Advisory Committee on Animal Feedingstuffs

Annual Report 2011

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Foreword

I do hope that you enjoy reading this report and find the information it contains useful in understanding more about the work of the Advisory Committee on Animal Feedingstuffs.

The Committee had a busy year in 2011, offering expert advice on many diverse and challenging issues with potential impacts on the food chain. Ensuring the safety of animal feed and understanding the effects feed may have on animal and public health safety is the Committee's primary aim.

One of the main topics that Members considered was potential gaps in feed safety controls. The Committee was asked to consider this topic following the German dioxin incident in December 2010, when large quantities of feed fats were contaminated by dioxins at levels above the legal maximum. Our objective was to help prevent a similar incident occurring in the UK. Members suggested that three main areas needed to be looked at in depth: identification of feed businesses, awareness/competence of feed business operators and feed imports. The review is on-going and progressing well.

The Committee also provided advice on the supplementation of copper for dairy cattle; this resulted in a guidance note being published in July 2011. I am extremely grateful to all those who participated in related discussions and helped to produce the guidance, which I hope will help reduce the number of cases of toxicity seen.

The Committee also received a number of expert presentations. This was particularly helpful in assisting the Committee provide balanced evidence-based advice whilst raising Members' technical and specific understanding on a number of key topical issues. Issues of note included medicated feeds and organic farming.

As a result of presentations related to biofuels that were provided in 2010, the Committee was able to honour its commitment to update its 2008 position paper on this important issue. A revised position paper was published in March 2012. As part of its conclusions, the Committee stated that it does not anticipate any significant risk to consumer health from the use in feed of co-products from biofuel production.

The Committee considered several other topical issues, including the use of brominated flame retardants. The Committee agreed that this should be placed

in its forward work plan and suggested that feed be included in any investigations that the Agency commissions on this subject.

I am extremely grateful to the many guest speakers for agreeing to provide expert presentations to the Committee. These were particularly informative, and helped the Committee broaden its evidence-based knowledge in areas of uncertainty, thus facilitating discussion and allowing the Committee to provide properly informed and practical advice to the farming community and related industries, the Food Standards Agency, and Ministers.

I am particularly grateful for the support, dedication and time Members and the Assessors give to the work of ACAF. I was particularly sorry to lose three Members (Heather Headley, Dr Bruce Cottrill and Dr Paul Brantom) whose terms of appointment ended during the course of the year. They provided extremely valuable input during their time on the Committee and I wish them well in the future.

Finally, I would like to thank the ACAF Secretariat for their continual support to the Committee and ensuring that the work programme is carried out in a timely and efficient manner.

Dr Ian Brown – OBE BSc (Agric) FRCP FFOM
Chairman of ACAF

About the Committee

1. The Advisory Committee on Animal Feedingstuffs (ACAF) was set up in June 1999 to advise on the safety and use of animal feeds and feeding practices, with particular emphasis on protecting human health and with reference to new technical developments and new feed materials and products.

2. The decision to set up the Committee was made in the light of concern about the integrity of animal feeds, particularly over the implications of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) and the use of genetically modified (GM) feed ingredients. The decision was announced in the White Paper, "The Food Standards Agency: A Force for Change", published in January 1998 and it implemented the principal recommendation of the report of the Expert Group on Animal Feedingstuffs, published in July 1992.

3. The Committee's primary purpose is to advise on the safety and use of animal feed in relation to human health. However, it also covers animal health aspects and a wide range of contemporary issues including advice on the UK negotiating line on new European Union proposals, animal feed ingredients including genetically modified organisms (GMOs) and labelling and information for purchasers of animal feed.

4. ACAF is a UK-wide advisory committee and is made up of independent experts who are appointed by UK Ministers and the Chairman of the Food Standards Agency (FSA). Members are appointed for their individual expertise and experience and are not representative of any organisation.

Terms of Reference

5. ACAF advises the Food Standards Agency, the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Ministers of the Scottish Government and of the National Assembly of Wales and the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development in Northern Ireland on the safety and use of animal feeds and feeding practices, with particular emphasis on protecting human health and with reference to new technical developments. In carrying out its functions, the Committee liaises with other relevant advisory committees as appropriate.

How to Contact the Committee

6. ACAF welcomes your views and suggestions on all aspects of its work. Please address your comments and any requests for information to:

The ACAF Secretariat
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If you would like to receive ACAF documents regularly, please complete the form at Annex I and return it to the Secretariat at the address above.

The Committee's Work in 2011

EU Regulation on the Marketing and Use of Feed (767/2009) – Labelling of Additives in Feeds

7. At the December 2010 meeting, animal feed industry representatives raised concerns about the requirement under EC Regulation 767/2009 on the Marketing and Use of Feed, to declare the added salt rather than the element (e.g. copper sulphate rather than the copper) in feeds. Their view was that this type of declaration provides less meaningful information to purchasers and makes it more difficult for users to comply with the maximum permitted levels for additives.

8. Following the December 2010 meeting, the ACAF Secretary, with the Committee's agreement, had written to the European Commission to highlight this issue and to suggest an alternative way forward. At its March 2011 meeting, the Committee was informed by Dr Ray Smith (ACAF Secretariat) that the European Commission had responded to the letter with three suggested options for a way forward. The Agency continues to engage with the European Commission and feed industry to find a workable resolution to this issue.

Sustainability aspects of feed production and use

9. At its 22 September 2010 meeting the Committee requested that a scoping paper be prepared on sustainability. ACAF Paper 11/02 was presented at the Committee's March 2011 meeting, and covered the background material, issues relating to animal feed sustainability, conclusions and proposed actions.

10. The paper demonstrated that there were numerous ways for the livestock industry food industry and consumers to make the feed sector more sustainable.

11. The Secretariat proposed three options for further consideration by the Committee. These were:

- the use of co-products from other industries;
- management and use of feed additives; and
- increased demand with ever limited resources and changes to the geographical centres of animal feed production.

12. The aim would be to produce guidance in the form of a position paper to advise the Government and industry on the safety risks, and how these could be managed.

13. It was noted that a number of the topics covered in ACAF paper 11/02 were under consideration by other scientific advisory committees (SACs) or government departments. It was agreed that ACAF would not duplicate the work being carried out elsewhere and needed to stay within its terms of reference. However, there may be an opportunity for ACAF to work with other SACs on this issue.

14. The Committee congratulated the Secretariat for preparing an excellent summary of a complex topic. It was agreed that a paper would be prepared on the feed safety implications of the use of co-products in feed, and at the request of a member, include the use of novel proteins under this work.

Copper supplementation in feed for cattle

15. At the Committee's meeting on 22 September 2010 Dr Jo Payne of the Veterinary Laboratories Agency (VLA)[1] introduced a paper (ACAF/10/13), which had been co-written with members of the mineral feed industry Peter Bone (Telsol Ltd) and John Twigge (Frank Wright Trouw). These industry representatives had approached the VLA in 2009 with their observations on cattle copper toxicity in the field. The purpose of the presentation was to inform the Committee of what appears to be excessive supplementation of copper and seek its agreement on the preparation of a code of practice for the feed industry, which could be further developed for farmers and vets.

16. The Committee revisited this issue at its meeting on March 2011, where one Member had some concerns about whether there was sufficient scientific evidence about the extent of the problem. After discussion, the Committee agreed that the authors of the code of practice should be contacted and asked if they would include a caveat to state that there was a level of uncertainty regarding the incidence of copper over-supplementation in dairy cattle. The Committee also agreed that it was content to endorse the code of practice, with or without the caveat.

17. Formal endorsement by the Committee was given on 28 March 2011. The draft document was then circulated more widely to stakeholders seeking views. At its June 2011 meeting the ACAF Secretary noted that the copper code of practice was still in draft form. As a result of further comments received, the Food Standards Agency's Animal Feed Branch organised a

[1] On 1 April 2011 the Animal Health and Veterinary Laboratories Agency was formed following the merger of Animal Health and the Veterinary Laboratories Agency (VLA).

meeting with the authors, stakeholders and some members of ACAF. The aim of the meeting was to discuss and resolve the issues raised.

18. A meeting (chaired by the ACAF Chairman) was held on 2 June 2011 between ACAF Members, and interested stakeholders. In resolving outstanding issues, those present considered that further research in this area might be useful. They also agreed that the document should be issued as guidance, as opposed to a code of practice. The guidance was eventually published on 4 July 2011.

Animal By-products – Update

19. In December 2009 Neil Leach (Defra) updated the Committee on animal by-product controls. At its September 2011 meeting Members were provided with a further update on developments in this area, by the Defra Assessor (Stephen Wyllie). Mr Wyllie explained that since the December 2009 presentation, Regulation (EC) 1069/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down health rules as regards animal by-products and derived products not intended for human consumption had entered into force. It repealed Regulation (EC) 1774/2002 (Animal By-products Regulation) and the detailed implementing rules (Commission Regulation (EU) No 142/2011) had also come into effect. Domestic legislation providing implementing and enforcement powers for the EU legislation also came into force in March 2011. Mr Wyllie stated that under the new Regulation there were no changes to the ban on feeding of catering waste, or to the ban on feeding processed animal protein to animals of the same species; but, as before, there were some derogations. In the Summer of 2010 a consultation on the relevant domestic legislation took place which concentrated on limited areas for derogations and enforcement powers.

20. The main area of consensus, in replies received in response to the consultation, was that opportunities for feeding animal by-products should be maximised where it was safe to do so. Mr Wyllie provided information concerning derogations in relation to feed which can be found at:

    http://archive.defra.gov.uk/foodfarm/byproducts/documents/authorisations.pdf

21. Mr Wyllie explained that under the Animal By-products controls, some ‘former foodstuffs’ (i.e. food no longer intended for human consumption, originating from food manufacturers and retailers) can be fed to livestock. Unlike catering waste, it is feasible to put arrangements in place to keep eligible material separate from ineligible material. Eligible materials include surplus bread, cakes, confectionery (not containing gelatine of ruminant origin), and vegetables and fruit that originate from premises with established separation procedures to prevent contact with raw meat, fish and

other animal by-products. Mr Wyllie noted that a number of supermarkets are already substantially increasing the amount of surplus food (mainly bakery products) destined for animal feed.

22. Mr Wyllie confirmed that in May 2011 the Food and Environment Research Agency (FERA) had commenced a one year project on surplus food and catering waste. The project aims are to:

- review current procedures for handling surplus food waste taking into account best practice in the UK and internationally;
- describe the amount and nature of surplus food including catering waste in the UK;
- assess the potential risks to human and animal health that might arise from the use of surplus food and catering waste in animal feed;
- compare the economics and sustainability of current processes for surplus food and catering waste disposal with the potential use of the former in animal feed; and
- the final report will describe options for sustainable and safe use of surplus food and catering waste.

23. On the future prospect for the use of catering waste in animal feed, Mr Wyllie said that when the ban was considered in relation to the revision of the EU ABP Regulation, the European Commission said that "the potential risks especially to animal health largely outweigh the benefits from such practice. In addition, the rules on animal by-products offer substantial ways of using catering waste, such as in biogas plants or for the production of biofuels".

