from SCoFCAH – 21/22 June 2012

Additive	Additive type	Proposal number	Authorisation type
6-phytase (DSM 22594)	Digestibility enhancer	SANCO/10149/2012	new
<i>Lactobacillus brevis</i>	Gut flora stabiliser	SANCO/11005/2012	new
Ammonium chloride	Zootechnical – urinary acidifier	SANCO/10681/2012	new
6-phytase (ATCC 5233)	Digestibility enhancer	SANCO/10794/2012	new
<i>Lactobacillus plantarum</i> (NCIMB 41028 & NCIMB 30148)	Silage additives (two)	SANCO/11061/2012	new
Urea (for ruminants)	Nutritional	SANCO/11063/2012	reauthorisation
Azorubine (carmoisine)	Colour	SANCO/11218/2012	reauthorisation
Thaumatococcus	Flavour	SANCO/11217/2012	reauthorisation
Narinigin	Flavour	SANCO/11216/2012	reauthorisation

Feed additive authorisations – July 2012 SCoFCAH (Animal Nutrition Section)

Additive	Additive type	Proposal number	Authorisation type
Lanthanum carbonate	Zootechnical - reducing of phosphorous bioavailability	SANCO/10792/2012	extension
Citric acid, sorbic acid, thymol and vanillin	Zootechnical	SANCO/11060/2012	extension
Endo-1,4-beta-xylanase (EC)	Digestibility enhancer	SANCO/11242/2012	extension

3.2.1.8; <i>Aspergillus niger</i>)			
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8. Commission Regulation (EU) 451/2012 of 29 May 2012 ‘on the withdrawal from the market of certain feed additives belonging to the functional group of silage additives’ has been published in the Official Journal of the European Union:

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2012:140:0055:0063:EN:PDF>

9. This Regulation requires the withdrawal from the market of silage agents that are ‘orphan additives’ under Article 10 of Regulation 1831/2003. However, transitional measures allow for the use of existing stocks of these additives, premixtures and for remaining silage that was made using any of the additives. It is expected that orphan additives from the other functional groups will have their authorisations revoked in the months ahead.

European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)

10. EFSA’s FEEDAP² Panel has continued to assess applications made for feed additive authorisation and re-authorisation. The Panel’s assessments are published as scientific opinions on FEEDAP’s webpage:

<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/panels/feedap.htm>

11. In July 2012, EFSA published a report on dioxins and PCBs in feed and food - ‘Update of the monitoring of levels of dioxins and PCBs in food and feed’.
12. EFSA’s assessment of the data is that exposure to dietary dioxins and PCBs for the general population and for toddlers and other children has fallen significantly in recent years. EFSA’s estimate is that the reduction is between 16% and 79% for the period 2008 – 2012 compared to 2002 – 2004.
13. For both feed and food the data (provided by 26 Member States) suggest that the most heavily contaminated types are those that are derived from animal sources. This most recent study suggests that the feed and food safety measures taken by the European Union (particularly since 2000) continue to help reduce consumers’ exposures to dioxins and PCBs via consumption of food.
14. The report can be viewed using the link below:

<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/press/news/120718.htm>

² The Panel on Additives and Products or Substances used in Animal Feed.

15. The CONTAM Panel³ of EFSA provides scientific advice concerning the presence of contaminants in both feed and food. The Panel's advice can be obtained via its webpage:

<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/panels/contam.htm>

16. Commission Regulation 744/2012 on undesirable substances in animal feed has now been published in the Official Journal of the European Union.

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2012:219:0005:0012:EN:PDF>

17. This Regulation amends a number of controls for contaminants in feed contained in Annexes I and II to Directive 2002/32. Many of the changes relate to relaxations to controls for specific feed products, for example the limits for arsenic in complete and complementary feeds for pets that contain marine-derived ingredients have been increased to 10 mg/kg. However, for these cases, the maximum level of inorganic arsenic (the more toxic form) is 2 mg/kg.”

**ACAF Secretariat
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³ The Panel on Contaminants in the Food Chain.