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FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

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July 2002

ALINORM 03/38

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

Twenty-sixth Session
Rome, Italy, 30 June – 5 July 2003

REPORT OF THE 3rd SESSION OF THE *AD HOC* INTERGOVERNMENTAL CODEX TASK FORCE ON ANIMAL FEEDING

Copenhagen, Denmark

17-20 June 2002

Note: *This report includes Codex Circular Letter CL 2002/26-AF*

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CX/4/90.1

CL 2002/26-AF
July 2002

TO: Codex Contact Points
Interested International Organizations

FROM: Secretary, Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme
FAO, 00100 Rome, Italy

SUBJECT: **DISTRIBUTION OF THE REPORT OF THE THIRD SESSION OF THE *AD HOC* INTERGOVERNMENTAL CODEX TASK FORCE ON ANIMAL FEEDING (ALINORM 03/38)**

The report of the Third Session of the *ad hoc* Intergovernmental Codex Task Force on Animal Feeding will be considered by the 26th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (Rome, June/July 2003).

PART A: MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE TWENTY SIXTH SESSION OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

This report of the Third Session of the *ad hoc* Intergovernmental Codex Task Force on Animal Feeding will be considered along the report of the 4th Session (March 2003) by the 26th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission as part of the full report from the Task Force in fulfilling its terms of reference.

PART B: REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

Proposed Draft Code of Practice on Good Animal Feeding, retained at Step 3 of the Codex Procedure (ALINORM 03/38, Appendix II). See also paras. 30 through 73 of this report.

Governments and interested international organizations are invited to provide their additional comments on the current document (see Appendix II to this report) in conformity with the Uniform Procedure for the Elaboration of Codex Standards and Related Texts (see *Procedural Manual of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, Twelfth Edition, pages 19-21)* preferably by email to Mr. Mogens Nagel Larsen, Director of the Danish Plant Directorate - Skovbrynet, 20 DK-2800 Lyngby, Denmark. Fax: +45.4526 3610, e-mail: taskforce@pdir.dk ; with copy to the Secretary of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, FAO - Viale delle Terme di Caracalla 00100 Rome, Italy. Fax:+39 06 5705 4593, e-mail: codex@fao.org; **not later than 15 September 2002**.

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SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

The Third Session of the *ad hoc* Intergovernmental Codex Task Force on Animal Feeding reached the following conclusions:

The Task Force :

- agreed that considerable progress had been made on the draft Code of Practice on Good Animal Feeding during its Third meeting (para. 70);
- reached consensus on the revision of the greater part of the draft Code of Practice on Good Animal Feeding. Due to time constraints, it could not complete the detailed revision of the last two sections of the code: Section 6 "On-farm production and use of feedingstuffs" and Section 7 "Methods of analysis and sampling" for which it formulated only general comments;
- expressed its willingness to give priority in its next session to the detailed revision of Section 6 and 7, prior to consider the draft Code in its entirety (para. 72);
- agreed to retain the draft Code of Practice on Good Animal Feeding at Step 3 and to append it to the report of the session (Appendix II) for circulation and comments with the expectation of finalising the text at its next meeting (March 2003) with a view to its final adoption by the Codex Alimentarius Commission in 2003 (para. 73);
- agreed that a Drafting Group led by Canada, with the assistance of Australia, Norway, United Kingdom, ALA and Consumers International, reorganise Section 5 "Production, Storage and Distribution of Feed and Feed Ingredients" and revise the two sections that were not considered in detail, i.e. Section 6 "On-farm production and use of feedingstuffs" and Section 7 "Methods of analysis and sampling", for consideration at its next session (para. 73);
- agreed to consider further the background information on Codex maximum levels and residues limits for feedingstuffs and foods with a view to the identification of specific issues to be addressed in the context of animal feeding as it related to food safety (para. 29);
- noted that the information on lists established by different Governments to control the use of prohibited and undesirable substances in animal feedingstuffs and foods was collected in information papers CX/AF 01/4 and CX/AF 02/4 available online through the Codex Alimentarius Commission Website (para. 24).

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THIS REPORT

BSE	Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy
CAC/RCP	Codex Alimentarius Commission Recommended Code of Practice
CCFAC	Codex Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants
CCFICS	Codex Committee on Food Import Export Inspection and Certification Systems
CCFH	Codex Committee on Food Hygiene
CCGP	Codex Committee on General Principles
CCRVDF	Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods
CL	Circular Letter
CRD	Conference Room Document
EMRLs	Extraneous Maximum Residue Limits
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GAPs	Good agriculture practices
GMOs	Genetically modified organisms
GMPs	Good manufacturing practices
HACCP	Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point
JECFA	Joint Expert FAO/WHO Committee on Food Additives
MRLs	Maximum Residue Limits
OIE	World Organization for Animal Health (formerly called Office International des Epizooties / International Office of Epizootics)
SARD	Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development
WHO	World Health Organization
WSSD	World Summit for Sustainable Development

REPORT OF THE THIRD SESSION OF THE *AD HOC* INTERGOVERNMENTAL CODEX TASK FORCE ON ANIMAL FEEDING

INTRODUCTION

1. The *ad hoc* Intergovernmental Codex Task Force on Animal Feeding held its Third Session in Copenhagen, Denmark from 17 to 20 June 2002, at the kind invitation of the Government of Denmark. The Session was chaired by Mr Mogens Nagel Larsen, Director of the Danish Plant Directorate. The Session was attended by 152 participants from 36 Member countries and 21 international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. A complete list of participants is attached as Appendix I to this report.

OPENING OF THE SESSION

2. The Task Force was welcomed to Copenhagen by Ms Mariann Fischer Boel, Danish Minister for Food, Agriculture and Fisheries. In her opening remarks to the Session, the Minister noted that the Task Force had been asked to present a final Code of Practice on Good Animal Feeding to the Commission meeting in 2003. Ms Boel highlighted the growing awareness among the consumers of food and feed safety. She stressed the need to consider the whole food chain and informed the meeting of the decision of the Danish Government to extend the control of feedingstuffs to farms producing animals for human consumption.

3. The Minister informed the Task Force that Denmark would take the European Union Presidency at the beginning of July 2002. She said that many topics for reform in the area of food, agriculture and fisheries would be discussed during the Danish presidency; issues related to products for use in animal nutrition such as the new EU–rules on feed additives, the phasing-out of antibiotic growth-promoters, and the rules on GMOs would have a central and important role. Ms Boel wished the Task Force an interesting and fruitful meeting that would enable it to reach the objective of finalizing the Code of Practice on Good Animal Feeding by mid 2003.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA (AGENDA ITEM 1)[1]

4. The Chairperson invited the Task Force to consider Agenda Items 5a and 5b at the same time, as they related to the same proposed Draft Code of Practice on Good Animal Feeding. The Task Force generally supported this view, considering that it could lead to fruitful improvement.

5. Some delegations proposed specific revision of Section 6 "On-Farm Production and Use of Feedingstuffs" to make it more consistent with the rest of the Code. The Task Force agreed to discuss this issue when it would consider matters under Agenda Item 5 (see paras. 30 - 34).

6. Noting the above discussion, the Task Force adopted the Provisional Agenda as the Agenda for the Session, without any amendment.