24. The Government is committed to keeping the position on the ban under review in light of current scientific advice. It recognises that if risks can be addressed, the use for animal feed "has potential to enhance the sustainable use of the food waste resource, reduce waste, promote resilience to climate change and enhance the natural environment." Mr Wyllie noted that any future change to the Regulations would require new evidence that feeding could be carried out safely, which would require a risk assessment by EFSA followed by subsequent agreement of the Council of Ministers and the European Parliament. Therefore, there was unlikely to be any changes in the legislation in the near future.

25. The Committee said it was keen to be kept abreast of future developments in this area.

Update on the TSE Regulations

26. At its 1 June 2011 meeting, a Defra official provided the Committee with a presentation on developments in respect of the EU TSE Regulation. The

Committee was informed that the European Commission had published its TSE Roadmap 2 entitled 'A strategy paper on Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies for 2010-2015' in 2010. The document outlined areas where possible changes to EU TSE-related measures could be made, underlining that any amendments would assure a high level of food safety, be stepwise, and be supported by scientific evidence. The strategic goals included reviewing specific measures of the total feed ban when certain conditions are met. This included consideration of lifting the ban on the use of non-ruminant processed animal protein (PAP) in non-ruminant feed, without lifting the existing prohibition on intra-species recycling, subject to robust channelling controls for PAP and the availability of validated analytical tests to determine the species origin of PAP in feed.

27. The Commission is seeking views on a draft legislative proposal to make these changes. The Committee was supportive of the Commission's initiative, but raised some issues relating to the availability of validated analytical tests. The Committee requested further updates on progress of this area of work, in order to provide advice to assist the UK negotiating line.

28. At its 28 September 2011 meeting, Mr Wyllie provided Members with the following European Commission's indicative timetable for adoption and coming into force of the proposed legislation:

- 26 September 2011 – Working Group discussion
- Mid October 2011 – Discussion in SCoFCAH Biological Safety
- Mid November 2011 – Vote in SCoFCAH Biological Safety
- Spring 2012 – Adoption following European Parliament and Council Scrutiny
- July 2012 – Entry into Force.

29. Mr Wyllie confirmed that colleagues in Defra would be seeking an agreed UK Government position with Ministers. He also stated that most non-ruminant PAP produced in the UK is currently used in pet food.

30. Members also noted the FSA Board's position not to support a relaxation to certain provisions of the feed ban. Members asked to receive updates so that they could monitor developments in this area.

Feed Safety – potential gaps

31. As a result of the German dioxin incident in December 2010 - see section on incidents below - the Committee was asked at its 1 June 2011 meeting to consider potential safety gaps in the feed sector to prevent a similar incident occurring in the UK. Members suggested three main work areas:

identification of feed businesses, awareness/competence of feed business operators; and imports. It was agreed that these areas would be explored with a view to providing advice.

32. At its 14 December meeting, the FSA Assessor (Mr Tim Franck) introduced a paper (ACAF/11/19) on the identification of feed business establishments. In the paper, Mr Franck reported that most establishments of manufacturers of feed additives, premixtures and compound feeds for farm animals as well as major importers and traders have been approved or registered by enforcement authorities. Mr Franck stated that most major food businesses that supply surplus material for animal feed use have been identified, as they are often members of feed assurance schemes and the Food and Drink Federation had advised its members of the need to register as feed business establishments where appropriate.

33. However, there are many thousands of food manufacturers and retailers in the UK, a proportion of which may only provide products for feed on an occasional basis. Also, the feed transport sector is fragmented with many small businesses. It cannot be established with absolute certainty that all such businesses have been registered.

34. Following Mr Franck's introduction, Members provided information on the types of establishments which may not be registered by enforcement authorities, including farms which were not part of industry assurance schemes and certain holdings whose owners were ineligible for grants and may therefore not be listed on agriculture departments' registers. Additionally, chemical manufacturers and limestone producers who supply the feed industry may not consider themselves feed businesses, and thus may not have applied for registration.

Biofuels – update of position paper

35. In April 2008, the Committee published its position paper on biofuels. As a result of presentations it had received in March and June 2010 on biofuels and developments in this sector, the Committee agreed to revise its position paper.

36. In April 2011, Members were asked to comment on an intersessional paper (ACAF 11/06) which provided an update on developments in biofuels. As a result of Members' comments a revised paper (ACAF 11/15) was presented at ACAF's meeting on 28 September 2011. At this meeting, Members agreed that, subject to any final comments or drafting suggestions, they were content to endorse the revised position paper.

37. The revised position paper on biofuels was published in March 2012 and can be viewed using the link below:

http://acaf.food.gov.uk/papers/biofuels

Salmonella

38. At the Committee's meeting on 28 September 2011 Dr Ray Smith (ACAF Secretariat) introduced ACAF paper 11/16, which provided an update on new developments on Salmonella contamination of animal feed. The paper also sought the Committee's re-endorsement of the policy line taken by UK officials in EU negotiations.

39. The Committee had discussed microbiological risks associated with feed in 2005, and in April 2006 in which the Committee had received a presentation from an Agency official in which it was suggested that four issues should be used when considering possible microbiological criteria for feed, namely:

    i. specific criteria (e.g. limits) should be established only where they would enhance protection of the public or animal health;
    ii. risks should be assessed in context to ensure that any criteria to be applied are proportionate (e.g. whether the risk of exposure to a particular pathogen is greater through grazing than via feed);
    iii. criteria should not place an unnecessary burden of testing on feed businesses; and
    iv. whether the criteria could be used to verify and validate hazard analysis critical control point (HACCP) systems in place.

40. At its April 2006 meeting, the Committee concluded that any criteria adopted should be proportionate to the risk and be applied sensibly. ACAF also agreed that it would be better to use preventative HACCP-type approaches, rather than to set numerical limits.

41. Members were informed that in 2008 the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) Panel on Biological Hazards (BIOHAZ) published its microbiological risk assessment in feedingstuffs for food-producing animals.[2] In December 2008, the European Commission started formal discussions with Member States in order to set formal microbiological criteria for feed. The UK, along with most other Member States, said that they did not think this approach was proportionate to the risk to the consumer, and that they preferred a HACCP-type approach as considered by EFSA. Dr Smith confirmed that the Commission was rethinking its approach, but it had not put forward any new proposals.

[2] http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/720.htm

42. Dr Smith informed the Committee that Defra had published its 'Code of Practice for the Control of Salmonella during the Production, Storage and Transport of Compound Feeds, Premixtures, Feed Materials and Feed Additives[3]' in October 2009. The Code had been endorsed by Defra, devolved administrations and by both ACAF and the FSA. Finally, Dr Smith confirmed that EU feed stakeholder groups had indicated their willingness to provide the European Commission with a draft set of common principles to control the presence of Salmonella in feed which were broadly based on those used in the UK Code of Practice.

43. The Committee agreed to re-endorse the line taken by UK officials in negotiations using a HACCP-type approach, as considered by the EFSA and as set out in the UK Code of Practice.

Flame Retardants

44. At its December 2011 meeting the Committee was informed of potential long-term issues relating to the contamination of the food chain by brominated flame retardants (BFRS) and of work being carried out by the Agency and international organisations, including opinions issued by EFSA.

45. The Committee were particularly interested in this subject and asked for further information including the context of how and where the supply chain for feed could be affected.

46. The Committee commented on further work that the Agency could undertake on this subject, such as investigating where the entry points for contamination might be for foods that were found to contain high levels of BFRs during food surveys, notably farmed fish and dairy products. The Committee also recommended that the Agency should consider including feed in any future investigations.

3 http://archive.defra.gov.uk/foodfarm/farmanimal/diseases/atoz/zoonoses/documents/reports/salmonella-feed-cop.pdf

Members discussing items at the out of London meeting – 28 September 2012

Presentations

47. The Committee received several other presentations during 2011 from external experts to help facilitate their consideration of animal feed issues. It was generally agreed that the presentations were also useful in providing opportunities to shape the Committee's agenda and possible outcomes.

Medicated feed issues

48. On 28 September 2011 Mrs Janis McDonald of the Veterinary Medicines Directorate (VMD) gave the Committee a presentation on developments in respect of the review of EC Directive 90/167 on the preparation, supply and use of medicated feedingstuffs that was expected in 2012. She reported that a proposal on new legislation would run in tandem with the review of the Veterinary Medicinal Products Directive (2001/82). Mrs McDonald stated that there was some uncertainty about the format the legislation would take, options included:

    i. a new Directive;
    ii. a new Regulation; or
    iii. amendment of EC Regulation 183/2005 on Feed Hygiene, EC Regulation 767/2009 on Marketing and Use of Feed and EC Directive 2002/32 on undesirable substances to include medicated feed.

49. The aim of the review was to reduce unnecessary administrative burden, to harmonise the marketing of medicated feed in the European Union at an appropriate safety level and to reflect technical progress in this area. As part of the review, the European Commission had undertaken a study to evaluate the production and use of medicated feed in the EU. The report[4] was published in February 2010.

50. The Commission consultation had highlighted several issues. The transposition of Directive 90/167 had led to significant differences in Member States, meaning that feed business operators are unable to use medicated feed at the same level throughout the EU. This is because there is variability between Member States in standards imposed on production which create differences in availability, costs and usefulness of medicated feed.

51. Mrs McDonald said there was international concern over the loss of antimicrobial efficacy in human treatment. The development of antimicrobial resistance in veterinary medicine had also led to concerns about the continuing availability of effective antibiotics. Measures to reduce the development of antimicrobial resistance are being considered within the revisions of the veterinary medicines legislation. These range from label warnings, restrictions on use and withdrawal of some classes of antimicrobial products.

52. In relation to the review of EC Directive 90/167, Mrs McDonald said that one of the Commission's primary concerns relating to the revision of

[4] Report can be found on:
http://ec.europa.eu/food/food/animalnutrition/labelling/medicated_feed_report_20100224.pdf

medicated feedingstuffs legislation was whether contamination from feed containing antimicrobials to subsequent batches of untreated feed (carry-over) will cause antimicrobial resistance in animals. The Commission intends to draw up a Commission Strategy on antimicrobial resistance. The setting of acceptable levels of carry-over is now being debated. Ideally, these should be based on scientific evidence and provided for in the same way as those set for coccidiostats. Industry bodies are intending to lobby the Commission further to ensure carry-over limits are based on scientific risk assessments. VMD is in support of this initiative.

53. Mrs McDonald said that there was evidence to suggest that reduction in the use of antibiotics in medicated feed does not always correspond to a reduction in antimicrobial use in veterinary medicine.

54. Some Members said that controls were in place at feed mills to ensure that levels of feed additives added to feed during production were correct, and that subsequent production runs had limited carry-over. There was a variable detection level for antimicrobials, with some laboratories being unable to detect levels in feed due to the methodology involved and facilities and expertise available to laboratories. The UK feed industry is generally able to achieve less than 1% carryover of anti-microbials/coccidiostats into non-target feed, which (in the case of coccidiostat carryover into feedingstuffs intended for sensitive species) is within statutory requirements.

