

ADA(13)115:1

Brussels, 4th February 2013

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WORKING PARTY ON FEEDINGSTUFFS (ADA) HELD ON 10TH OCTOBER 2012

Present: POULET, BRIS, SVOBODA, ENDRODI, MATOUSEK, MONTAIGU, ELLIS, DAVIES, CORRALES, SISINNI, MANNINEN, KRAUTZ, POLLASTRI, LOPEZ HERNANDEZ, MARTIN, FERNANDEZ.

SECRETARIAT: DERRIEN.

GUESTS: W. TRUNK (DG SANCO)

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

The Working Party, chaired by Mr Jacques Poulet, adopted the agenda [ADA\(12\)6790 \(rev.1\)](#) and the minutes of the previous meeting [ADA\(12\)7068 \(rev.1\)](#).

1. Market situation

a. Exchange of views on market forecasts

The Chairman led a brief round table discussion with the delegations on this topic. Several representatives bemoaned poor cereal harvests and significant falls in yield seen during the autumn, particularly due to difficult weather conditions (this was especially the case in Finland, the UK and Spain). This situation also caused difficulties with supply, which had an impact on the price of materials used for animal feed (increasing steeply in certain countries). For example, the Czech Republic registered a 15-20% fall in the production of compound feedingstuffs. France and Germany lamented increasing prices for raw materials, such as sunflower and soya meal, particularly due to problems with supply coming from North America.

b. Information concerning the "Copa-Cogeca Action Plan for the European livestock sector" and on proposed measures to tackle volatility on the market for raw materials used for feedingstuffs [VP\(12\)6894 \(rev.3\)](#).

In a context marked by significantly increasing animal feed prices, the principal Copa-Cogeca livestock Working Parties (the Working Parties on *Pigmeat, Eggs and Poultry, Milk and Dairy Products* and *Beef and Veal*) had met on 13th September 2012 to reflect on concrete solutions for farmers that could counteract these increasing prices, for example by allowing production costs to be passed down along the food chain, by activating market mechanisms planned for under the CAP so as to limit volatility on the animal feed market, etc.). At the end of this meeting, several proposals for concrete action had been developed. A draft document on these proposals was compiled, which was currently being discussed within the different Working Parties concerned, including the Working Party on Feedingstuffs.

Members of the Working Party were invited to express their thoughts on the draft

document: Several participants underpinned the necessity to develop instruments within the CAP to strengthen the competitiveness of the livestock sector. Going beyond the problem of

price volatility, certain participants also bemoaned extremely high price tendencies that had been seen on the animal feed market of late. There was an additional request for the document to specify the conditions in which storage tools should be used, so as to avoid causing speculation phenomena.

The Secretariat informed participants that two workshops would be held, one to discuss conditions that could improve European plant protein production (in November), and another aiming to analyse contractual relations between farmers and feed producers (over the coming months).

Members of the Working Party were asked to send in written comments to the Secretariat by 18th October at the latest. Based on any comments received, an amended version would then be discussed during the next POCC-CCC meeting (8th November 2012), to then be approved by the Copa and Cogeca Praesidia, scheduled on 29th and 30th November.

2. Legislation on labelling animal feed

a. Community Catalogue of feed materials

The Secretariat briefly presented the main changes that had been included in the most recent (final) amended version of the catalogue of feed materials (including maximum limits for chemical impurities and processing aids), which had been passed on by the "*feed chain task force*" (FCTF) to DG SANCO services on 24th May 2012. Based on the FCTF proposal, a legislative proposal had been prepared by DG SANCO services, which had then been presented for discussion to members of the Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health (SCoFAH – animal nutrition section) on 21st June and 5th July, and subsequently put to a vote on 6th July 2012 [ADA\(12\)6156 \(rev.1\).](#)

A debriefing had been held between coordinators of the animal feed chain and DG SANCO services on this subject on 6th September 2012, after which an FCTF meeting had been held on 8th October.

b. Labelling of feed additives

Dr W. TRUNK (DG SANCO – animal nutrition unit – European Commission) was invited to present the current topics being examined by the European Commission and Member States amongst the 2,400 topics that were to be evaluated by EFSA. Dr TRUNK also explained that EFSA was only proposing maximum limits for the components of additives and not for the additives themselves, seeing as the bioavailability of the additive element could differ depending on the function of the compound in question.

The Secretariat informed participants about an initiative launched by FEFAC, FEFANA and EMFEMA to organise a workshop on "the process of re-authorisation of feed additives and its impact on feed labelling" (see [ADA\(12\)6777 \(rev.1\)](#)). Although not all of the main principles listed in the document prepared by these three organisations were necessarily shared by members of the Working Party, **it was agreed that it would be advantageous for Copa-Cogeca to be involved in the work carried out by said organisations** and that possible joint lobbying activities be considered (should there be agreement).

3. European dietetic feed legislation (see [ADA\(12\)6165 \(rev.1\)](#))

Dr Wolfgang TRUNK (DG SANCO) informed participants about a draft revision to the annex of Directive 2008/38, which describes the particular nutritional characteristics and purposes that

dietetic feed must fulfil. DG SANCO services would particularly like to involve the sectors concerned (namely FEFAC, FEFANA and Copa-Cogeca), in order to propose changes to specify the parameters set in this annex.

4. Feed hygiene

The Secretariat informed participants about the most recent work carried out by the Copa-Cogeca *ad hoc* Task Force on the European guides to good hygiene practice for primary production (food and feed production). The amended version of these guides would be presented as a point of information at the POCC-CCC on 8th November, in preparation for the Praesidia on 29th and 30th November. The document would then be submitted to DG SANCO services so that it could be presented and discussed with Member States at SCoFCAH.

5. Any other business

- Dr TRUNK was invited to present the state of play of the future revision to European legislation on medicated feed. It was said that European Commission services were currently working on preparing the impact assessment before official publication, which could occur in May or June 2013.

- The Secretariat informed participants about a letter sent by the Secretariat on 24th September about the availability of coccidiostats on the European market and its effect on the rabbit sector (see [CC\(12\)6775 \(rev.1\)](#)). This topic was also brought up by W. TRUNK, who explained that the Commission was not currently planning to remove the possibility of using these products as a preventative method. Several participants highlighted the fact that there were not enough products currently registered as additives.

The Chairman thanked the participants and closed the meeting.