MATTERS REFERRED TO THE TASK FORCE FROM THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION AND OTHER CODEX COMMITTEES (AGENDA ITEM 2A)[2] [3]

7. The Task Force noted the decision of the 24th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission regarding the Strategic Framework and Medium Term Plan 2003-2007; Statements of Principles on the Role of Science in the Codex Decision-Making Process and the Extent to which Other Factors are Taken into Account; Consensus Building; Risk Analysis Policies; the Draft Guidelines for the Production, Processing, Labelling and Marketing of

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1 CX/AF 02/1

2 CX/AF 02/2

3 Information paper submitted by 49th Parallel Biotechnology Consortium on the meetings of the *ad hoc* Intergovernmental Codex Task Force on Foods Derived from Biotechnology and the Codex Committee on General Principles (CRD 5)

Organically Produced Food Livestock and Livestock Products; the interim report of the Task Force on Animal Feeding; and the Amendment to the Codex Classification of Food and Animal Feeds.

8. Recommendations of the 48th and 49th Sessions of the Executive Committee and current activities of other Codex Committees including the Codex Committee on Food Import Export Inspection and Certification System (CCFICS); the *ad hoc* Intergovernmental Codex Task Force on Food Derived from Biotechnology; the Codex Committee on General Principles (CCGP); the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH); and the Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods (CCRVDF) regarding traceability, antibiotics used in agriculture and antimicrobial resistant bacteria in foods were also reported.

REPORT OF FAO, WHO AND OIE ACTIVITIES (AGENDA ITEM 2B)[4]

9. The Task Force noted matters of interest from FAO, WHO and OIE relating to animal feeding and food safety.

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS (FAO)

10. The FAO representative highlighted relevant activities for the Task Force, particularly the collection and dissemination of information, including the Animal Feed Resources Information System and the Food and Feed Safety Gateway on the Internet and CD-ROM. He referred also to the development of the Biosecurity Portal with support from the Netherlands and the United States.

11. The Task Force was informed of the main conclusions of an expert Consultation and Workshop on Alternative Protein Sources for the Animal Feed Industry (Bangkok, Thailand, 29 April – 3 May 2002).

12. An electronic consultation would take place from June –August 2002 on Good Agriculture Practices and a parallel discussion on animal welfare, organized under the auspices of the Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development (SARD) e-forum in preparation for the World Summit for Sustainable Development (WSSD), Johannesburg (South Africa).

13. Additional information was also provided on Technical Cooperation and General Cooperation Projects on feed safety and capacity building for surveillance and prevention of BSE and other zoonotic diseases which were commencing in several countries.

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO)

14. The representative of WHO provided the Task Force with information on:

WHO Consultation on Methods and Principles for the Monitoring of Antimicrobials Usage in Food Animal Production for the Protection of Human Health (Oslo, Norway, September 2001)

15. The Consultation focused on the development of models for national and international monitoring of antimicrobial usage in food animals for the protection of human health and reviewed existing data on the non-human antimicrobial usage, national experiences and approaches in the setting up of antimicrobial usage monitoring systems. The main element of the recommendation of the Consultation was that countries should establish a national monitoring programme of the usage of antimicrobial agents in food animals and that they should have a regulatory approval and control system for antimicrobial agents and products containing antimicrobial agents.

WHO present work on chemical contamination monitoring – future potential for feeds.

16. Since 1976, WHO has been monitoring levels and trends of chemical contaminants in food and the total diet and has been collecting population-based, health-oriented monitoring data, which are available on the WHO Website. The Codex Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants and the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues already used these data for collecting information on contaminants in food, for exposure assessment and for setting of maximum limits in foods.

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4 CX/AF 02/3

WHO Training Courses on antimicrobial susceptibility testing

17. WHO launched in 1999 the Global Salmonella Surveillance Programme in recognition of the importance of surveillance as an essential element in a public health response to foodborne diseases and of the insufficient surveillance capacity in the nearly 90% of WHO members countries. The main elements of the programme include: an electronic discussion group, training courses, reference testing and an interactive Web database. The membership of the programme rose to 516 individual members and 14 institutions in 113 countries in February 2002 and had begun to expand to include other foodborne pathogens.

WORLD ORGANIZATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH (OIE)

18. The representative from the OIE presented their activities report. He highlighted the work of recent *ad hoc* Groups of experts in two high priority areas of the OIE's strategic plan (i.e., food safety and animal welfare). One of these groups was charged with the development of guiding principles and standards on animal welfare. The other group developed recommendation on the role of OIE in animal production food safety.

19. These recommendations on animal production food safety included the strengthening of both formal and informal relationship with other relevant organizations, particularly FAO, WHO and the Codex Alimentarius Commission. They also recommended that the main goal should be to reduce food borne risks to human health by preventing, eliminating or controlling hazards arising from animals prior to primary processing of animals and animal products. It also recommended that OIE explore and establish to the extent possible a shared use of animals and public health information system with WHO, FAO and the Codex Alimentarius.

20. These recommendations were unanimously adopted by the International Committee of the OIE which met in May 2002. The Director General of the OIE appointed a multidisciplinary steering committee made up of several Codex and OIE experts to continue to coordinate, prioritize and advice the various OIE bodies on animal production food safety.

21. The OIE representative reiterated the OIE's commitment to continue to collaborate with the Codex Alimentarius Commission, the WHO and FAO in the relevant areas of animal health and animal welfare. However, he stated that while these were very important areas in the work of these organizations, these should not be included in the work of this Task Force in order to remain consistent with the intent of this code, which is on consumer health and safety.

22. In response to a specific request for clarification on how the OIE would address animal welfare issues, the Representative of OIE stated that the OIE was already dealing with animal welfare and stressed the need to coordinate additional work at the international level.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON LISTS ESTABLISHED BY DIFFERENT GOVERNMENTS TO CONTROL THE USE OF PROHIBITED AND UNDESIRABLE SUBSTANCES IN ANIMAL FEEDINGSTUFFS AND FOODS (AGENDA ITEM 3)[5]

23. At its Second Session, the Task Force examined the information paper on Lists Established by Different Governments to Control the Use of Prohibited and Undesirable Substances in Animal Feedingstuffs and Foods. In the light of the information provided and its overall discussion[6], the Task Force decided to request additional comments from Governments on controls of permitted, prohibited and undesirable substances.

24. The Task Force was informed that three additional replies were submitted by the Governments of Brazil, Switzerland and Malaysia in response to the questionnaire attached to Circular Letter CL 2001/8-AF. The Task Force noted that the nature of this new information was in line with the general trends of the replies that were considered at its Second session. The Task Force noted that the information related to these lists was collected in information papers CX/AF 01/4 and CX/AF 02/4, available online through the Codex Alimentarius Commission Website [7].

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5 CX/AF 02/4; comments submitted by Colombia (ICA), Peru, Japan , Argentina and Thailand in response to CL 2000/21-AF Part B and submitted by Brazil, Switzerland and Malaysia in response to CL 2001/08; comments submitted by Indonesia (CRD 8)

6 ALINORM 01/38A, paras. 30-36

7 http://www.codexalimentarius.net

INFORMATION PAPER ON ESTABLISHMENT OF CODEX MAXIMUM LEVELS AND RESIDUES LIMITS FOR FEEDINGSTUFFS AND FOODS (AGENDA ITEM 4)[8]

25. At the Second Session of the *ad hoc* Intergovernmental Codex Task Force on Animal Feeding, the Codex Secretariat had provided the delegations with comprehensive information of the work undertaken by relevant Codex Committees. In view of the information provided, the Codex Secretariat agreed to present at the current Session an update on related activities of other Codex Committees including a presentation of the step status of various levels of contaminants established or under consideration by the Codex Committee on Food Additives and Contaminants (CCFAC)[9].

