MINUTES OF THE 8TH PLENARY MEETING OF THE SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON ADDITIVES AND PRODUCTS OR SUBSTANCES USED IN ANIMAL FEED (BRUSSELS, 3-4 MARCH 2004)

(ADOPTED ON 14 APRIL 2004)

PARTICIPANTS

Panel Members:
Arturo Anadón, Margarita Arboix Arzo, Georges Bories, Paul Brantom, Joaquim Brufau de Barbera, Andrew Chesson, Pier Sandro Cocconcelli, Joop de Knecht, Noël Dierick (1st day), Gerhard Flachowsky, Anders Franklin, Jürgen Gropp, Ingrid Halle, Josef Leibetseder, Kimmo Peltonen, Guido Rychen, Pascal Sanders, Pieter Wester (1st day)

Apologies
Noël Dierick (2nd day), Anne-Katrine Haldorsen, Alberto Mantovani, Pieter Wester (2nd day)

EFSA
Liisa Vahteristo, Sandrine Valentin, Dominique Byron

European Commission
Marta Ponghellini (2nd day), Miguel-Angel Granero Rosell

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1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The chair opened the meeting and welcomed all the participants to the 8th 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.

4. ADOPTION OF THE DRAFT MINUTES OF THE 7TH PLENARY MEETING ON 27-28/01/2004

The minutes of the seventh Plenary meeting of the Scientific Panel held on 27-28 January 2004 were adopted. The previously adopted minutes of the 6th plenary meeting were distributed to all the members.

5. GENERAL INFORMATION FROM EFSA

Not discussed.

6. WORK PROGRAM

6.1. Discussion and possible adoption of the following scientific opinions

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

- Elancoban

The Rapporteur of the Working Group introduced the revised draft document prepared to take account of the discussions during the previous plenary meeting. Due to the several modifications and contributions it had not been practical to go through written adoption as previously proposed. The Panel reviewed the current draft in detail. The Panel adopted the opinion provided that the changes identified as necessary were incorporated to the document.

- Avatec 15%

The Rapporteur of the Working Group introduced the draft document. The Panel reviewed the efficacy, microbiological and toxicity parts in detail. The Rapporteur was requested to amend the document according to the points made during general discussion and some more specific remarks made on this draft opinion. A revised document should be presented in the April Plenary.

- Cycostat

Not discussed.

- Kokcisan

Not discussed.

- Enzymes Products:

- Endofeed

Not discussed.

- Other Products:

- Ecotone

Member of the Working Group introduced the draft document. 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. The Panel requests to mention the current assessment on carotenoids, including the active colouring substance

astaxanthin, at the end of the opinion. A revised document should be adopted by written procedure.

6.2. Progress report on:

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

Not discussed.

- Coccidiostats

Not discussed.

- Micro-Organisms

Not discussed.

- Enzymes

Not discussed.

- Question on the safety of use of iodine in feedingstuffs

In progress.

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

In progress. New data in response to a request from EFSA has been provided.

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

A Working Group has been established.

- Question on MRLs for Canthaxanthin

In progress.

7. OFFICIAL REQUESTS TO EFSA RECEIVED FROM THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

- Question on the safety of the product 4-nitrophenylarsonic acid as feed additive in accordance with Regulation (EC) N° 1831/2003 and in particular Art. 15

The Commission asks the European Food Safety Authority to make a preliminary evaluation of the safety of 4-nitrophenylarsonic acid, and its metabolites when it is used as feed additive for animal nutrition. The request will be dealt within a new Working Group. The deadline proposed by the Commission for the assessment is June 2004. EFSA expects to complete this evaluation by end of summer 2004.

- Question on the safety of micro-organisms product "Provita E" for chickens for fattening

The Commission asks the European Food Safety Authority to deliver an opinion on the safety of micro-organisms product "Provita E", for the target animals. The request will be dealt with by the WG on Micro-Organisms. The deadline proposed by the Commission for the assessment is October 2004.

8. MISCELLANEOUS

- Need for Guidelines related to Regulation (EC) N° 1831/2003

  The Regulation 1831/2003, article 7, mentions that after the Authority (EFSA) has been consulted, specific guidelines for authorisation of additives shall be established by the Commission. It also mentions that the Authority shall publish detailed guidance to assist the applicant in the preparation and the presentation of its application.

  Where necessary, specific guidelines may be established for each category of additives. The regulation also mentions three additional aspects. One is the possiblity of specific guidelines for additives used for non-food producing animals ("pets"). Additionally it is foreseen that the guidelines may address also considerations concerning additives for feedingstuffs intended for minor species by extrapolating the results of the studies carried out on major species to minor species, and also the possibility of taking into account, for additives also used in food, this situation at the time of their evaluation.

  The Commission services had sent a general letter to EFSA about the guidelines under Regulation 1831/2003 and could send further official requests to EFSA to specify more in detail the mandate(s) for EFSA in the creation of new guidance for authorisation of new additives. Regulation 1831/2003 foresees that the current guidelines are applicable until the Commission has established implementing rules for the application of the Article 7, in particular until the establishment of new guidelines.

- An additional Plenary meeting is confirmed for the 14 and 15th April 2004.

- The May Plenary meeting will be held in Barcelona the 5th, 6th and 7th May. An open session to representative organisations including consumer organisations and other stakeholders or interested parties will be organized during this meeting.