MINUTES OF THE 6TH PLENARY MEETING OF THE SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ADDITIVES AND PRODUCTS OR SUBSTANCES USED IN ANIMAL FEED (BRUSSELS, 2-3-4 DECEMBER 2003)

ADOPTED ON 27 JANUARY 2004

PARTICIPANTS

Panel Members:
Arturo Anadón, Margarita Arboix Arzo (2nd-3rd day), Georges Bories, Paul Brantom (1st-2nd day), Joaquim Brufau de Barbera, Andrew Chesson, Pier Sandro Cocconcelli, Joop de Knecht, Noël Dierick (1st day), Gerhard Flachowsky, Anders Franklin, Jürgen Gropp, Ingrid Halle, Anne-Katrine Haldorsen, Josef Leibetseder, Alberto Mantovani (2nd-3rd day), Kimmo Peltonen, Guido Rychen (2nd-3rd day), Pieter Wester (1st day, 3rd day)

Apologies
Margarita Arboix Arzo (1st day), Paul Brantom (3rd day), Noël Dierick (2nd-3rd day), Alberto Mantovani (1st day), Guido Rychen (1st day), Pascal Sanders, Pieter Wester (2nd day)

EFSA
Dominique Byron, Herman Koëter (1st day), Liisa Vahteristo, Sandrine Valentin

European Commission
Marta Ponghellini (1st day, 3rd day), Eric Thévenard (2nd day) (DG Health and Consumer Protection)

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1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The chair opened the meeting and welcomed all the participants to the 6th plenary meeting of the FEEDAP Panel. Members not able to attend the meeting had sent their apologies (see under participants).

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no interests declared relevant to the items on the agenda.

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was approved after the item for discussion on coccidiostat Monteban was removed.

4. ADOPTION OF THE DRAFT MINUTES OF THE 5TH PLENARY MEETING ON 12-13/11/2003

The minutes of the fifth plenary meeting of the Scientific Panel held on 12-13 November 2003 were adopted with minor modifications. The adopted minutes of the 4th plenary meeting were distributed to all members.

5. GENERAL INFORMATION FROM EFSA

The Scientific Co-ordinator gave a short overview of the developments at EFSA, as well as an update on some general issues related to all the panels. The panel was informed that a new call for expression of interest for additional experts to the scientific panels will be published around beginning of January.

The Panel was also informed by the Chairman that the Scientific Committee, during its last meeting, developed mandates for three subjects (Genotoxic and carcinogenic substances, Exposure assessment, Qualified Presumption of Safety for microorganisms).

In addition, notes on media guidelines from EFSA and update on some rules on the reimbursement of private experts have been provided to all panel members.

6. WORK PROGRAM

6.1. Discussion and possible adoption of the following scientific opinions

- Re-evaluation of coccidiostat Elancoban in accordance with article 9G of Directive 70/524/EEC

The Rapporteur of the Working Group introduced the draft to the plenary. The Panel reviewed the report in detail. The Rapporteur together with Working Group members were requested to amend the document according to the remarks made on this draft opinion. A revised document should be presented in the January plenary and the revised sections together with the summary and conclusions will then be discussed in detail.

- Re-evaluation of coccidiostat Avatec 15 % (lasalocid sodium) in accordance with article 9G of Directive 70/524/EEC

The Rapporteur of the Working Group introduced the draft document to the plenary. The Panel reviewed parts of the report. The draft report was given back to the Working Group to be amended according to the remarks made during the discussion. A revised document should be presented in the January plenary.

- Evaluation of coccidiostat Koffogran (nicarbazin)

The Rapporteur of the Working Group introduced the revised draft document. The major modifications carried out from the last plenary were presented, and the conclusions discussed.

The document was adopted by the Panel provided that some editorial changes were incorporated.

- Re-evaluation of coccidiostat Deccox (decoquinate) in accordance with article 9G of Directive 70/524/EEC

The Rapporteur from the Working Group introduced the revised draft document. The short time between the two Plenaries had not been long enough to launch the written approval for this draft opinion as provisionally agreed in the previous Plenary. The major modifications carried out from the last plenary were presented. The Panel adopted the opinion after short discussion provided that some editorial changes were incorporated.

- Biosprint BCCM/MUCL 39885

The Rapporteur from the Working Group on Micro-organisms introduced the draft opinion for discussion. The Panel asked some clarifications about the quantity of micro-organisms used in the trial and the meaning of "Other provisions" in the proposed conditions of use of the additive. The opinion will be reviewed by the Working Group and a new draft document will be submitted in the January plenary.

6.2. Progress Reports on

- Re-evaluation of coccidiostats in accordance with article 9G of Directive 70/524/EEC/ Evaluation of Coccidiostats

For all the Coccidiostats, the work is progressing within different Working Groups. At least three new Working Groups meetings are planned for January 2004.

The Scientific coordinator informed the Panel concerning the products Sacox, Kokcisan and BioCox (salinomycin sodium) that the three companies in question have been contacted by EFSA to obtain their agreement to merge some specific data which is not product dependent. Further progress will be reported to the Panel.

- Micro-organisms

Next meeting of the Working Group is planned for December 16th. Letters to the companies requesting further details to the data submitted have been sent to the relevant Member State Rapporteurs, concerning products Biomin BBSH 797, Reuteri Pig Powder, and MLB for dogs.

- Enzymes

The meeting of the Working Group is planned for December the 11th.

- Question on the safety of use of iodine in feedingstuffs

Not discussed. A Working Group meeting is planned for December the 10th.

- Question on use of the synthetic sodium aluminium silicate (zeolite) for the reduction of risk of milk fever in dairy cows

Not discussed. A letter requesting more details to the data submitted has been sent to the Member State Rapporteur.

- Question on the assessment of the safety of all carotenoids authorised in 70/524/EEC

Not discussed.

- Question on the product Nutrigrow

Not discussed. Dossier not yet received.

6.3. New question received from the European Commission

No new official request has been received since the last Plenary. However, a new question on astaxanthin-rich *Phaffia Rhodozyma* (Ecotone) and its environmental impact is about to arrive from the Commission, and therefore the rapporteur and the members to be involved in this question were already provisionally nominated.

7. PROPOSALS FOR SELF-TASKING

Four proposals for self tasking[1] had been retained by the members of the Panel during the last plenary. Each Rapporteur now introduced the background of each self tasking proposal.

The chair asked to produce a new document including the background and terms of reference to be discussed in the January plenary and informed the Panel that external experts could be included in the Working Group in charge of these self tasking.

8. MISCELLANEAOUS

The Deputy Executive Director (Head of Science) introduced himself to the Panel and had a short discussion with the Panel. Issues discussed included the need for EFSA and its FEEDAP Panel to establish links with EMEA. Environmental assessment of feed additives, in particular in the case of some coccidiostats, and the possibility of different approaches and scenarios was also a subject of concern expressed to Dr. Koëter. He also told that EFSA is going to build up a network with the national and international bodies to strengthen its capacity in its tasks in risk assessment and risk communication.

[1] Development of a guideline to assess herbs, essential oils and other plant products as feed additives; Development of a guideline to assess the efficacy of detoxificants for mycotoxins; Revising and updating the SCAN Antibiotics Opinion for future use by FEEDAP; Development of the use of models for environmental part assessment.