26. The Task Force noted the information collected in working document CX/AF 02/5, which included data on:

- Food Contaminants and Toxins in Foods (Schedule I of the proposed draft Code General Standard for Contaminants and Toxins in Foods);
- Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) for Veterinary Drugs in Foods;
- Maximum Residues Limits (MRLs) and Extraneous Maximum Residue Limits (EMRLs) for Pesticides for the Class "Primary Animal Feed Commodities".

27. The Task Force was also informed of the work carried out by relevant Codex Committees on microbiological specifications and on aspects of microbiological analysis.

28. It was observed that most of the data presented, in particular MRLs/EMRLs for Veterinary Drugs and Contaminants did not refer to feed and feed ingredients. In this regard it was noted that JECFA evaluation and recommendation on veterinary drugs considered all routes of administration, including medicated feed.

29. The Task Force agreed to consider further this background information as a basis for discussion under Agenda Item 6 - Other Business and Future Work in view of the identification of specific issues to be addressed in the context of animal feeding as it relates to food safety (see paras. 75 - 77).

CONSIDERATION AT STEP 4 OF THE REVISED PROPOSED DRAFT CODE OF PRACTICE ON GOOD ANIMAL FEEDING (EXCLUDING SECTION 6) (AGENDA ITEM 5A)[10]

CONSIDERATION AT STEP 4 OF THE SECTION 6 " ON-FARM PRODUCTION AND USE OF FEEDINGSTUFFS" OF THE REVISED PROPOSED DRAFT CODE OF PRACTICE ON GOOD ANIMAL FEEDING (AGENDA ITEM 5B)[11]

INTRODUCTION

30. The Second Session of the *ad hoc* Intergovernmental Codex Task Force on Animal Feeding had agreed to a revised version of the major parts of the Code. It had further agreed that a drafting group led by the United Kingdom would prepare a redraft of the Code (with the exception of Section 6) based on the discussion, agreements and written comments submitted at the meeting. This would be circulated for further comments and consideration at its next Session[12]. In addition, the Task Force, recognizing the importance of differentiating between industrial and on-farm production, sale and use of feed ingredients and feed, agreed that a drafting group led by Australia would

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8 CX/AF 02/5

9 ALINORM 01/38A, para. 15

10 Comments submitted in response to CL 2001/36-AF by Australia, Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Egypt, Hungary, Malaysia, Moldavia, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Senegal, Switzerland, Turkey, United States, European Community, Comité Européen des Fabricants de Sucres (CEFS), Fédération Européenne des Fabricants d'Aliments Composés (FEFAC), International Diary Federation (IDF), International Committee on Food Microbiology and Hygiene / International Union of Microbiological Societies (ICFMH/IUMS) and World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) (CX/AF 02/6 and CRD 1); International Feed Industry Federation (IFIF) (CRD 2); Consumers International (CRD 3); the Philippines (CRD 4); Japan (CRD 7)

11 Comments submitted in response to CL 2001/37-AF by Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Malaysia, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Switzerland, Turkey, Unitd States, European Community, Fédération Européenne des Fabricants d'Aliments Composés (FEFAC), International Dairy Federation (IDF), International Committee on Food Microbiology and Hygiene / International Union of Microbiological Societies (ICFMH/IUMS), World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) (CX/AF 02/7 and CRD1); International Feed Industry Federation (IFIF) (CRD 2); Consumers International (CRD 3); the Philippines (CRD 4); United States (CRD 6); Japan (CRD 7); Thailand (CRD 9)

12 ALINORM 01/38A, para. 67

fully develop Section 6 "On-Farm Production and Use of Feedingstuffs" for circulation, further comments and consideration at its next Session[13]. The two texts were circulated for comments with Circular Letters CL 01/36-AF and CL 01/37-AF.

31. At the Third Session, Mr Bill Knock, chairperson of the drafting group responsible for the redrafting of the Code (with exception of Section 6), informed the Task Force that the redraft reflected the agreements reached during the last Session. He indicated that substantial changes, based on comments submitted, were inserted starting from Section 4, and including the entire development of Section 7. The Task Force was informed that the drafting group did not attempt to resolve some of the outstanding issues as it was felt it was not the right forum to address key points of principle in the Code.

32. Mr Ed Klim, chairperson of the drafting group in charge of the development of Section 6 of the draft Code, recalled that the task of the drafting group was to develop a complete new text on the basis of broad terms of reference. In recognizing that the Section had been drafted in isolation from the rest of the Code, he highlighted the possible redundancies and the need to make Section 6 consistent with the other Sections.

GENERAL COMMENTS

33. Some delegations made general comments on the content of the draft Code in its entirety. Comments included the need to make adjustments in relation to aquaculture; to better address the labelling and authorization of genetically modified organisms (GMOs); to establish negative and positive lists of feed ingredients; to better address the implementation of GMPs and HACCP principles at industrial and farm level; to improve sections on labelling and traceability; to reduce references to national standards and regulations; to emphasize the key role of controls in feed production to ensure food safety throughout the food chain; and to consider the application of precautionary measures to protect the health of consumers.

34. With regard to Section 6, it was observed that there were some inconsistencies and duplication with the rest of the Code and that some redrafting was necessary. The importance of considering this section as an integral part of the Code was highlighted, along with the need to provide guidance to governments for farmers; the need to include in the text of the Code the basic aspects of on-farm production and to consider the development of a more detailed text, possibly as an Annex. The Task Force agreed that a small drafting group led by Australia with the assistance of Brazil, Canada and the United Kingdom would revise Section 6 to eliminate inconsistencies and redundancies before its discussion in plenary session, and consider consequential changes to Section 5.

SECTION 1. INTRODUCTION

35. The Task Force considered the inclusion of a reference to food safety aspects of animal welfare. In recalling the considerable debate on this issue at its Second Session and noting the reference to animal welfare in Section 2, it was agreed to leave the introduction unchanged.

SECTION 2. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

36. The Task Force agreed to clarify the text to indicate that the objective of the Code was "to help ensure the safety of food for human consumption through adherence to good animal feeding practice at the farm level and good manufacturing practices (GMPs) during the procurement, handling, storage, processing, and distribution of animal feed and feed ingredients for food producing animals". For further clarity, the order of the first three sentences was changed so that the objective of the Code was used as the opening paragraph of the Section.

SECTION 3. DEFINITIONS

Feed (Feedingstuffs)

37. The Task Force considered the suitability of the terms "feed" or "feedingstuffs" in the Code and agreed to use the term "feed" throughout the text with very few exceptions where "feedingstuffs" would better apply.

Feed ingredients

38. The Task Force debated various proposals to modify the definition of feed ingredients to take into account natural and synthetic substances, minerals, microbes, probiotics and other authorized substances. As a result of the

[13] ALINORM 01/38A, para. 65

discussion, it was decided that these substances were already covered in the current definition. The second sentence was slightly modified to read "Ingredients are of plant, animal or aquatic origin, or other organic and inorganic substances". The Task Force also considered the proposal to merge the two definitions of "feed ingredients" and "feed additives", but finally decided to keep them separate.

Feed additives

39. The Task Force discussed extensively the addition to the definition of feed additives of the words "or is intended to improve animal performance", that were put in square brackets at its Second Session, in relation to the Codex definition of "veterinary drug". Since the Task Force could not reach a common position, it was agreed to leave the text in square brackets for further discussion at the next meeting.

Medicated feedingstuffs

40. On the basis on the previous decision on the use of the term "feed", "medicated feedingstuffs" was changed to "medicated feed" and the definition was left unchanged.