55. The ACAF Secretary, said that although the Veterinary Medicines Directorate was the lead Government body for this area of work, the Food Standards Agency had a clear locus in the negotiations. Whatever form the legislation would take, it would need to dovetail with existing legislation on feed hygiene and the marketing and use of feed. The Committee confirmed it would be willing to provide advice as required during the future negotiations.

Initial feedback from the Food and Veterinary Office audit

56. At its 14 December 2011 meeting, the Committee received an oral presentation from Mr Ron Cheesman of the Agency's Enforcement and Local Delivery Division, on the initial findings of the Food and Veterinary Office (FVO) November 2011 audit of the United Kingdom official controls on feed. Members were informed that the audit was a follow-up visit to one made in 2009 to monitor progress made on addressing the recommendations from that audit. A formal report of the 2011 audit was expected 20 working days after the end of the audit which officially closed on 25 November 2011.

Organic Farming

57. At its December 2011 meeting, the Committee received a presentation from Robin Fransella (a Defra official) on organic feed issues. The Committee was informed of the current issues affecting the organic feed sector, including proposed changes to legislation. The current Regulation includes derogations that allow for monogastric animals to be given 5% non-organic feed and for non-organic pullets of up to 18 weeks to be brought onto an organic holding, but these derogations are due to expire on 31 December 2011. It is proposed that a new Commission Regulation will provide a derogation for use of 5% non-organic protein feed and non-organic pullets up until 31 December 2014. Members noted that a vote by Member States on this new Regulation was expected to take place in early February 2012[5] at the Standing Committee on Organic Farming, and that the Regulation would probably not be published for some weeks after that vote. It is intended to apply retrospectively from 1 January 2012 in order to ensure that organic operators and their products retain their status prior to the date of publication.

58. The Committee agreed that this was an important but complex issue and asked that it be kept informed of developments on this subject.

The Chairman and ACAF Secretary deliberate

[5] The ACAF Secretariat was subsequently informed that the actual vote was delayed until March 2012.

Genetically Modified (GM) Issues related to animal feeds

Approval of GM lines

59. Throughout 2011, the Committee was informed of progress in respect of authorisation of various GM crops that had been evaluated by EFSA under EU Regulation 1829/2003 on GM Food and Feed. During 2011, two authorisations were issued by the European Commission for the import, processing and use (but not cultivation) of new GM cotton varieties (GHB614, and 281-24-236x3006-210-23) within the EU; four authorisations were issued by the European Commission for the import, processing and use (but not cultivation) of new GM maize varieties (MIR604xGA21, Bt11xMIR604xGA21, MON89034xMON88017, and Bt11xMIR604) within the EU. In addition, the European Commission also issued one amended authorisation for the import, processing and use, but not cultivation, of an existing GM maize line. A full list of GM approved materials is maintained on the European Commission's website:

http://ec.europa.eu/food/dyna/gm_register/index_en.cfm

ACAF GM Sub-group

60. The Sub-group is accountable to the full Committee via the former's Chairman who provides a report at each ACAF meeting. As a further accountability measure, the Committee's Chairman is an ex-officio member of the Sub-group. Membership of the Sub-group is set out in Annex II.

61. The Sub-group did not meet or report any activity during 2011.

EU Developments

62. In addition to reports already mentioned, the Committee received reports on a wide range of EU policies and legislation throughout 2011. Relevant papers are listed in Annex III.

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

63. EC Regulation 882/2004 sets out the general approach that must be taken, and the principles that must be adopted, by the competent authorities in EU Member States that have responsibility for monitoring and enforcing feed and food law, animal health and animal welfare rules. It also provides the legal basis for the European Commission to assess the effectiveness of national enforcement arrangements. The aim is to create a more comprehensive and integrated, risk-based, EU-wide, 'farm to fork'

approach to official controls. The objective is to improve the consistency and effectiveness of controls across the EU and, as a consequence, raise standards of food safety and consumer protection, and provide a more level playing field for businesses. Most of the provisions applied from 1 January 2006, with others, primarily those on the financing of official controls, applied from 1 January 2007.

64. The European Commission is carrying out a review of EC Regulation 882/2004 as part of the wider initiative to simplify EU legislation in the areas of food and feed safety, and also animal health and welfare and plant health. The aim is to ensure an integrated approach to official controls in all areas.

65. In particular, the Commission is looking at simplifying the inspection fees regime, veterinary border controls on live animals and products of animal origin and controls on veterinary medicine residues.

66. Consultation with Member States is continuing and the adoption of a proposal is expected in March/June 2012.

Implementing rules for import controls for 'high-risk' feed and food of non-animal origin

67. European Commission Regulation (EC) 669/2009 implementing the above rules was published in the Official Journal of the European Union on 25 July 2009. Legal measures needed to give effect at national level to the requirements of Regulation 669/2009 on import controls for high risk feed and food of non-animal origin came into force on 25 January 2010. The new provisions are included in the Official Feed and Food Controls (England) Regulations 2009 (SI 2009/3255). Parallel legislation has been enacted in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland and copies of the legislation may be downloaded from the Office of Public Sector Information (OPSI) at opsi.gov.uk.

68. Following the fourth and fifth reviews of the "high-risk" products carried out in March and June 2011 respectively, amended Annex 1 lists to Regulation (EC) No 669/2009 were published on 5 May and 10 August 2011 in the Official Journal of the European Union as Commission Regulation (EU) No. 433/2011 and Commission Regulation (EU) No. 799/2011. Regulation (EU) No. 433/2011 entered into force on 1 July 2011 and Commission Regulation (EU) No. 799/2011 came into force on 1 October 2011.

69. On 3 October 2011 a Commission Working Group discussed proposed further amendments to Annex 1 of Regulation (EC) No. 669/2009. At a

subsequent SCoFCAH (Standing Committee on Food Chain and Animal Health) meeting held on 9 November 2011, amendments were agreed to the list of feed and food of non-animal origin in Annex I of Regulation 669/2009 which is subject to additional import controls at designated points of entry to the EU. The draft amendment Regulation is expected to apply from 1 January 2012.

Catalogue of Feed Materials

70. Article 24 of Regulation 767/2009 on the Marketing and Use of Feed provides for the creation of a Catalogue of Feed Materials to 'facilitate the exchange of information on the product properties and list feed materials in a non-exhaustive manner'. The first version of the Catalogue, based on the existing lists of materials in the Annex to Directive 96/25 on the Circulation of Feed Materials and those materials which remained in the Annex to Directive 82/471 on Bioproteins, was published as Regulation 242/2010 of 19 March 2010.

71. Work to develop a second version of the Catalogue commenced shortly thereafter. This was taken forward by the European feed trade associations to improve existing entries and to add new materials, in particular mineral feed materials and - as a new category - fermentation by-products from various micro-organisms (many of them the by-products of biofuel processes). The revised Catalogue was formally adopted and published as EU Regulation 575/2011 of 16 June 2011.

72. The use of the Catalogue by feed business operators is voluntary, but the name of a feed material listed in the Catalogue may only be used on condition that all the relevant provisions of that Catalogue entry are complied with.

Recycled surplus food

73. EU feed legislation prohibits the use of food packaging materials as a feed material. The UK has written to the European Commission requesting that EFSA should carry out a risk assessment on packaging in feed and that the apparent zero tolerance requirement should be reviewed. The current inclusion of food packaging material in the list of prohibited substances in Annex III (a) of Regulation 767/2009 acts as a disincentive for operators to use surplus food for animal feed because it is very difficult to remove all traces of packaging from recycled material. The Commission requested that Member States provide information on the quantities of feed involved and the different types of packaging material, in order to have data that would facilitate progress on the issue.

74. At the ACAF meeting in December 2011 Members were informed that the United Kingdom had provided the European Commission with data relating to the use of surplus foods in the feed sector, types of packaging used in the surplus foods and likely residues of these packaging materials in feed. The Commission thanked the UK delegation and asked other Member States to provide equivalent data of their own to enable a discussion at a future SCoFCAH (Animal Nutrition Section) meeting to review the current inclusion of food packaging material in the list of prohibited substances in Annex III (a) of Regulation 767/2009.

Controls for dioxins in feed[6]

75. At the 21-22 September 2011 meeting of SCoFCAH (Animal Nutrition Section) the European Commission presented a revised draft of a proposal to introduce further controls concerning the presence of dioxins and dioxin-like PCBs in some types of animal feed. The revised text was considered by many Member States as an improvement on previous versions. For example, the requirement to test certain industrial products (i.e. for non-feed and non-food uses) for dioxins and PCBs has been removed. However, it was clear that the new draft did not have sufficient support from Member States as a result of the continued inclusion of a mandatory sampling and analysis regime for up to 100% of certain feed product types, so the Commission did not take it to the vote.

76. Members were informed at its December 2011 meeting, that a Commission proposal (SANCO/10282/2011) for a Regulation concerning additional controls for the presence of dioxins in feed oils/fats was presented for a vote at the October 2011 Standing Committee meeting. The main issues covered by the proposal were:

- approval to be required under Article 10 of Regulation 183/2005 for feed business operators that manufacture, blend or place feed on the market;
- establishments that blend oils for feed use that also blend oils for other purposes must ensure that these other oils comply with the controls contained in Annex I of Directive 2002/32;
- containers used to store or transport oils should be dedicated for that purpose;
- a mandatory dioxin/PCB monitoring regime (up to 100% of batches) for feed fats and oils (to include some non-feed products) and compound feeds; and
- laboratories are to notify competent authorities of non-compliant results.

[6] See also paragraph 31

77. The most controversial issue had been the adoption of the mandatory monitoring programme. However, the Commission provided sufficient additional concessions to Member States to enable the proposal to receive a qualified majority vote in favour.

National coordinated risk-based food and feed sampling programme 2011-2012

78. The FSA is making funds available to UK enforcement authorities for sampling and surveillance of feed to help ensure that risk-based targeted checks at ports, and local authority monitoring throughout the feed chain, are being performed. This programme supports the outcomes from the Agency's Strategic Plan that food produced or sold in the UK is safe to eat. The Agency has prioritised the sampling and analysis for a range of contaminants in imported feed products on a risk basis. Priorities include the sampling and analysis of feed additives, biofuel materials or co-products and feed materials for dioxins and PCBs, hazardous elements, mycotoxins and *Salmonella*.

Report on the outcome of the Quinquennial Review

79. The 2002 Food Standards Agency Report of the Review of Scientific Committees[7] recommended that all scientific advisory committees should be reviewed at least once every five years to determine 'whether each committee fulfils its intended function and whether all the current committees are still needed.'

80. A quinquennial review of ACAF started on 14 September 2009[8] and ended on 30 November 2009. The main objectives of the review were to assess:

- the continued need for ACAF;
- the Committee's role, methods of operation and effectiveness (including its terms of reference and composition);
- the openness and transparency of its procedures and the relationships between ACAF, the commissioning department and other bodies with related responsibilities (in particular the other scientific advisory committees which advise the Agency); and
- the implementation of the 2002 Review recommendations, the revised Code of Practice for Scientific Advisory Committees[9] and the current governance structures.