Undesirable substances

41. The Task Force replaced the text "products intended for animal feeding" with "feed and feed ingredients" to clarify the text.

SECTION 4. GENERAL PRINCIPLES AND REQUIREMENTS

42. The Task Force noted that in some cases birds could represent a source of microbiological feed contamination.

43. The Task Force discussed the application of good agriculture practices (GAPs), good manufacturing practices (GMPs) and HACCP principles in feed production as tools "to control hazards that may occur in food" at earlier stages of the food chain, and decided to include reference to GAPs in the draft Code. In addition, it was agreed to delete the phrases "and where at all possible" and "in certain localized areas" in order to improve the clarity of the text.

4.1. Feed Ingredients

44. The Task Force discussed the safety aspects of the use of GMOs and other products derived from new technologies as feed ingredients. The Task Force generally recognized the need to carry out safety assessments of such ingredients. It considered that the term "new technologies" was already used in its terms of reference. However, the Task Force did not fully agree on a text and therefore decided to introduce the words "and be acceptable following a safety assessment where derived from new technologies" in square brackets at the end of the first sentence for finalization at its next session.

45. The Task Force also decided to delete the wording "and should meet defined standard" as it was felt to be too vague.

4.2 Labelling

46. The Task Force considered Section 4.2 and made various comments on the opportunity to maintain, delete or modify the labelling requirements listed in the Section, such as list of ingredients, registration number, labelling of GMOs, trade name, expiry date, the labelling of various types of feed, traceability.

47. Due to the different points of view, it was decided that a drafting group comprizing Brazil, Netherlands, New Zealand, Spain, the United States, European Commission, ALA, Consumers International, IDF and IFIF would prepare a proposed revision of Section 4.2 for discussion in plenary.

48. The Task Force considered the proposed revision (CRD 11) and agreed to modify the Section as follows:

- "where appropriate" was added in the third sentence of the first paragraph to indicate that some provisions would not apply to certain types of feed and feed ingredients or on-farm production of feed and feed ingredients;
- the term "[full]" was removed and the phrase "in descending order of proportion" was added in the third bulleted point;
- the fourth bulleted point "trade name where appropriate" was removed;

- the fifth bulleted point was replaced by a new text “contact information of manufacturer or registrant ”;
- the seventh bulleted point “nutrition profile” was deleted.

49. The text on the labelling of genetically modified organisms and derived products was left unchanged and in square brackets, pending further relevant discussion, for example in the Codex Committee on Food Labelling.

4.3 Traceability and Record Keeping

50. The Task Force considered Section 4.3 and discussed the use of the term “traceability”; its purpose and scope; its applicability to all feed and feed ingredients; the need to include provisions on sampling and on withdrawals and recalls. It noted the work on traceability done by the ad-hoc Intergovernmental Codex Task Force on Foods Derived from Biotechnology and other Codex Committees [14].

51. Consequently, the Task Force agreed to add the term “Product tracing” in parenthesis after “Traceability” as an intermediate solution to the discussion on the terminology. It added at the end of the first paragraph “and representative samples of feed ingredients and feed should be kept where applicable” in square brackets for further consideration at its next meeting; deleted “flow diagrams” from the list of records as not necessary; and replaced the term “master formula” with “actual formula”.

4.3.1 Special Conditions Applicable to Emergency Situations [to be developed]

52. The Task Force agreed to further develop this sub-section to include obligations on industry operators and competent authorities when serious contamination or other problems were identified. The subsection would also take into account the element of risk communication and other aspects of openness to the public where withdrawals and recalls were concerned.

53. The note in square brackets “[to be developed]” was removed, but with the clear understanding that future work was necessary in this area.

4.4 Inspection and Control Procedures

54. The Task Force decided to replace the term “encourage” with “verify” in the third sentence of the first paragraph as being more appropriate, with the understanding that this did not imply inspection of each lot. It was also agreed to delete the term “mostly” in the second sentence and to add “and feed ingredients” to clarify the text and to be consistent with previous decision.

4.5 Health Hazards Associated with Animal Feed

55. Noting the status of Codex work on maximum residues of contaminants, pesticides and veterinary drugs and other undesirable substances[15], the Task Force agreed to add the sentence “Codex maximum residue limits and maximum levels set for feed should be applied” and to include in the second sentence after “maximum residue limits” the term “set for food” in order to make a better distinction between the use of maximum residue limits and maximum levels set for feed and food. In addition it was added “for feed” at the end of the last sentence.

4.5.1 Veterinary Medicines and Feed Additives

56. The Task Force discussed on the issue of setting a borderline between “feed additives” and “veterinary medicines”, their use and related regulations. Different opinions were expressed on the usage of antimicrobials, in particular on antibiotics as feed ingredients. The Task Force noted the work of the Codex Committee of Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods (CCRVDF) in regard to the development of the proposed Draft Code of Practice to Minimize and Contain Antimicrobial Resistance[16]. It agreed to the following changes:

- to put “feed additives and” before “veterinary drugs” throughout all the section, including the heading;
- to change the term “veterinary medicine” to “veterinary drugs used in medicated feed” and to change the reference to “national or international authority” with “competent authority” to be consistent with the terminology used in Codex documents;

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14 ALINORM 03/34, paras. 19-29

15 CX/AF 02/5

16 ALINORM 03/31, para. 77

- to replace the sentence concerning the use of veterinary drugs in feed with "Veterinary drugs used in medicated feed should comply with the provisions of the Codex Recommended International Code of Practice for the Control and Use of Veterinary Drugs (CAC/RCP 38/1993)" and to consequently delete the reference to veterinary drugs in the sentence concerning the reception, handling and storage of feed additives;
- to replace "must" with "may" in the sentence referring to the borderline between feed additives and veterinary drugs used in medicated feed;
- to specifically refer to antibiotics used "for growth promoting purposes" in the last sentence of the section.

4.5.2 Feed and Feed Ingredients

57. The Task Force agreed:

- to modify the first sentence to read "feed and feed ingredients should only be produced, marketed, stored and used if they are safe and suitable, and, when used as intended should not represent in any way an unacceptable risk to the health of consumers" in order to better specify the various stages of the feed chain and to indicate that their use should not cause risk to the health of consumers;
- to replace "wholesome" with "suitable" as more consistent with the terminology used in Codex;
- to change the second sentence of the first paragraph to read "In particular, feed and feed ingredients contaminated with unacceptable levels of undesirable substances should be clearly identified as unsuitable for animal feed and not be marketed or used" in order to make it consistent with the concept expressed in Section 4.5 "Health Hazards Associated with Animal Feed"; and
- to delete the sentence regarding monitoring as it reworded a concept already covered in Section 4.4.

58. Regarding the deletion of the reference to a danger to animal health and environment, some delegations requested to make reference to the consideration of other legitimate factors. The possible establishment of criteria for a negative list and/or a positive list of feed ingredients was raised as a matter for further discussion.

4.5.3 Undesirable Substances

59. The Task Force agreed to change "microbes" to "agents" and to include a specific reference to the BSE agent. It modified the first sentence as follows "The presence in feed and feed ingredients of undesirable substances such as industrial and environmental contaminants, pesticides, radionuclides, persistent organic pollutants, pathogenic agents, including BSE agent, and toxins such as mycotoxins should be identified, controlled and minimized" and added a footnote to make a reference to the Joint WHO/FAO/OIE Technical Consultation on BSE: public health, animal health and trade. OIE Headquarters, Paris, 11-14 June 2001.

60. The Task Force decided to add the sentence "Control measures applied to reduce unacceptable levels of undesirable substances should be assessed in terms of their impact on food safety". The application of dilution and detoxification as control measure to reduce levels of contamination was discussed. In this regard some delegations highlighted the possible problem of accumulation in the food chain that may derive from systematic diluting of contamination, and the representative of the IFIF noted the possible negative impact on the environment that may derive from the restriction of their application.

SECTION 5 - INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION OF ANIMAL FEEDINGSTUFFS

61. The rapporteur of the drafting group responsible for the revision of Section 5 and 6 (see para. 34) informed the Task Force that it had deleted "Industrial" from the title of Section 5 as several provisions of this Section also applied to on-farm production of feed and that it had amended the text as necessary. The drafting group replaced the phrase "producer and manufacturer" with "livestock producer and feed manufacturer" in order to clarify the text throughout Section 5.

62. The drafting group recommended the Task Force to restructure Section 5 in a similar way of Section 6 so that the 18 points would be listed under sub-sections that would follow the flow of feed manufacture from the procurement of feed ingredients through manufacturing to delivery.

63. The Task Force decided to use the text revised by the drafting group (CRD 10) as the base for its discussion.

64. It was agreed to modify the title of Section 5 to "Production, storage and distribution of feed and feed ingredients" to cover the various stages of the feed chain. The Task Force decided to replace livestock producer and

feed manufacturer" with "operators in the feed chain" in order to encompass all stakeholders of the feed chain. The first sentence was changed to "Responsibility for the production, storage and distribution of safe and suitable feed and feed ingredients lies with all operators in the feed chain, including farmers, who should comply with any applicable statutory requirements". It was also agreed to delete "animal health" and to refer to the "health of consumers" for consistency with other parts of the code.

65. The second sentence was amended to include "stored and distributed" and "may lead to adverse effects on the health of the consumers" for clarity purposes. The Task Force modified the third sentence to make it consistent with the same sentence in Section 4. The fourth sentence was modified to include GAPs, and/or HACCP principles for clarity and consistency purposes and the words "in particular" were added to make clear that the following points were not exhaustive.

66. The Task Force considered the text of the 18 points and made the following changes:

- Point 2 – added "chemical fertilizers";
- Point 3 and 8 – deleted "plant" in order to extend its applicability to on-farm production;
- Point 10 - replaced "manufacturing" with "mixing" and "mixtures" with "products" for clarity;
- Point 11 - added "with the aim of preventing" as a compromise solution;
- Point 12 – inserted "feed ingredients" and "if they are" and changed "animal and human health" with "the health of consumers" as consequential change;
- Point 13 - deleted "monitored and";
- Point 14 – modified the sentence as follows "Feed and feed ingredients should be delivered and used as soon as possible after manufacture. Any feed and feed ingredients should be stored and transported in a manner that prevents deterioration and ensures that the correct feed is sent to right animal group".

67. The Task Force could not proceed further in the detailed revision of the Section due to time constraints. It agreed that the reorganization of the points would be considered by the drafting group in charge of the revision of Section 5, 6 and 7 (see para. 77).

SECTION 6. ON-FARM PRODUCTION AND USE OF FEEDINGSTUFFS

68. The rapporteur of the drafting group responsible for the revision of Section 5 and 6 (see para. 34) informed the Task Force that in the redraft of Section 6 (CRD 10) several sections were shortened (i.e., records, pesticides, feed ingredients), deleted (i.e., production) and merged (i.e., record and monitoring). He indicated that cross references were added to the sections "on-farm manufacturing of feed", "storage", "mixing" and "distribution" with relevant provisions of Section 5. Section 6 was also amended to reflect provisions for on-farm production of feed intended for aquaculture.

69. Due to time constraints, the Task Force was unable to examine Section 6 in detail and some delegations made the following general comments:

- to better address the specific aspects of aquaculture in the draft Code and to take into consideration the issue of the very high fat content of aquaculture feed;
- to develop the section on pesticide a little further to make it more consistent with the work of other Codex Committees and to replace the provision for the application HACCP principles to pesticide production by a reference to GMPs in section 6.1.1.3;
- to expand section 6.3.3 so that it would also cover important aspects of animal nutrition that could have an impact on food safety, such as deficiencies in nutrient in food of animal origin;
- to include specific criteria of risk analysis principles when considering the application of GAPs, GMPs and/or HACCP principles to feed and feed ingredients production, storage, distribution and use; and
- to further discuss the appropriateness of the reference to physical hazards in feed in relation to food safety;
- to consider the development of a stand-alone document on "On-farm production of feed" in order to facilitate the application of good animal feeding practice at farm level;
- to clarify the terminology related to grains.

Status of the Draft Code of Practice on Good Animal Feeding

70. The Task Force generally agreed that considerable progress had been made on the draft Code of Practice on Good Animal Feeding during this Third Session.

71. Some delegations proposed to advance the text at Step 5. Other delegations, considering that the Task Force did not have the opportunity to make detailed comments on sections 6 and 7 and a future reorganization of section 5, were in favour of retaining the text at Step 3 and others suggested to advance Section 1 to 5 to Step 5 and to retain Section 6 to 7 at Step 3.

72. The Task Force noted that it should submit a full report to the Codex Alimentarius Commission in 2003 [17], and that there would be not enough time for getting comments before the 50th Session of the Executive Committee (26 – 28 June 2002) to adopt on a provisional basis the text at Step 5 and considered that the draft Code should not be divided in two pieces. The Task Force expressed its willingness to give priority in its next session to the detailed revision of section 6 and 7, prior to consider the draft Code in its entirety.

73. Therefore, the Task Force agreed:

- to retain the draft Code of Practice on Good Animal Feeding at Step 3 and to append it to the report of this Session for circulation and comment with a reasonably short deadline, with the expectation to advance the full text at Steps 5-8 (with the omission of Steps 6 and 7) at its 4th Session in 2003;
- that a Drafting Group, led by Canada with the assistance of Australia, Norway, United Kingdom, ALA and Consumers International reorganise Section 5 and revise Sections 6 and 7 of the draft Code (Appendix II) taking into account the above discussion and the written comments submitted, for distribution. This work would be carried out prior to the next session (4th) of the Task Force;

74. The Task Force also requested the Secretariat to present a verbal note to the 50th session of the Executive Committee on the status of the Draft Code of Practice on Good Animal Feeding highlighting the important progress made at this Session and to seek advice on its possible adoption at the next Session of the Commission (July 2003).

OTHER BUSINESS AND FUTURE WORK (AGENDA ITEM 6)

75. In view of the discussion on the identification of specific issues to be addressed in the context of animal feeding as it relates to food safety and the development of appendices to the Code (see paras. 29 and 58), it was proposed that a drafting group would prepare a discussion paper on the different ways the Task Force could better address other aspects which are important for food safety as per its terms of reference[18]. This was supported by the delegation of Spain, speaking on behalf of the European Community. The delegation of the United States was of the opinion that it was not appropriate to create a drafting group at this stage. The Task Force could not reach an agreement on this proposal.

76. The observer of the International Dairy Federation proposed to develop an appendix to the Code on "Guidelines for the application of the HACCP system in the processing of feed [and feed ingredients]" in coordination with feed industry and consumers organizations. These guidelines should be based upon the existing Annex to the Recommended Code of Practice – General Principles of Food Hygiene (CAC/RCP 1-1969, Rev. 3-1997, Amended 1999).

77. There was no other business or further work identified.

DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT SESSION (AGENDA ITEM 7)

78. The Task Force was informed that its next Session (4th) was tentatively scheduled to be held in Copenhagen, from 24-26 March 2003, subject to discussion between the Secretariat of the Codex Alimentarius Commission and the Danish Government.