[7] food.gov.uk/science/researchpolicy/commswork/scicomrev

[8] http://acaf.food.gov.uk/papers/acafquinquennialreview

[9] www.berr.gov.uk/consultations/page39872.html

81. At its March 2010 meeting the Committee discussed the outcome of the quinquennial review that had recommended that there is a continuing need for ACAF as it adds value to the FSA, UK agriculture departments and stakeholders. There were 17 recommendations that the Committee was asked to consider and comment upon.

82. At its March 2011 meeting, the Committee noted that of the 17 recommendations, three related to cross-cutting issues for the Agency; the other 14 recommendations related specifically to ACAF. All 17 of the recommendations had been actioned, although some of the work on the recommendations was ongoing. The Committee was satisfied that no further action was required.

Incidents

Chloramphenicol

83. In January and February 2011 the Agency was notified of two separate Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF) notifications regarding the import of vitamin premixtures from China that were contaminated with chloramphenicol. This antibiotic is not authorised for use in feed and poses a potential safety risk to consumers; it is genotoxic and may cause other serious health effects. The Agency carried out a risk exposure assessment on affected feed products and, due to low levels of incorporation of the premixtures in complete animal feed, there was found to be no significant safety risk to consumers. All remaining stocks of the contaminated premixtures were removed from the market and destroyed, and a recall process was undertaken. The feed industry is vigilant in respect of potential contamination of similar products, and the FSA has included this contaminant in the national coordinated risk-based feed sampling programme.

German Dioxin Incident[10]

84. At its March 2011 meeting, Dr Smith (ACAF Secretariat) gave an overview of the events that occurred during the dioxins contamination incident in Germany and the ten point plan that the German authorities had compiled in response to the incident. He noted that some of the actions proposed could be relatively easy to implement, whereas others such as 'product liability insurance' might be costly. He asked the Committee to consider whether any elements of the German action plan, or any other actions, would be appropriate for implementation in the UK, to help prevent a similar incident.

[10] See also paragraph 31

85. He said that the incident first came to light on 21 December 2010 when a German feed manufacturer received analytical results that indicated that one of its products had exceeded the maximum permitted level of dioxins by a factor of two. Formal notification was provided to the European Commission and other Member States on 27 December 2010 via the RASFF.

86. Dr Smith said that investigations had determined that the contamination was traced to feed fat used in the manufacture of compound feed, and from there to 'technical mixed fatty acids' that had been used in the manufacture of the feed fat. It was unclear how a technical grade product had been diverted into animal feed. No other Member States or 'non-EU countries' received the feed fat.

87. It was noted that two bakery product manufacturers in the UK received liquid egg formulation from the Netherlands that had used eggs from German farms that had received contaminated feed. The Agency had carried out an assessment on the potential risk to human health and concluded that there was no risk to public health. However, most retailers voluntarily decided recall the products in question. Subsequent testing of the liquid egg showed that it was compliant. In total over 4,500 farms in Germany had restrictions placed on them until they could prove that the feed being used, and the food being produced, were compliant.

88. The Committee agreed that until the results of the investigations, and the proposed actions by the European Commission, were known it would be imprudent to provide advice.

89. At its June 2011 meeting the Committee was informed that investigations into the source of the incident were still on-going. Members were updated on possible new controls, which included proposals for the introduction of a mandatory programme of sampling and analysis of products destined for feed use and for some products for technical use. ACAF agreed that it was important that any new measures suggested by the European Commission as a result of this incident should be proportionate to the risk. It was uncertain whether a report of the findings by the German police would be published.

Arsenic in palm kernel

90. Between the September and December 2011 meetings, Members were told that there have been two significant findings of excessive levels of arsenic in palm kernel expeller (PKE) imported from the Far East. Initial sampling results at three ports in the UK and the Republic of Ireland, where the material was off-loaded, indicated a non-homogenous presence of this undesirable substance, and resulted in re-testing to determine whether the

breaches of the MPL were false positives. It was subsequently established from the loading plan for each of the two vessels in question that in both cases the consignments with excessive levels of arsenic had been loaded at one specific Far East port from one particular supplier.

91. Remaining stocks of the PKE containing excessive levels of arsenic were quarantined and disposed of outside the feed chain. A risk assessment determined that, at typical incorporation rates, use of the PKE in compound feed would represent a negligible risk to human health; this was subsequently confirmed by analytical results which demonstrated levels of arsenic below the statutory maximum. Consequently, a recall of compound feed containing the affected PKE was not required. The feed business that imported the material subsequently indicated that in future it will not be loading material from the Far East supplier in question. The source of the contamination has yet to be established.

ACAF Out of London Meeting

92. As part of its commitment to accessibility, each year the Committee holds one of its meetings outside London. The Committee is also keen to continue to make relevant industry visits to enable it to see at first hand the issues it considers. The Committee's September 2011 meeting, was held at the Agency's Aberdeen offices, topics discussed included:

- medicated feed issues;
- animal by-products;
- biofuels; and
- *Salmonella.*

93. Information on these issues is set out in more detail in other sections of this report.

94. Professor Charles Milne (FSA Scotland Director) in welcoming ACAF to Aberdeen said that scientific advisory committees provided valuable support to Government, including devolved administrations, and applauded ACAF for its decision to hold a meeting in Scotland.

95. The Committee would like to thank Food Standards Agency Scotland for hosting the meeting in Aberdeen in September 2011.

Induction Training

96. On the 9 September 2011 as part of their induction training, new Members of the Committee: Mrs Christine McAlinden (toxicology) and Mrs Angela

Booth (feed manufacturer) visited two premises on the Lincolnshire/Nottinghamshire borders that produce poultry feed, eggs and egg products. The sites in North Scarle, Lincolnshire and Bilsthorpe in Nottinghamshire are part of Noble Foods, a major supplier of eggs and egg products in the UK. The scope of the company's business covers the milling of feed to the manufacture of egg products and the processing of end-of-lay hens. The group was given a tour of the company's egg packing plant, an enriched caged laying unit farm and a feed mill.

97. A separate visit to similar premises in the Forest of Dean and Wales was arranged on 9 November 2011 for Dr David Peers (animal nutrition). The sites visited in Gloucestershire and Wales are also part of Noble Foods.

98. Visits like the ones referred to above help inform the Committee's membership about how feed businesses operate and about new technical developments. During the visit on 9 September 2011, the group of new Members learnt about the company's shell egg division. They saw how eggs are delivered, categorised, sized and checked at the egg packing centre and how raw materials are received, tested and processed into feed before being stored, transported and fed.

99. During the visit on 9 November 2011 the group visited a rearing and a free range farm as well as a feed mill. The group focused on the various stages of rearing poultry.

100. The new Members were extremely grateful to Noble Foods for their time during the visits which they found both enjoyable and instructive, allowing them to appreciate fully the complex food chain issues from feeding to animal husbandry and hence on to egg production.

Induction training for new Members September and November 2011

Forward Work Programme and Horizon Scanning

101. At its December 2011 meeting the Committee conducted an exercise that combined consideration of its Forward Work Programme and other horizon scanning items. The Committee decided that further amendment was required before it could agree a final Forward Work Plan. However, the Committee agreed that the following new items should be included:

- feed safety – potential gaps (work on this item had already started);
- responses to the recommendations on feed law enforcement from the Food and Veterinary Office audit mission to the UK in November 2011;
- microbiological issues;
- organic farming;
- brominated flame retardants; and
- handling of feed incidents.

102. The Forward Work Plan was uploaded onto the ACAF website on 5 March 2012.

103. A copy of the Committee's Forward Work Programme is attached at Annex IV.

Food Standards Agency – Governance of Science

104. During 2006 the Committee was actively involved in helping to develop Good Practice Guidelines for scientific advisory committees that advise the Food Standards Agency. This followed a drive to strengthen systems and

processes used for science governance within the Food Standards Agency and making them more transparent.

105. Since its foundation in April 2000, the Food Standards Agency has based its policy decisions on sound scientific evidence. The network of independent scientific advisory committees that provide external scientific expertise and advice are fundamental to the Food Standards Agency's work and reputation. The Dean Review[11] demonstrated that there was overwhelming support for the Food Standards Agency's policy of basing decisions on scientific evidence, and stated that this policy should be maintained and developed further. In response, the Food Standards Agency made proposals for strengthening the systems and processes used for the governance of science and for making them more transparent, including the development of the Good Practice Guidelines.

106. The Guidelines set out in Annex V list the basic principles which are followed by scientific advisory committees such as ACAF when assembling and using scientific advice.

[11] An independent review of the Food Standards Agency conducted by The Rt Hon Baroness Dean of Thornton-le-Fylde in 2005.

Membership

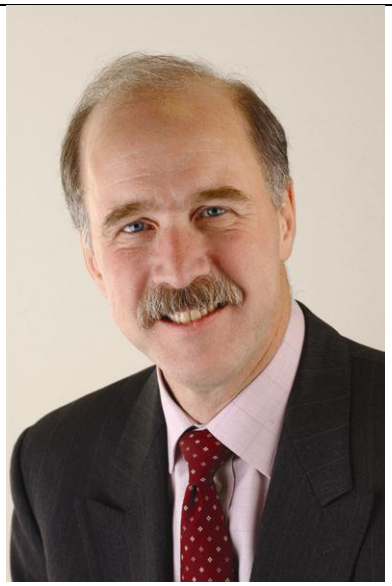
Meet the Members

107. ACAF currently consists of a Chairman and 13 members from wide-ranging backgrounds including consumer affairs, farming, the feed industry and science. Members are appointed in accordance with the Nolan Principles and guidance issued by the Office of the Commissioner for Public Appointments (OCPA), which aim to ensure fairness and transparency in appointments to public bodies. ACAF members and their main areas of expertise are listed below.

Dr Ian Brown (Chairman) is a medically qualified registered specialist in occupational medicine and toxicology. He is also a graduate in agricultural biochemistry and nutrition and has a wide range of knowledge and experience covering occupational health, toxicology, agriculture and food safety. Dr Brown was formally a Consultant Physician in Occupational Medicine and Toxicology at Southampton Universities NHS Trust and is now Director of the Occupational Health Service at the University of Oxford and is also an honorary consultant physician in occupational medicine to the Oxfordshire Primary Care Trust division of public health medicine. He is also Chair of the Pesticide Residues Committee and a member of the Advisory Committee on Toxic Substances of the Health and Safety Commission and a member of the Food Standards Agency's General Advisory Committee on Science. From 1999 to 2005 Dr Brown was a member of ACAF, and from

	May 2001 until May 2002 served as the Acting Chair, following the unexpected resignation of the Chair, at that time.
	**Dr Dozie Azubike** (lay person/consumer) is an Inspector with the Health and Safety Executive. He has a wide range of experience in the voluntary sector and is a member of the Board of the Thames Valley Charitable Housing Association and a lay Magistrate. He is also a member of the General Optical Council Fitness to Practice Committee and an adjudicator for the Solicitors Regulatory Authority.
	**Ms Angela Booth** (Feed Manufacturer) is a Commercial Services Director for ABN (part of the AB Agri group) a leading British manufacturer of pig and poultry compound feed. She has worked in the UK animal feed industry for over 30 years. She has a BSc in Animal Nutrition from Edinburgh University. Her current role includes responsibility for nutrition, purchasing, marketing, quality assurance, feed safety and legislation. Ms Booth also has responsibility for feed safety across the whole of AB Agri, which comprises a diverse range of animal nutrition businesses selling compound feed, co-products, premix, feed materials and feed additives to more than 40 countries.