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17 Procedural Manual, 12th Edition, page 117 (English version) - Time frame

18 Procedural Manual, 12th Edition, page 117 (English version) - Terms of Reference

SUMMARY STATUS OF WORK

Subject Matter	**Step**	**Action by:**	**Document Reference (ALINORM 03/38)**
Proposed Draft Code of Practice on Good Animal Feeding	3	Governments; Drafting group (led by Canada); 4th TFAF	Appendix II (see also para. 73)

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PROPOSED DRAFT CODE OF PRACTICE ON GOOD ANIMAL FEEDING

At Step 3 of the Codex Procedure

SECTION 1. INTRODUCTION

1. This code is to establish a feed safety system for food producing animals which covers the whole food chain, taking into account relevant aspects of animal health and the environment in order to minimize risks to the health of consumers. This code applies in addition to the principles of food hygiene already established by the Codex Alimentarius Commission[1], taking into account the special aspects of animal feeding.

SECTION 2. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

2. The objective of this Code is to help ensure the safety of food for human consumption through adherence to good animal feeding practice at the farm level and good manufacturing practices (GMPs) during the procurement, handling, storage, processing, and distribution of animal feed and feed ingredients for food producing animals.

3. This Code of Practice applies to the production and use of all materials destined for animal feed and feed ingredients at all levels whether produced industrially or on farm. It also includes grazing or free-range feeding, forage crop production and aquaculture.

4. Those issues of animal welfare other than food safety related animal health are not covered. Environmental contaminants should be considered where the level of such substances in the feed and feed ingredients could present a risk to consumer health from the consumption of foods of animal origin.

5. While recognizing that, in its totality, a feed safety system would address animal health and environmental issues, in addition to consumer health, this Code of Practice, in fulfilling the Codex mandate of consumer protection, only addresses food safety. Notwithstanding this, best efforts have been made to ensure that the recommendations and practices in this Code of Practice will not be detrimental to the more general animal health and environmental aspects of animal feeding.

SECTION 3. DEFINITIONS

6. For the purpose of this Code ;

Feed (Feedingstuff): Any single or multiple material whether processed, semi-processed or raw, which is intended to be fed directly to food producing animals.

Feed Ingredient: A component part or constituent of any combination or mixture making up a feed, whether or not it has a nutritional value in the animal's diet, including feed additives. Ingredients are of plant, animal or aquatic origin, or other organic or inorganic substances.

Feed Additives: Any intentionally added ingredient not normally consumed as feed by itself, whether or not it has a nutritive value, which affects the characteristics of feed or animal products [or is intended to improve animal performance].

Medicated feed: Any feed which contains veterinary drugs as defined in the Codex Alimentarius Commission Procedural Manual.

Undesirable substances: Contaminants and other substances, which are present in and/or on feed and feed ingredient and which constitute a risk to the health of consumer, including food safety related animal health issues.

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[1] Codex Recommended International Code of Practice - General Principles of Food Hygiene (CAC/RCP 1- 1969, Rev. 3 (1997)

SECTION 4. GENERAL PRINCIPLES AND REQUIREMENTS

7. Feed and feed ingredients should be obtained and maintained in a stable condition so as to protect feed and feed ingredients from contamination by pests, or by chemical, physical or microbiological contaminants or other objectionable substances during production, handling, storage and transport. Feeds should be in good condition and meet generally accepted quality standards. Where appropriate good agriculture practices (GAPs), good manufacturing practices (GMPs), and/or Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) principles[2] should be followed to control hazards that may occur in food. Potential sources of contamination from the environment should be considered.

8. Parties that produce feed ingredients or feeds, those that rear animals for use as food and those that produce such animal products need to collaborate to identify potential hazards and their levels of risk to human health. Such collaboration will enable the development and maintenance of appropriate risk management options and safe feeding practices.

4.1 FEED INGREDIENTS

9. Feed Ingredients should be obtained from safe sources [and be acceptable, following a safety assessment where derived from new technologies]. Manufacturers of feed additives in particular should provide clear information to the user to permit correct and safe use. Monitoring of feed ingredients should include inspection and sampling and analysis for contaminants using risk based protocols. Feed ingredients should meet acceptable, and if applicable, statutory standards for levels of pathogens, mycotoxins, pesticides and contaminants that may give rise to consumer health hazards.

4.2 LABELLING

10. Labelling should be clear and informative as to how the user should handle, store and use feed and feed ingredients. Labelling should be consistent with any statutory requirements and should describe the feed and provide instructions for use. Labelling or the accompanying documents, should contain, where appropriate:

- information about the species or category of animals for which the feed is intended,
- the purpose for which the feed is intended,
- a list of feed ingredients, including appropriate reference to additives, in descending order of proportion,
- contact information of manufacturer or registrant,
- registration number if available,
- directions and precautions for use,
- lot identification,
- manufacturing date, and
- use before or expiry date.

11. [Genetically modified organisms and derived products should be labelled.]

4.3 TRACEABILITY (PRODUCT TRACING) AND RECORD KEEPING OF FEED AND FEED INGREDIENTS

12. Traceability (product tracing) of feed and feed ingredients, including additives, should be enabled by proper labelling and record keeping at all stages of production and distribution. This should facilitate the prompt trace-back or trace-forward of materials and products if any actual or potential health risks are identified, and prompt and complete withdrawal or recall of products where necessary. Records should be maintained and readily available regarding the production, distribution and use of feeds and feed ingredients

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[2] Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point, as defined in the Annex to the Recommended International Code of Practice on General Principles of Food Hygiene (CAC/RCP 1-1969, Rev. 3 (1997))

for as long as appropriate to enable trace-back should a safety problem emerge, [and representative samples of feed and feed ingredients should be kept where applicable].

13. Feed manufacturers should keep records containing full details of the supplier and date of receipt of feed ingredients, of the manufacturing process and the destination of all feed. These records could include:

- inventory records (including labels and invoices on received goods), actual formulae, mixing sheets, daily production logs, files of complaints, files on manufacturing errors and corrective actions taken, analytical results and investigations of out-of-tolerance sample results, records respecting the disposition of returned and recalled feeds, records of the disposition of flushed or recovered material, records of mixer validation and scale/metering device verification, etc.

4.3.1 Special Conditions Applicable to Emergency Situations

14. Certain additional actions may become necessary in an emergency situation or where high risk ingredients are concerned. In such circumstances and in order to control the spread of specific pathogens or the presence of other undesirable substances or products, it may be necessary to specify, for any feed ingredient, the country of origin and species of animal and any treatment process used prior to purchase. Care should be taken to preserve the identity of such material after procurement to facilitate any checking that might be required.

4.4 INSPECTION AND CONTROL PROCEDURES

15. Feed and feed ingredients manufacturers and other relevant parts of industry should practice self-regulation/auto-control to secure compliance with required standards for production, storage and transport. It will also be necessary for official regulatory programmes to be established to check that feeds and feed ingredients are produced, distributed and used in such a way that foods of animal origin for human consumption are both safe and suitable. Inspection and control procedures should be used to verify that feed and feed ingredients meet requirements in order to protect consumers against food-borne hazards[3]. Inspection system should be designed and operated on the basis of objective risk assessment appropriate to the circumstances[4]. Preferably the risk assessment methodology employed should be consistent with internationally accepted approaches. Risk assessment should be based on current available scientific evidence.