	**Dr Paul Brantom who left on 30 September 2011** (toxicology) is an independent consultant in toxicological risk assessment and was previously Head of Toxicology and Information Services of BIBRA International Ltd (an independent contract research organisation specialising in research in toxicology and chemical safety). He is currently a member of the Advisory Committee on Novel Foods and Processes and in July 2011 was appointed Chair of the newly formed Advisory Committee on Pesticide Residues in Food (PRiF) which replaced the Pesticide Residues Committee (PRC). He was a member of the EFSA Panel on additives and products or substances used in animal feed (FEEDAP) until December 2010 and continues as a member of a number of EFSA Working Groups.
	**Tim Brigstocke** (feed materials) is an independent farm livestock consultant who specialises in animal feeds. He is currently Policy Director for the Royal Association of British Dairy Farmers, Executive Director for Cattle Health Certification Standards (CHeCS) and Chairman of both the Institute of Agricultural Management and the industry wide Cattle Health and Welfare Group. He was until late 2011 Executive Chairman of the Rare Breeds

	Survival Trust. Tim serves on a large number of industry bodies including the board of RUMA, and chairs the Society of Biology's College of Elected Members. He is a member of the Veterinary Residues Committee.
	**Dr Bruce Cottrill who left on 30 September 2011** (animal nutrition) is a senior research scientist at ADAS. He has over 25 years experience of a wide range of farming and livestock practices and in advising government departments (MAFF/Defra and the Food Standards Agency) on livestock production and feed-related issues. He has served on a number of expert national and European Community committees, and is currently a member of the CONTAM Panel of EFSA and two EFSA Working Groups (Alkaloids, Fusarium toxins).
	**Barrie Fleming** (veterinary science) is a partner in a poultry only practice, St David's Poultry Team. Mr Fleming had nine years experience in general practice before moving into the pharmaceutical and animal feed additive specialism in 2002, where he remained until 2008 when he joined the St David's Poultry Team. He has broad veterinary experience involving all domestic species and is a member of several relevant industry committees.

	**Professor Stephen Forsythe** (microbiology) is a Professor of Microbiology at Nottingham Trent University. His main research area is primarily on foodborne infections. He has been an invited participant and speaker at three FAO/WHO risk assessments on the microbiological safety of powdered infant formula. Professor Forsythe has also been a member of the European Food Standards Authority: Additives and Food Contacts Materials panel and an ad hoc member on the Qualified Presumption of Safety and Biohaz Panels.
	**Professor Ian Givens** (Animal Nutrition) is a nutritional scientist and Professor of Animal Science and Director of the Food Production and Quality Research Division at the University of Reading, School of Agriculture, Policy and Development. He is also leader of the Lipids in the Food Chain research theme within the University's Centre for Food Security. Within the University he has responsibilities for managing a large research division the work of which focuses on foods produced by animals. His research focuses on the impact of animal derived foods on chronic disease in humans and the potential for their composition to be improved together with aspects of

	environmental nutrition. He is a Member of the Scientific Advisory Committee to the British Nutrition Foundation and a member of the External Advisory Committee of the University College Dublin Institute of Food and Health. He is also currently Deputy Chairman of ACAF.
	**Professor Nigel Halford** (novel technology) is a Research Leader at Rothamsted Research, the UK's largest crop and agricultural research institute. He has been involved in research using the genetic modification of plants for 28 years. Professor Halford has considerable experience of assessing the risks of GM technology and also has the practical experience of running a field trial on GM wheat. He is the author of more than 100 refereed scientific papers, many relating to plant biotechnology, and has written and edited books and numerous articles on GM crops.
	**Mrs Heather Headley who left on 30 June 2011** (feed manufacturer) is Managing Director of her own independent feed material supply company. She has 29 years experience in the animal feed supply industry holding various posts since graduating in Animal Nutrition and Biochemistry. She has a working knowledge of practical farming to

	complement other skills.
	**Mrs Christine McAlinden** (Toxicology) is Associate Director with toXcel International Ltd and is a toxicologist with 20 years experience; she provides scientific and regulatory advice to the chemical, biotech and pharmaceutical industries. She has a BSc (Honours) in Applied Biology from Nottingham Trent University and obtained certification as a Diplomate American Board of Toxicology. Mrs McAlinden has been on the UK and European Register of Toxicologists since 2001. Between 2003 and 2008, she served on the Education Sub-committee of the British Toxicology Society. She has been a member of the panel for the UK Register of Toxicologists since 2009.
	**Diane McCrea** (consumer) is a consultant in food and consumer affairs and is also the Chair of the Consumer Council for Water Wales Committee. She has considerable experience of consumer representation and committee work, having been a member of several advisory committees and boards, including Assured Food Standards, the Meat and Livestock Commission and the Food Standards Agency's Advisory Committee on Research. Ms McCrea has also

	represented Consumers International for more than 10 years at international food standards committees of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (including the Codex Task Force on Animal Feeding).
	**Dr David Peers** (Animal Nutrition) has over 40 years experience of livestock consultancy to farmers, government departments and the feed trade specialising in livestock nutrition and forage production. Research and development work has been published in scientific journals and he has contributed to a large number of advisory publications and reviews. He organises and delivers courses on animal nutrition and lectures to farmer discussion groups and the feed industry. He is also an accredited organic adviser.
	**Richard Scales** (local authority enforcement) is Principal Trading Standards Officer at Hampshire County Council with up to 22 years experience of Trading Standards work, including feed law enforcement. He currently specialises in agricultural aspects of enforcement and is a member of the Agriculture Focus Group of the Local Authorities Co-ordinators of Regulatory Services (LACORS). Mr Scales also chairs the Trading Standards

	South East Authorities Feeds Sub- Group.
	**Edwin Snow (feed industry)** was for seventeen years employed as the Technical Manager – Milling Division at Noble Foods (the UK's leading egg producer). From the 1st April 2011 he became an independent consultant advising feed and related businesses on quality assurance, hygiene and feed legislation. He is a Member of the Agriculture Industries Confederation's Legal Affairs and Scientific Committee. He is also a Member of the Royal Society of Chemistry and advises the British Egg Industry Council on all matters relating to feedingstuffs.
	**Marcus Themans** (farmer) owns a mixed farm in South Shropshire, producing bacon pigs and lambs, most of which are processed in the on-farm licensed butchers' shop and sold pre-packed, (retail and wholesale) under the Wenlock Edge Farm brand. Marcus is a member of the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) Agriculture Advisory Committee, Chairman of the Shropshire Rural Hub, A Champion for the Strategy for Sustainable Food and Farming and sits on West Midlands Rural Development Programme steering groups. He is a member of Meadow

	Quality Livestock (co-operative marketing group) and Heart of England Fine Foods.

Current Terms of Office of ACAF Members

108. To ensure continuity, re-appointments to ACAF are staggered so that only a proportion of the membership falls vacant each year. The terms of office of ACAF members are as follows:

Until 30 June 2011

Mrs Heather Headley (feed manufacturer)

Until 30 September 2011

Dr Paul Brantom (toxicology)
Dr Bruce Cottrill (animal nutrition)

Until 31 August 2012

Ms Diane McCrea (consumer)
Mr Marcus Themans (farmer)

Until 30 June 2013

Dr Dozie Azubike (lay person)
Professor Nigel Halford (novel technology)
Mr Richard Scales (enforcement)

Until 31 August 2013

Professor Stephen Forsythe* (microbiology)

Until 8 May 2014

Dr Ian Brown (Chairman)
Mr Barrie Fleming (veterinary science)

Until 31 May 2014

Professor Ian Givens (animal nutrition)

Until 30 June 2014

Mr Tim Brigstocke (feed materials)
Mr Edwin Snow (feed industry)

Until 31 August 2014

Ms Angela Booth (feed manufacturer)*

Until 30 November 2014

Dr David Peers (animal nutrition)*
Mrs Christine McAlinden (toxicology)*
* first term of office

Appointments 2011

109. Dr David Peers was appointed as the Committee's animal nutritionist, Mrs Christine McAlinden was appointed as the Committee's toxicologist and Ms Angela Booth was appointed as the feed manufacturer representative. The term of appointment for Ms Booth runs from 1 September 2011 until 31 August 2014. The terms of appointment for Dr Peers and Mrs McAlinden run from 1 December 2011 until 30 November 2014.

Re-appointments 2011

110. The period of appointment for two members – Dr Ian Brown and Mr Barrie Fleming - was extended to a second three year term lasting until the 8 May 2014. The period of appointment for Professor Ian Givens was extended to a second three year term lasting until 31 May 2014. The period of appointment for Mr Tim Brigstocke was extended for a third three year term last until 30 June 2014. Finally, the period of appointment for Mr Edwin Snow was extended to a second three year term lasting until 30 June 2014.

111. Committee Members whose terms of appointment ended in 2011 were: Mrs Heather Headley (feed manufacturer), Drs Paul Brantom (toxicology) and Bruce Cottrill (animal nutrition). The Committee, the Food Standards Agency and the devolved administrations were extremely grateful for their commitment and valuable input to the successful work of ACAF and wished them every success in the future.

ACAF Secretariat

112. The Committee's Secretariat is staffed by officials from the Food Standards Agency's Animal Feed and By-products Branch.

From left to right – Raj Pal, Ray Smith, Keith Millar, Mandy Jumnoodoo, Saleha Khatun and Abrar Jaffer.

The Committee's Commitment to Openness

113. ACAF is committed to a policy of openness and engagement with stakeholders. Copies of all agendas, papers, advice, reports and minutes of meetings can be found on the Committee's website at:

http://acaf.food.gov.uk

114. Paper copies of these documents can be obtained by contacting the ACAF Secretariat at the address shown at paragraph 6.

115. The nature of the expertise and experience required for ACAF membership means that some members have links with the feed industry, farming and other relevant sectors. Details of members' interests can be found in the Register of Members' Interests at Annex VI. These details are

regularly updated in the on-line version of the Register on the website. ACAF members are required to declare all relevant interests in writing when they are appointed and are reminded to update as necessary at the beginning of each meeting. Members are also required to declare any direct commercial interests, or those of close family members, in matters under discussion at each meeting. This declaration is recorded in the minutes of meetings, which are freely available to members of the public.

116. The Committee held all four of its meetings in 2011 in open session, one of which was in Aberdeen. These meetings were attended by observers from a wide range of stakeholders. Observers were not allowed to contribute to discussions, but were able to ask questions at the end of the meeting. ACAF is committed to continue to hold open meetings. Following each open meeting observers are canvassed for their views on the subject matter and conduct of the meeting.

Annex I

Request for Information on ACAF

Information on ACAF can be found on its website. If you do not have internet access and would like to receive further information about the work of the Committee *free of charge* please complete and return the form below:

Name: ----------

Address: ----------

Company/Organisation: ----------

Please send me the following ACAF papers as they become available:
(tick as appropriate)

Minutes of meetings	☐	Annual & other reports	☐
News Releases	☐	Consultation documents	☐
ACAF recruitment exercises	☐	Other information (please specify)	☐

Please return your completed form to:

The Food Standards Agency
ACAF Secretariat
Room 3C
Aviation House
125 Kingsway
London WC2B 6NH
Tel: 020 7 276 8083
Fax: 020 7 276 8910
Email: acaf@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk

✂ PLEASE CUT HERE

Annex II

Membership of ACAF Sub-groups

GM Sub-group

Dr Paul Brantom (Chairman)
Dr Ian Brown (ex officio)
Dr Bruce Cottrill
Prof. Nigel Halford

Annex III

Papers Considered by ACAF in 2011

NO. OF PAPER	NAME OF PAPER	MEETING NUMBER	DATE OF MEETING
ACAF/11/01	German Dioxins	53rd	2 March 2011
ACAF/11/02	Sustainability aspects of feed production and use	53rd	2 March 2011
ACAF/11/03	2009 Quinquennial Review: Progress on Recommendations	53rd	2 March 2011
ACAF/11/04	EU Developments	53rd	2 March 2011
ACAF/11/05	Update on the work of other Advisory Committees	53rd	2 March 2011
ACAF/11/06	Intersessional Paper - Update on position paper on Bio fuels		April 2011
ACAF/11/07	Update on the TSE Regulations	54th	1 June 2011
ACAF/11/08	German Dioxin Incident – Update	54th	1 June 2011
ACAF/11/09	Feed safety – potential gaps	54th	1 June 2011
ACAF/11/10	Feed additives update	54th	1 June 2011
ACAF/11/11	EU Developments	54th	1 June 2011
ACAF/11/12	Update on the work of other Advisory Committees	54th	1 June 2011
ACAF/11/13	Medicated feed issues	55th	28 September 2011
ACAF/11/14	Animal by products update	55th	28 September 2011
ACAF/11/15	Biofuels update of position paper	55th	28 September 2011
ACAF/11/16	Salmonella	55th	28 September 2011
ACAF/11/17 REV	EU Developments	55th	28 September 2011
ACAF/11/18	Update on the work of other advisory committees	55th	28 September 2011

ACAF/11/19	Feed safety – potential gaps	56th	14 December 2011
ACAF/11/20	Organic Farming	56th	14 December 2011
ACAF/11/21	Flame Retardants	56th	14 December 2011
ACAF/11/22	Forward Work Programme	56th	14 December 2011
ACAF/11/23	EU Developments	56th	14 December 2011
ACAF/11/24	Update on the work of other advisory committees	56th	14 December 2011

Annex IV

ACAF Forward Work Programme

High Priority - position of ACAF to be considered proactively

Item no.	Topic	Progress
1	Feed Safety – Potential Gaps	At its 1 June 2011 meeting, the Committee was asked to consider potential safety gaps in the feed sector. It agreed to consider in further detail the following: identification of feed businesses; awareness/competence of feed business operators (FeBOs); and imports. The Committee discussed identification of feed businesses at its December 2011 meeting. Competence of FeBOs will be discussed at its March 2012 meeting.
2	GM issues including future developments in biotechnology (e.g. use of second generation GMOs) and possible links with GM nutritional work.	The Committee receives regular update reports from the Secretary on EU developments; these include future developments in biotechnology and the possible links that GM has with animal and human nutrition. 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.
3	Handling of Feed Incidents	Yet to be considered. A discussion at the Committee's June 2012 meeting is scheduled.
4	Feed issues relating to organic	The Committee received an update

	production.	on UK negotiations on organic farming at its December 2011 meeting. The Committee agreed that this was an important issue and requested it be kept informed of developments.
5	Brominated flame retardants (BFRs)	The Committee received a presentation on this issue at its 14 December 2011 meeting. It recommended that, with respect to further work the Agency proposes to undertake on this subject, specific areas should be considered, including investigating where the entry points for contamination might be for foods that were found to contain high levels of BFRs during food surveys, notably farmed fish and dairy products. The Committee also recommended that the Agency should extend its investigations to cover feed.

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

6	EU developments – including providing advice on UK negotiating lines.	The Committee receives EU development updates at every meeting and provides valuable input to the UK delegation on a range of issues. During 2008, the Committee provided inputs to the UK negotiating line on the eventual EU Regulation on the Marketing and Use of Feed. The Regulation was adopted in June 2009 and came into effect in 1 September 2010. The Annexes to the Regulation are subject to amendment, and an extended Catalogue of Feed Materials and a Code of Practice on Pet Food Labelling has been drawn up. The

		Committee's views have also been sought on these issues. At its September 2011 meeting the Committee received an update on negotiations on the review of Directive 90/167 on the preparation, supply and use of medicated feedingstuffs. Members were informed that European Commission proposals following the review were expected in 2012. The Committee confirmed it would be willing to provide any advice as required during the future negotiations.
7	Aquaculture	The Committee will continue to be updated on developments and will give advice as required.
8	Recommendations from Food and Veterinary Office (FVO) audit to UK on feed law enforcement	The Committee will be asked to comment and advise on the recommendations in respect to feed safety following the FVO audit conducted in November 2011.
9	Work of 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.
10	The manipulation of animal diets to enhance the nutritional value of food (milk, meat, eggs, fish). Examples include: - enhancing the selenium content of livestock produce; - enriching foods with polyunsaturated fatty acids (PUFAs) including long chain n-3 PUFA; - developing foods with reduced concentrations of saturated fatty acids;	The Committee first considered this issue in 2004-2005. A horizon scanning workshop organised by the GACS took place on 24 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 Prof. Ian Givens 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. This subject area will be revisited from time to time.
11	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 1831/2003 had started. The Secretariat will keep the Committee informed of developments. An EFSA opinion on the re-assessment of vitamin A is still awaited (an issue of particular interest to ACAF).
12	Forge closer links with other Advisory Committees and tackle issues of common interest.	ACAF will continue to take opportunities to develop links with other SACs in respect of cross-cutting issues.
13	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 the line taken by UK officials in negotiations where a Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP)-type approach, as considered by the European Food Safety Authority and as set out in the UK Code of Practice, would be preferable to amendment of the Feed Hygiene Regulation.

14	Establish if there are any feed implications from research on the potential for multiple residues of pesticides and veterinary medicines in food to produce effects on human health.	Yet to be considered.
15	Updates on BSE and TSE developments.	An update on TSE and Meat and Bone meal issues was provided by Mr Patrick Burke (Defra) at the Committee's December 2008 and June 2011 meetings. At the meeting in June 2011, the Committee agreed with proposals aimed at partial relaxation of certain existing controls. At its September 2011 meeting the Committee was informed that Defra officials would be seeking an agreed UK position from Ministers. The Committee also received a presentation from Mr Neil Leach (Defra) on an update of EU Animal By-Product Controls at its meetings in December 2009 and September 2011. Members agreed that this item should remain on its work plan and be periodically reviewed.

Low Priority - items to be kept under observation but major changes not expected.

16	Nanoscience	Members have been briefed on issues contained in an EFSA Opinion on nanoscience. A House of Lords Select Committee paper on this issue was published in January 2010, but contained little information relating to animal feed.

17	Biofuels: possible impact of the availability and cost of widely used selected feeds ; and the safety and use of feed co-products from the production of biofuels.	The Committee has considered this subject area in depth and its position paper was published on 30 April 2008. At its 3 March and 3 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. The Committee discussed updating 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
18	Food/feed security: a) climate change and the impact on feed production; b) animal production including feeding systems and the effect on the environment; and c) global demand for animal derived foods and prices for primary production.	During 2010, the Committee received presentations from Professor Tim Wheeler (University of Reading/Deputy Chief Scientific advisor to the Department for International Development) and Professor Chris Reynolds (University of Reading) on items (a) and (b), respectively. The Committee agreed to keep these items on its workplan. Item (c) stems from a GACS horizon scanning workshop held on 24 June 2009. 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.

Annex V

GOOD PRACTICE GUIDELINES FOR THE INDEPENDENT SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTTEES

PREAMBLE

Guidelines 2000: Scientific Advice and Policy Making[12] set out the basic principles which government departments should follow in assembling and using scientific advice, thus:

- think ahead, identifying the issues where scientific advice is needed at an early stage;
- get a wide range of advice from the best sources, particularly where there is scientific uncertainty; and
- publish the scientific advice they receive and all the relevant papers.

The *Code of Practice for Scientific Advisory Committees*[13] (revised in December 2007) provided more detailed guidance specifically focused on the operation of scientific advisory committees (SACs). The Agency subsequently commissioned a *Report on the Review of Scientific Committees*[14] to ensure that the operation of its various advisory committees was consistent with the remit and values of the Agency, as well as the Code of Practice.

The Food Standards Agency's Board has adopted a **Science Checklist** (Board paper: FSA 06/02/07) to make explicit the points to be considered in the preparation of papers dealing with science-based issues which are either assembled by the Executive or which draw on advice from the Scientific Advisory Committees.

The Board welcomed a proposal from the Chairs of the independent SACs to draw up **Good Practice Guidelines** based on, and complementing, the **Science Checklist**.

[12] Guidelines on Scientific Analysis in Policy Making, OST, October 2005. Guidelines 2000: Scientific advice and policy-making. OST July 2000
[13] Code of Practice for Scientific Advisory Committees, OST December 2001
[14] Report on the Review of Scientific Committees, FSA, March 2002

THE GOOD PRACTICE GUIDELINES

These Guidelines have been developed by 9 advisory committees:

Advisory Committee on Animal Feedingstuffs[15]
Advisory Committee on Microbiological Safety of Foods
Advisory Committee on Novel Foods and Processes
Advisory Committee on Research
Committee on Carcinogenicity of Chemicals in Food, Consumer Products and the Environment[16]
Committee on Mutagenicity of Chemicals in Food, Consumer Products and the Environment[17]
Committee on Toxicity of Chemicals in Food, Consumer Products and the Environment[18]
Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition[19]
Spongiform Encephalopathy Advisory Committee[20]

These committees share important characteristics. They:

- are independent;
- work in an open and transparent way; and
- are concerned with risk assessment not risk management.

The Guidelines relate primarily to the risk assessment process since this is the committees' purpose. However, the Agency may wish on occasion to ask the independent scientific advisory committees whether a particular risk management option is consistent with their risk assessment.

Twenty seven principles of good practice have been developed. However, the different committees have different duties and discharge those duties in different ways. Therefore, not all of the principles set out below will be applicable to all of the committees, all of the time.

This list of principles will be reconsidered by each committee annually as part of the preparation of its Annual report, and will be attached as an Annex to it.

Principles

Defining the issue

1. The FSA will ensure that the issue to be addressed is clearly defined and takes account of stakeholder expectations. The committee Chair will refer back to the Agency if discussion suggests that a re-definition is necessary.

[15] FSA Secretariat
[16] Joint FSA/HPA Secretariat, HPA lead
[17] Joint FSA/HPA Secretariat, HPA lead
[18] Joint FSA/HPA, FSA lead
[19] Joint FSA/DH Secretariat
[20] Joint Defra/FSA/DH Secretariat

Seeking input

2. The Secretariat will ensure that stakeholders are consulted at appropriate points in the committee's considerations and, wherever possible, SAC discussions should be held in public.