16. Monitoring of feeds and feed ingredients, whether by industry or official inspection bodies, should include inspection and sampling and analysis to detect unacceptable levels of contaminants and other undesirable substances.

4.5 HEALTH HAZARDS ASSOCIATED WITH ANIMAL FEED

17. All feed and feed ingredients should meet minimum safety standards. It is essential that levels of undesirable substances are sufficiently low in feed and feed ingredients that their concentration in food for human consumption is consistently below the level of concern. Codex maximum residue limits and maximum levels set for feed should be applied. Maximum residue limits set for food, such as those established by the Codex Alimentarius Commission, may be useful in determining minimum safety standards for feed.

4.5.1 Feed Additives and Veterinary Drugs Used in Medicated Feed

18. Feed additives and veterinary drugs used in medicated feed should be assessed for safety and used under stated conditions of use as pre-approved by the competent authorities.

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[3] Principles for Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification (CAC/GL 20-1995)

[4] Guidelines for the Design, Operation, Assessment and Accreditation of Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems (CAC/GL 26-1997)

19. Veterinary drugs used in medicated feed should comply with the provisions of the Codex Recommended International Code of Practice for the Control of the Use of Veterinary Drugs[5].

20. Borderlines between feed additives and veterinary drugs used in medicated feed may be set to avoid misuse.

21. Feed additives should be received, handled and stored to maintain their integrity and to minimise misuse or unsafe contamination. Feed containing them should be used in strict accordance with clearly defined instructions for use.

22. Antibiotics should not be used in feed for growth promoting purposes in the absence of public health safety assessment[6].

4.5.2 Feed and Feed Ingredients

23. Feed and feed ingredients should only be produced, marketed, stored and used if they are safe and suitable, and, when used as intended, should not represent in any way an unacceptable risk to the health of consumer. In particular, feed and feed ingredients contaminated with unacceptable levels of undesirable substances should be clearly identified as unsuitable for animal feed and not be marketed or used.

24. Feed and feed ingredients should not be presented or marketed in a manner liable to mislead the user.

4.5.3 Undesirable Substances

25. The presence in feed and feed ingredients of undesirable substances such as industrial and environmental contaminants, pesticides, radionuclides, persistent organic pollutants, pathogenic agents, including BSE agent[7], and toxins such as mycotoxins should be identified, controlled and minimised. Control measures applied to reduce unacceptable level of undesirable substances should be assessed in terms of their impact on food safety.

26. The risks of each undesirable substance to the health of the consumers should be assessed and such assessment may lead to the setting of maximum limits for feeds and feed ingredients or the prohibition of certain materials from animal feeding.

SECTION 5. PRODUCTION, STORAGE AND DISTRIBUTION OF FEED AND FEED INGREDIENTS

27. Responsibility for the production, storage and distribution of safe and suitable feed and feed ingredients lies with all operators of the feed chain, including farmers who should comply with any applicable statutory requirements.

28. Feed and feed ingredients should not be manufactured, stored and distributed in facilities where incompatible operations may lead to adverse effects on the health of the consumers.

29. Where appropriate, the operators should follow GAPs, GMPs, and/or HACCP principles to control hazards that may occur in food.

30. The effective implementation of GAPs, GMPs, and/or HACCP principles should ensure in particular that:

i. Buildings and equipment used to process feed and feed ingredients are constructed in a manner that permits ease of operation, maintenance and cleaning and minimises the potential for feed contamination. Process flow within the manufacturing facility should also be designed to minimise such potential;

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5 CAC/RCP 38-1993

6 WHO Global Principles for the Containment of Antimicrobial Resistance in Animals Intended for Food, June 2000, Geneva, Switzerland

7 Joint WHO/FAO/OIE Technical Consultation on BSE: public health, animal health and trade, OIE Headquarters, Paris, 11-14 June 2001.

ii. Work and equipment areas are free of chemical fertilizers, pesticides and other such materials not intended for use in feed in order to avoid the potential for cross-contamination.

iii. All personnel involved in the manufacture of feed and feed ingredients are adequately trained and aware of their role and responsibility in protecting feed and feed ingredients from contamination;

iv. Water used in feed manufacture meets hygienic standards and is of potable quality for animals. Conduits for water should be of inert nature;

v. Machinery coming into contact with dry feed is dried following any wet cleaning process;

vi. Condensation is minimised;

vii. Sewage, waste and rain water is disposed of in a manner that ensures that equipment, feed and feed ingredients are not contaminated;

viii. Feed and feed ingredients processing and storage facilities and their immediate surroundings are kept clean and effective pest control programmes are implemented;

ix. All scales and metering devices used in the manufacture of feeds are appropriate for the range of weights and volumes to be measured, and are tested regularly for accuracy;

x. All mixers used in the manufacture of feeds are appropriate for the range of weights or volumes being mixed and are capable of mixing suitable homogeneous products and homogeneous dilutions;

xi. Manufacturing strategies are used to avoid cross-contamination (for example by flushing, sequencing and physical clean-out) between batches of feed containing restricted or otherwise potentially harmful materials (such as certain animal by-product meals, certain additives). These procedures should also be used to minimise with the aim of preventing cross-contamination between medicated and non-medicated feeds. In cases where the risk linked to cross-contamination is high, completely separate production lines, and storage and transport, should be introduced;

xii. Records and other information are maintained as indicated at 4.3 in this Code to include the identity and distribution of feed and feed ingredients so that if they are considered to pose a threat to the health of consumers they can be rapidly removed from the market and that animals exposed to the relevant feed can be identified;

xiii. The presence of undesirable substances is controlled;

xiv. Feed and feed ingredients should be delivered and used as soon as possible after manufacture. Any feed and feed ingredients should be stored and transported in a manner which prevents deterioration and contamination and ensures that the correct feed is sent to the right animal group;

xv. Processed feeds are separated from unprocessed feed ingredients, including additives, and appropriate packaging materials are used;

xvi. Containers and equipment used for transport, storage, conveying, handling and weighing are kept clean. Cleaning programmes should minimise the use, and therefore any remaining residues, of detergents and disinfectants;

xvii. Pathogen control procedures, such as heat treatment or the addition of authorised chemicals, are used where appropriate and monitored throughout the manufacturing process;

xviii. Dry feeds and feed ingredients are kept dry in order to limit fungal and bacterial growth. Care should also be taken to prevent, so far as reasonably practicable, deterioration and spoilage at all stages of handling, storage and transport of feeds;

31. Waste feed and other material containing hazardous levels of veterinary drugs, undesirable substances and any other hazards are not used as feed and are disposed of in an appropriate and, where applicable, statutory manner and not used as feed.

SECTION 6. ON-FARM PRODUCTION AND USE OF FEED

32. This section provides guidance respecting the manufacture and use of feeds on farm.

33. This section should be used in conjunction with the applicable requirements of Section 4 and 5 of this Code.

34. On-farm manufacturing of feed should follow the same principles as industrial feed production and adherence to good manufacturing practices (GMPs). Where possible, GMPs are encouraged during all stages of on-farm manufacturing of animal feed for food producing animals, to help ensure the safety of animal origin food for human consumption. Three types of contamination represent hazards at most stages of on-farm production of feeds, namely;

- biological, such as bacteria, fungi and other microbial pathogens,
- chemical, such as residues of, medication, pesticides, fertilizer or other agricultural substances,
- physical, such as broken needles, machinery and other foreign material.