3. The scope of literature searches made on behalf of the committee will be clearly set out.

4. Steps will be taken to ensure that all available and relevant scientific evidence is rigorously considered by the committee, including consulting external/additional scientific experts who may know of relevant unpublished or pre-publication data.

5. Data from stakeholders will be considered and weighted according to quality by the committee.

6. Consideration by the secretariat and the Chair will be given to whether expertise in other disciplines will be needed.

7. Consideration will be given by the Secretariat or by the committee to whether other scientific advisory committees need to be consulted.

Validation

8. Study design, methods of measurement and the way that analysis of data has been carried out will be assessed by the committee.

9. If qualitative data have been used, they will be assessed by the committee in accordance with the principles of good practice, e.g. set out in guidance from the Government's Chief Social Researcher[21].

10. Formal statistical analyses will be included wherever possible. To support this, each committee will have access to advice on quantitative analysis and modelling as needed.

11. When considering what evidence needs to be collected for assessment, the following points will be considered:
    - the potential for the need for different data for different parts of the UK or the relevance to the UK situation for any data originating outside the UK; and
    - whether stakeholders can provide unpublished data.

[21] There is of guidance issued under the auspices of the Government's Social Research Unit and the Chief Social Researcher's Office (Quality in Qualitative Evaluation: A Framework for assessing research evidence. August 2003. www.strategy.gov.uk/downloads/su/qual/downloads/qqe-rep.pdf and The Magenta Book. www.gsr.gov.uk/professional_guidance/magenta_book/guidance.asp).

12. The list of references will make it clear which references have either not been subject to peer review or where evaluation by the committee itself has conducted the peer review.

Uncertainty

13. When reporting outcomes, committees will make explicit the level and type of uncertainty (both limitations on the quality of the available data and lack of knowledge) associated with their advice.

14. Any assumptions made by the committee will be clearly spelled out, and, in reviews, previous assumptions will be challenged.

15. Data gaps will be identified and their impact on uncertainty assessed by the committee.

16. An indication will be given by the committee about whether the database is changing or static.

Drawing conclusions

17. The committee will be broad-minded, acknowledging where conflicting views exist and considering whether alternative hypotheses fit the same evidence.

18. Where both risks and benefits have been considered, the committee will address each with the same rigour.

19. Committee decisions will include an explanation of where differences of opinion have arisen during discussions, specifically where there are unresolved issues and why conclusions have been reached.

20. The committee's interpretation of results, recommended actions or advice will be consistent with the quantitative and/or qualitative evidence and the degree of uncertainty associated with it.

21. Committees will make recommendations about general issues that may have relevance for other committees.

Communicating committees' conclusions

22. Conclusions will be expressed by the committee in clear, simple terms and use the minimum caveats consistent with accuracy.

23. It will be made clear by the committee where assessments have been based on the work of other bodies and where the committee has started afresh, and there will be a clear statement of how the current conclusions compare with previous assessments.

24. The conclusions will be supported by a statement about their robustness and the extent to which judgement has had to be used.

25. As standard practice, the committee secretariat will publish a full set of references (including the data used as the basis for risk assessment and other committee opinions) at as early a stage as possible to support openness and transparency of decision-making. Where this is not possible, reasons will be clearly set out, explained and a commitment made to future publication wherever possible.

26. The amount of material withheld by the committee or FSA as being confidential will be kept to a minimum. Where it is not possible to release material, the reasons will be clearly set out, explained and a commitment made to future publication wherever possible.

27. Where proposals or papers being considered by the Board rest on scientific evidence, the Chair of the relevant scientific advisory committee (or a nominated expert member) will be invited to the table at Open Board meetings to provide this assurance and to answer Members' questions on the science. To maintain appropriate separation of risk assessment and risk management processes, the role of the Chairs will be limited to providing an independent view on how their committee's advice has been reflected in the relevant policy proposals. The Chairs may also, where appropriate, be invited to provide factual briefing to Board members about particular issues within their committees' remits, in advance of discussion at open Board meetings.

Annex VI

Register of Members' Interests

MEMBER	COMPANY/ ORGANISATION	NATURE OF INTEREST	COMPANY/ ORGANISATION	NATURE OF INTEREST
Dr D Azubike	Defra, Agricultural Dwelling House Advisory Committee (ADHAC) for Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Hampshire, Isle of Wight and Oxfordshire.	Independent Member	None	None
Ms Angela Booth	AB Agri	Divisional Director	Agricultural Industries Confederation Feed Executive Committee	Member
	20ha grass farm	Partner	FEFAC Council	Member
			FEMAS Steering Group	Chairman
			Assured Food Standards Pigs Technical Committee	Member
Dr I Brown	Pesticide Residues Committee	Chairman	None	None
	Advisory Committee on Toxic Substances of the Health & Safety Commission	Member		
	Responsible Use of Medicines in Agriculture	Member		
	General Advisory Committee on Science	Ex officio Member		
Dr P Brantom(Appointment as ACAF member ended 30 September	European Food Safety Authority Working Groups	Member		

2011)				
	Advisory Committee on Novel Foods and Processes	Member		
	Advisory Committee on Pesticide Residues in Food	Chairman		
Mr T Brigstocke	Tim Brigstocke Associates	Managing Partner	Royal Association of British Dairy Farmers	Policy Director
	Cattle Health Certification Standards (UK)	Exec. Director	Rare Breeds Survival Trust	Executive Chairman/Trustee
	Veterinary Residues Committee	Member	National Cattle Association (Dairy)	Executive Secretary
	Society for the Environment	Director/Trustee	Silcock Fellowship for Livestock Research	Trustee
	Cattle Health & Welfare Group	Chairman	RUMA Alliance	Director/Hon Treasurer
			Lantra, the Sector Skills Council for the land based sector;	Trustee;
Dr B Cottrill(Appointment as ACAF member ended 30 September 2011)	ADAS UK Ltd	Employee	Multiple framework service contract with the European Parliament's Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety;	
	European Food Safety Authority CONTAM Panel	Member		
	European Food Safety Authority Working Groups	Member		

	Food and Agriculture Organisation Working Group on Livestock Feed Inventories	Member		
Mr B Fleming	St David's Poultry Team	Partner	British Veterinary Poultry	Honorary Secretary and Awards Co-ordinator
Professor S J Forsythe	School of Science and Technology, Nottingham Trent University	Employee	None	None
	Mead Johnson	expert witness		
Professor D I Givens	University of Reading	Employee	European Commission	Research funder
	European Food Safety Authority Working Group	Ad hoc expert	Various Companies	Research funders
	British Nutrition Foundation Scientific Advisory Committee	Member	BBSRC/DRINC	Research Funder
	University College Dublin Institute of Food and Health, Scientific Advisory Panel	Member	Nutrition Society	Member
	Estonian Biocompetance Centre of Healthy Dairy Products Scientific Panel	Expert assessor		
Dr N G Halford	Association of Applied Biologists	Trustee, council member, convenor	Advanced Technologies Cambridge	Research partners
	American Chemical Society	Member	Kettle Foods	Research partners
	Imperial College Press;	Publisher;	Higgins Agriculture	Research partners

			Potato Processors Association	Research partners
			United Biscuits	Research partners
			European Snacks Association/SNACMA	Research partners
			The Potato Council	Research partners
			TESCO stores	Research partners
			ConAgra	Research partners
			University of Reading	Research partners
			Scottish Crop Research Institute	Research partners
			Jordans/Ryvita	Research partners
			DEFRA LINK	Research partners
			Home Grown Cereals Authority	Studentship
			Royal Society of Chemistry	Publishers
			Shanghai Academy of Agricultural Sciences	Honorary chair
			University of Nottingham;	Special professorship;
Mrs H Headley(Appointment as ACAF member ended 30 June 2011)	Withernay Ltd	Shareholder, Managing Director	None	None

Mrs C McAlinden	Toxcel International Ltd	Employee	None	None
	British Toxicology Society	Member		
	UK Register of Toxicologist	Panel Member		
Ms D McCrea	Various consumer Non Governmental Organisation groups, EU funded research projects and the Food Standards Agency	Consultancy work – project based	None	
	Consumer Council for Water	Board Member and Chair of Wales Committee		
	Assured Food Standards	Board Member		
	Soil Association Certification Limited Certification Scrutiny Committee	Chairman		
Dr D G Peers	ADAS UK Ltd	Various consultancy contracts	None	
	Various Farm Businesses	Nutrition Consultancy		
Mr R Scales	Agriculture Focus Group of the Local Authorities Co-ordinators of Regulatory Services	Member	None	None
	Trading Standards South East Feeds Subgroup	Chairman		
	Diploma in Consumer Affairs and Trading	Lecturer		

	Standards Agriculture paper within TSSE region			
Mr E Snow	Independent Consultant to feed industry	Self Employed	Elanco - advising Elanco customers on residue controls during feed production	Member
	Tate & Lyle	Shareholder		
	Noble Foods	Consultant		
	British Egg Industry Council - feed related matters	Consultant		
Mr M Themans	E M Themans Company. Also Trading as: Wenlock Edge Farm	Farming Licenced Butchers	National Farmers Union	COPA feedingstuffs representative
	Health and Safety Executive Agriculture Advisory Committee	Member	West Midlands Rural Development Programme Steering Group	Member
	Shropshire Rural Hub	Chairman	Meadow Quality Livestock	Member
	A Champion for the Strategy for Sustainable Food and Farming Group	Member	Heart of England Fine Foods	Member

Annex VII

Abbreviations

ABP	Animal By-Product
ACAF	Advisory Committee on Animal Feedingstuffs
BBSRC	Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council
BFR	Brominated Flame Retardant
BIOHAZ	EFSA Panel on Biological Hazards
BSE	Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy
CHeCS	Cattle Health Certification Standards
CONTAM	EFSA Scientific Panel on contaminants in the food chain
COT	Committee on Toxicity of Chemicals in Food, Consumer Products and the Environment
CVO	Chief Veterinary Officer
Defra	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
DFID	Department for International Development
EC	European Community
EFSA	European Food Safety Authority
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
FEEDAP	EFSA Scientific Panel on additives and products or substances used in animal feed
FERA	Food and Environment Research Agency
FVO	Food and Veterinary Office
FSA	Food Standards Agency
GACS	General Advisory Committee on Science
GM	Genetically modified
GMO	Genetically modified organism
HACCP	Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point
LACORS	Local Authorities Co-ordinators of Regulatory Services
MAFF	Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food
MPL	Maximum Permitted Limit
OPSI	Office of Public Sector Information
PAP	Processed Animal Protein
PCB	Poly chlorinated biphenyl
PKE	Palm kernel expeller
PUFAs	Polyunsaturated fatty acids
RUMA	Responsible Use of Medicine in Agriculture
SAC	Scientific Advisory Committee
SACN	Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition
SCoFCAH	Standing Committee on Food Chain and Animal Health
SEAC	Spongiform Encephalopathy Advisory Committee
TSE	Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathy
UK	United Kingdom
VLA	Veterinary Laboratories Agency
VMD	Veterinary Medicines Directorate

VRC	Veterinary Residues Committee
WHO	World Health Organisation

Annex VIII

CODE OF PRACTICE FOR MEMBERS OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ANIMAL FEEDINGSTUFFS

Public service values

1. Members of the Advisory Committee on Animal Feedingstuffs must at all times:

- observe the highest standards of **impartiality, integrity** and **objectivity** in relation to the advice they provide and the management of this Committee;

- be **accountable** through Ministers, to Parliament and the public for its activities and the standard of advice it provides; and

- in accordance with the Government policy on **openness**, comply fully with the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information.

2. The Ministers of the sponsoring departments (the Food Standards Agency, DEFRA, Department of Agriculture and Rural Development for Northern Ireland, Scottish Executive and National Assembly for Wales) are answerable to their respective Parliaments for the policies and performance of this Committee, including the policy framework within which it operates.

Standards in Public Life

3. All Committee members must:

- follow the Seven Principles of Public Life set out by the Committee on Standards in Public Life (see Appendix I);

- comply with this code, and ensure they understand their duties, rights and responsibilities, and that they are familiar with the function and role of the Advisory Committee on Animal Feedingstuffs and any relevant statements of Government policy. New Committee members should consider the need for relevant training;

- not misuse the information gained in the course of their public service for personal gain or political purpose, nor seek to use the opportunity of public service to their private interests or those of connected persons, firms' businesses or other organisations;

- not misuse the influence gained in the course of their public service for personal gain, political purpose or promoting personal views; and

- not hold any paid or high-profile unpaid posts in a political party, and not engage in specific political activities on matters directly affecting the work of this Committee. When engaging in other political activities, Committee members should be conscious of their public role and exercise proper discretion. These restrictions do not apply to local Councillors.

Conditions of appointment and termination of appointment

4. Committee appointments can be terminated early by either party, by giving 3 months notice, in writing.

5. Should the Committee be disbanded before the end of the period of appointment, appointments will terminate on dissolution.

6. In the event that a member is found guilty of grave misconduct their appointment will be terminated immediately

7. Appointments are held subject to compliance with the Public Standards Committee Seven Principles of Public Life.

8. Members are expected to attend meetings regularly. The appointment may be terminated, without notice, if attendance becomes so erratic as to interfere with the good running of the Committee.

Role of Committee members

9. Members of the Advisory Committee on Animal Feedingstuffs have collective responsibility for the operation of the Committee. They must:

- engage fully in collective consideration of the issues, taking account of all relevant factors, including any guidance issued by the sponsor departments or the responsible Ministers;

- ensure that the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information is adhered to;

- agree an Annual Report and, where appropriate, provide suitable opportunities to open up the work of the Committee to public scrutiny;

- not divulge any information that is provided to the Committee in confidence;

- respond appropriately to complaints, if necessary with reference to the sponsor departments; and

- ensure that the Committee does not exceed its powers or functions.

10. Communication between the Committee and Ministers will generally be through the Chair, except where the Committee has agreed that an individual member should act on its behalf. Nevertheless, any Committee member has the right of access to Ministers on any matter, which he or she believes raises important issues relating to his or her duties as a Committee member. In such cases the agreement of the rest of the Committee should normally be sought.

11. Individual members can normally be removed from office by Ministers if they fail to perform the duties required of them in line with the standards expected in public office.

Role of the Chair

12. The Chair has particular responsibility for providing effective leadership on the issues above. In addition the Chair is responsible for:

- ensuring that the Committee meets at appropriate intervals, and that the minutes of meetings and any reports to Ministers accurately record the decisions taken and, where appropriate, the views of individual members;

- representing the views of the Committee to the general public; and

- ensuring that new Committee members are briefed on appointment (and their training needs considered), and providing an assessment of their performance, on request, when members are considered for re-appointment to the Committee or for appointment to the Committee of some other public body.

Handling conflicts of interests

13. The purpose of these provisions is to avoid any danger of Committee members being influenced, or appearing to be influenced, by their private interests in the exercise of their public duties. All Committee members should therefore declare any personal or business interests which may, or may be *perceived* (by a reasonable member of the public) to influence their judgement. Members' interests will be recorded in a register of interests which should be kept up to date and open to the public. A guide to the types of interest which should be declared and how to declare them is at Appendix II.

<u>Declaration of interests to the Secretariat</u>

14. Members of the Committee should inform the Secretariat in writing of their current personal and non-personal interests, when they are appointed, including the principal position(s) held. Only the name of the company and the nature of the interest is required, the amount of any salary etc. need not be disclosed. Members are asked to inform the Secretariat of any change in their personal interests at the time the change occurs. Members will also be invited to complete an annual declaration of interests form. Where members are uncertain as to whether an interest should be declared they should seek guidance from the Secretariat**.** If members have interests that are not specified in Appendix II, but which they believe could be regarded as influencing their advice, they should declare them. However, neither the members nor the Secretariat are under any obligation to seek out links of which they might *reasonably* not be aware. For example not being aware of all the interests of family members or not being aware of links between one company and another. Failure to declare interests could lead to dismissal from the committee.

Declaration of interests and participation at meetings

15. Committee members are required to declare any direct commercial interests, or those of close family members, in matters under discussion at each meeting. Having fully explained the nature of their interests, the Chair may, having consulted with other members present, decide whether and to what extent the member should participate in the discussion and determination of the issue. If it is decided that the member should leave the meeting, the Chair may first allow them to make a statement on the item under discussion. Where members are uncertain as to whether an interest should be declared they should seek guidance from the Chair.

Personal liability of Committee members

16. Legal proceedings by a third party against individual Committee members of advisory bodies are very exceptional. A Committee member may be personally liable if:

- he or she makes a fraudulent or negligent statement which results in a loss to a third party;
- he or she commits a breach of confidence under common law or a criminal offence under insider dealing legislation, by misusing information gained through their position.

However, the Government has indicated that individual members who have acted honestly and in good faith will not have to meet out of their own personal resources any personal civil liability which is incurred in the execution or purported execution of their Committee functions, save where the person has acted recklessly.

Openness and Confidentiality

17. The Government is committed to increasing the openness and transparency with which advisory committees and other public bodies operate. To further this aim, the agendas of ACAF meetings will be made available to the public and will be publicised by means of news releases. A news release will be issued after each meeting and minutes will also be available to the public. As a general rule, individual papers for information or discussion at meetings will also be available to the public on request. An annual report will also be published, summarising the Committee's activities and advice over the year.

18. However there will be some exceptions to this general principle of openness, for example:

- where individual papers contain commercially sensitive information such as product formulations/specifications, methods of manufacture, company evaluations and safety assessments, the general principle of the common law duty of confidentiality will apply, except in cases where the information was provided under legislation which deals specifically with disclosure and non-disclosure. Papers, which are deemed to be confidential, will be marked "For members' use only by the Secretariat and their contents should not be disclosed outside of the Committee.

- draft papers or reports which are due to be published at a later date but are not yet in the public domain should not be disclosed outside of the Committee.

19. Questions or approaches from the media should normally be directed to either the Chair who will act as official ACAF spokesman or the Food Standards Agency press office. Although members are encouraged to promote the role of the Committee in general terms, if asked for views on subjects that have been or are being considered by ACAF, members should always give the line agreed by the Committee.

THE SEVEN PRINCIPLES OF PUBLIC LIFE

Selflessness

Holders of public office should take decisions solely in terms of the public interest. They should not do so in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their family, or their friends.

Integrity

Holders of public office should not place themselves under any financial or other obligation to outside individuals or organisations that might influence them in the performance of their official duties.

Objectivity

In carrying out public business, including making public appointments, awarding contracts, or recommending individuals for rewards and benefits, holders of public office should make choices on merit.

Accountability

Holders of public office are accountable for their decisions and actions to the public and must submit themselves to whatever scrutiny is appropriate to their office.

Openness

Holders of public office should be as open as possible about all the decisions and actions they take. They should give reasons for their decisions and restrict information only when the wider public interest clearly demands.

Honesty

Holders of public office have a duty to declare any private interests relating to their public duties and to take steps to resolve any conflicts arising in a way that protects the public interests.

Leadership

Holders of public office should promote and support these principles by leadership and example.

Appendix II

TYPES OF INTEREST AND THEIR NOTIFICATION

The following is intended as a guide to the kinds of interest that should be declared and indicates how they should be declared.

1. Personal interests - involve the member personally e.g.

Type of interest		*Notification*
Consultancies:	any consultancy, directorship, position in or work for the industry, or other relevant bodies, which attracts regular or occasional payments in cash or kind.	To be notified to the Secretariat in writing on appointment to the Committee and at the time of any change to these interests. To be confirmed annually on the declaration of interests form.
Fee-paid work:	any work commissioned by industry or other relevant bodies for which the member is paid in cash or kind.	As above.
Shareholdings:	any shareholding or other beneficial interest in shares of industry. This does not include shareholdings through unit trusts.	As above.
Membership or affiliation:	to clubs or organisations with interests relevant to the work of the Committee.	As above.

Definition of "industry"
For the purposes of the Advisory Committee on Animal Feedingstuffs, "industry" means:

- companies, partnerships or individuals who are involved in the production, manufacture, packaging, advertising, supply, sale or use of animal feedingstuffs. This definition includes those involved in the supply of animal feed raw materials and any other substance incorporated or otherwise used in the production of feedingstuffs. It also includes the users of animal feedingstuffs such as farmers;
- trade associations representing companies involved in such products;
- companies, partnerships or individuals who are directly concerned with research, development or marketing of an animal feedingstuff which is being considered by the Committee.

Definition of "other relevant bodies"
Organisations (not included in the definition of "industry") with interests relevant to the work of the Committee. This could include charitable organisations and lobby groups.

2. Non-personal interests - involves payment which benefits a department for which a member is responsible, but is not received by the member personally e.g.

Type of interest		*Notification*	
		£1000 or more from a particular company in the previous twelve months	***less than £1000 from a particular company in the previous twelve months***
Fellowships:	the holding of a fellowship endowed by industry and other relevant bodies.	To be notified to the Secretariat in writing on appointment to the Committee. Any changes over the year should be declared on the annual declaration form and does not need to be notified at the time of change.	Does not need to be notified.
Support by industry and other relevant bodies*: e.g.	• a grant from a company for the running of a unit or department for which the member is responsible. • the grant of a fellowship or other payment to sponsor a post or member of staff in the unit for which the member is responsible. • the commissioning of research or other work by, or advice from, staff who work in a unit for which the member is responsible.	As above	As above
Trusteeships:**	any investment in industry held by a charity for which the member is a trustee.	As above	As above

* Members are under no obligation to seek out knowledge of work done for, or on behalf of, industry and other relevant bodies by departments/units for which they are responsible, if they would not normally expect to be informed. Where members are responsible for organisations which receive funds from a very large number of companies in the industry and from other relevant bodies, they can agree with the Secretariat a summary of non-personal interests rather than draw up a detailed portfolio.

** Where a member is a trustee of a charity with investments in the industry, they can agree with the Secretariat a general declaration to cover this interest rather than draw up a detailed portfolio.

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