6.1 AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION OF FEED

6.1.1 Production of pastures, cereal grain and forage crops

35. Adherence to good agricultural practices (GAPs) is encouraged in the production of natural, improved and cultivated pastures, forage and cereal grain crops used as feed or feed ingredients for food producing animals. Following good agriculture practices standards will minimise the risk of biological, chemical and physical contaminants entering the food chain. If crop residuals and stubbles are grazed after harvest, or otherwise enter the food-chain, they should also be considered as livestock feed. Most livestock will consume a portion of their bedding and crops that produce bedding material should also be managed as a livestock feed. Good pasture management practices, such as rotational grazing and dispersion of manure droppings, should be used to reduce cross-contamination between groups of animals.

6.1.1.1 Manure Fertilizer

36. Where manure fertilisation of crops on pastures is practised, an appropriate handling and storage system should be in place and maintained to minimise environmental contamination, which could negatively impact on the safety of foods of animal origin. There should be adequate time between applying the manure and grazing, to allow the manure to decompose and to minimise contamination.

37. Manure, compost and other plant nutrients should be properly used and applied to minimise biological and chemical contamination of foods of animal origin which adversely affect food safety.

6.1.1.2 Chemical Fertilizers

38. Chemical fertilizers should be handled, stored and applied so that they do not negatively impact on the safety of foods of animal origin, e.g., cadmium content.

6.1.1.3 Pesticides

39. Where possible, pesticides should be obtained from reputable suppliers who follow HACCP principles in the manufacture of their products. If regulatory system is in place, then those chemical used must be registered with that agency.

40. Agricultural chemicals should be stored and used in accordance with Good Agricultural Practice for Use of Pesticides (GAP) as outlined on page 42 of the 12th edition of the Codex Alimentarius Commission's Procedural Manual.

41. Chemicals should be disposed of responsibly in a manner that will not lead to contamination of any water body, soil, feed or feed ingredients.

6.1.1.4 Site Selection and Water Use

42. Land used for production of livestock feeds should not be located in a proximity to industrial operations where industrial pollutants from air or ground water would be expected to result in the production of foods of animal origin that may present a risk to food safety. Runoff from adjacent land and irrigation water should be free of any contaminants that may present a risk to food safety.

6.1.2 Water

43. Water for irrigation should not contain contaminants that have the potential to result in the production of food of animal origin that may present a risk to food safety.

6.2 MANUFACTURING OF FEED ON-FARM

6.2.1 Feed Ingredients

44. On-farm feed manufacturers should follow the applicable guidelines established in subsection 4.1 of this code when sourcing feed ingredients off the farm.

45. Feed ingredients produced on the farm should meet the requirements established for feeds sourced off the farm. For example, treated seed should not be fed

6.2.2 Mixing

46. On-farm feed manufacturers should follow the applicable guidelines established in section 5 of this code.

47. In particular, feed should be mixed in a manner that will minimise the potential for cross-contamination between feed or feed ingredients that may have an effect on the safety, or withholding period for the feed or feed ingredients as outlined in subsection 5.11 of the code.

6.2.3 Storage (Note: Move to Section 5 and edit as required)

48. Feed and feed ingredients should be clearly identified and be stored separately to preserve their identity and prevent cross-contamination, including with medicated feeds. Feed ingredients that may require analysis to ensure food safety should be adequately identified and isolated until approval for their use is obtained.

49. Feed and feed ingredients should be stored in a manner so that rotation of stock occurs, preferably on a "first in first out" basis, to discourage microbial growth of contaminants and to ensure the proper activity of feed additives, including medicaments.

50. Storage areas should be structurally sound, adequately maintained and kept clean, dry and at an appropriate temperature and humidity to minimise microbial growth. Where appropriate, pathogen control procedures should also be used. Effective pest control regimes should be implemented. Access by wildlife and other animals should be minimised.

51. Buildings and storage containers should be well ventilated and monitored to minimise contamination or deterioration of feed and feed ingredients.

6.2.4 Monitoring Records

52. Appropriate records of feed manufacturing procedures followed by on-farm feed mixers should be maintained to assist investigations of possible feed related contamination or disease events.

53. Records should be kept of incoming feed ingredients, date of receipt and batches of feed produced in addition to other applicable records set out in subsection 4.3.

6.3 GOOD ANIMAL FEEDING PRACTICE

54. Good animal feeding practice includes those practices which help ensure the proper use of feed and feed ingredients on-farm while minimising biological, chemical and physical risks to consumers of foods of animal origin.

6.3.1 Pasture grazing

55. The grazing of pastures and, croplands should be managed in a way that minimises the contamination of foods of animal origin by biological and chemical food safety hazards.

56. Where appropriate, an adequate period should be observed before allowing livestock to graze on pasture, crops and crop residuals and between grazing rotations to minimise biological cross-contamination from manure, where such a potential problem exists and to ensure that the withholding periods for agricultural chemical applications are observed.

57. Aquaculture production parameters will need to be added.

6.3.2 Distribution (Note: should be reworded and put in Section 5)

58. During distribution and feeding, feed should be handled so that biological and chemical contamination does not occur from contaminated storage areas and equipment. Non-medicated feeds should be handled separately from medicated feeds to prevent contamination.

6.3.3 Feeding

59. It is important that the correct feed is fed to the right animal group and that directions for use are followed. Contamination should be minimised during feeding.

60. Ensure that medicated feeds are transported to the correct location and are fed to animals that require the medication. Where medicated feeds are used, that could produce residues in food, correct withholding periods must be maintained and records kept. Feed transport vehicles and feeding equipment used to deliver and distribute medicated feed should be cleaned after use, if a different medicated feed or unmedicated feed is to be transported next.

61. Animals receiving medicated feeds should be identified until the withholding period has expired.

6.3.4 Stable feeding and lot/intensive feeding unit

6.3.4.1 Location

62. The animal production unit should be located in an area that does not result in the production of foods of animal origin that pose a risk to food safety

6.3.4.2 Hygiene

63. The livestock production unit should be designed so that it can be adequately cleaned. The livestock production unit and feeding equipment should be thoroughly cleaned regularly to prevent potential hazards to food safety. Chemicals used for cleaning and sanitising should be used according to instructions, labelled and stored away from feed and feeding areas.

64. A pest control system should be put in place to control the access of pests to the animal production unit to minimise potential hazards to food safety from feed and bedding materials or culture units.

65. Operators and employees working in the animal production unit should observe appropriate hygiene standards to minimise potential hazards to food safety from feed.

6.3.5 Water

66. Water for drinking or for aquaculture should be of adequate quality for the animals or fish being produced. Where there is reason to be concerned about contamination of livestock or fish from the water, measures should be taken to evaluate and minimise the hazards.

SECTION 7. METHODS OF ANALYSIS AND SAMPLING

7.1 SAMPLING

67. National Feed Control authorities should use defined sampling procedures based on Codex sampling plans for the particular commodity/contaminant combination where available. Otherwise relevant official methods of sampling as elaborated by international organisations, such as the International Standards Organisation (ISO) and AOAC International, should be used. It is important to ensure that the sample taken is representative of the consignment or of the lot.[8]

7.2 ANALYSIS

68. Where samples are selected for analysis, standard methods of analysis or methods validated through appropriate protocols should be used. Official methods of analysis elaborated by international organisations should be used. These include the ISO and AOAC International. Where no appropriate international analytical standard exists, other scientifically recognised rules can be used. The method selected should also be chosen on the basis of practicability, with preference given to those methods which are applicable for routine use, and of reliability.[6]

69. Analysis should be conducted in official or officially accredited laboratories, and which employ Good Laboratory Practice.

[8] Working Group draft has been modified by the Codex Secretariat to delete references to regional organizations.