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Advisory Committee on Animal Feedingstuffs

ANNUAL REPORT 2004

Contents

	Page
Foreword	1
About the Committee	2
Terms of Reference	3
The Committee's Commitment to Openness	4
How to Contact the Committee	4
Meet the Members	5
Current Terms of Office of ACAF Members	10
ACAF Secretariat	11
Summary of Main Topics Considered by ACAF	12
Review of Feed Law Enforcement	12
Review of On-Farm Feeding Practices – Roll-Out	12
Genetically Modified (GM) Issues	
• Traceability and Labelling of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) and GM Food and Feed	13
• ACAF GM Sub-group	13
EC and Codex Developments	14
• Feed Hygiene Proposal	14
• Official Feed and Food Controls	14
• Feed Labelling Review	15
• Codex Task Force on Animal Feeding (TFAF)	15
Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition (SACN) Sub-group on Vitamin A	15
Use of Fish Meal in Animal Feed	16
ACAF Visit to Belfast, Northern Ireland	17

European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)	17
Horizon Scanning and Forward Work Programme	18
Food Standards Agency (FSA) Strategic Plan 2005-2010	18
Annexes	
Annex I	
Abbreviations	19
Annex II	
Papers Considered by ACAF in 2004	20
Annex III	
Register of Members' Interests	22
Annex IV	
Request for Information on ACAF	24
Annex V	
Membership of ACAF Sub-groups	25
Annex VI	
Code of Practice for Members of ACAF	26

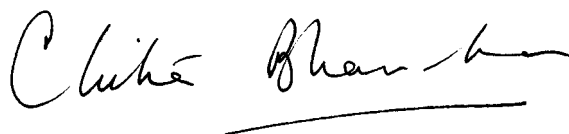
Foreword

The ACAF Review of On-Farm Feeding Practices published last year has been well received. Farmers have already adopted the recommendations and the Review has been incorporated into training sessions for Trading Standards Officers. Another important aspect of maintaining safety of feeds has been the focus of our work this year. Review of Feed Law Enforcement has dominated the deliberations of this Committee and members have contributed generously of their time. I anticipate that the recommendations will significantly enhance the effectiveness of feed law enforcement. I would like to record my special thanks to Tim Franck for the many hours spent in assisting the Committee with the preparation of the report.

The open meeting in Belfast was widely acclaimed as a success. Unprecedented numbers of observers attended and delegates included senior experts from the Republic of Ireland. The formal and informal exchange of information was mutually beneficial.

The Committee continues to rejuvenate itself with the appointment of new members to replace those who have completed their term of office during the year. The expertise and enthusiasm of ACAF is unabated.

The Secretariat has undergone seamless change. I was sorry to lose the experience, which Karen Dell brought, having steered the Committee from its inception. During the year the Committee lost the services of Bill Knock who moved to a new post in the Food Standards Agency's Nutrition Division. Bill served the Committee as Secretary and latterly as Assessor. The Committee and I are indebted to Bill. I am pleased to report that ACAF continues to be supported by efficient and professional staff who ensure that ACAF is facilitated in carrying out its functions with all relevant and appropriate information.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chitra Bharucha', with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Chitra Bharucha

Chairman of ACAF

About the Committee

1. The Advisory Committee on Animal Feedingstuffs (ACAF) was set up in June 1999 to advise on the safety and use of animal feeds and feeding practices, with particular emphasis on protecting human health and with reference to new technical developments and new feed materials.
2. The decision to set up the Committee was made in the light of concern about the integrity of animal feeds, particularly over the implications of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) and the use of genetically modified (GM) feed ingredients. The decision was announced in the White Paper, "The Food Standards Agency: A Force for Change", published in January 1998 and it implemented the principal recommendation of the report of the Expert Group on Animal Feedingstuffs, published in July 1992.
3. The Committee's primary purpose is to advise on the safety and use of animal feed in relation to human health but it also covers animal health aspects and a wide range of contemporary issues including advice on the UK negotiating line on new European Community (EC) proposals, animal feed ingredients including genetically modified organisms (GMOs) and labelling and information for purchasers of animal feed.
4. ACAF is a UK-wide advisory committee and is made up of independent experts who are appointed by UK Ministers and the Food Standards Agency. Members are appointed for their individual expertise and experience and are not representative of any sector or organisation.

Terms of Reference

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

The Committee's Commitment to Openness

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

www.food.gov.uk/science/ouradvisors/animalfeedingstuffs.htm

7. Paper copies of these documents can be obtained by contacting the ACAF Secretariat at the address shown at paragraph 10.

8. The nature of the expertise and experience required for ACAF membership means that some members have links with the feed industry, farming and other relevant sectors. Details of members' interests can be found in the Register of Members' Interests at Annex III. These details are regularly updated in the on-line version of the Register on the Committee's website. ACAF members are required to declare all relevant interests in writing when they are appointed and are reminded to update as necessary at the beginning of each meeting. Members are also required to declare any direct commercial interests, or those of close family members, in matters under discussion at each meeting. This declaration is recorded in the minutes of meetings, which are freely available to members of the public.

9. The Committee held three of its five meetings in 2004 in open session, one of which was in Belfast, Northern Ireland. These meetings were attended by delegates from a range of stakeholders and provided opportunities not only to observe the Committee at work but also to ask questions on subjects on the agenda and other animal feed issues. ACAF is committed to continue holding open meetings.

How to Contact the Committee

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

The ACAF Secretariat
Room 415B Aviation House
London WC2B 6NH
Tel: 020 7276 8083
Fax: 020 7276 8478
e-mail: acaf@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk

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

Meet the Members

12. ACAF currently consists of a Chairman and 13 members from wide-ranging backgrounds including consumer affairs, farming, the feed industry and science. Members are appointed in accordance with the Nolan Principles, which aim to ensure fairness and transparency in appointments to public bodies. ACAF members and their main areas of expertise are listed below.



Dr Chitra Bharucha (Chairman) is a registered specialist in haematology. She is an Associate member of the General Medical Council (GMC) and a member of Council of the Advertising Standards Authority (ASA). Until 2000, she was Deputy Director of the Northern Ireland Blood Transfusion Service and Consultant Haematologist in Belfast City Hospital. She was a Member of the Independent Television Commission (ITC) and has held professional appointments in the World Health Organisation (WHO) and on a wide range of national and international councils, committees, and panels including the GM Science Review Panel.



Dr Dozie Azubike (lay person/consumer) is a part-time Inspector with the Health and Safety Executive. He has a wide range of experience in the voluntary sector and is a Magistrate, a Member of the Board of the Thames Valley Housing Association and a non-executive director of a friendly society. He is also a Member of the General Optical Council Fitness to Practice Committee.



Dr Paul Brantom (toxicology) is an independent consultant in toxicological risk assessment and was previously Head of the Toxicology and Information Department of BIBRA International Ltd (an independent contract research organisation specialising in research in toxicology and chemical safety). He is currently a member of the Veterinary Products Committee, Veterinary Residues Committee and the European Food Safety Authority's panel on additives and products or substances used in animal feed (FEEDAP).



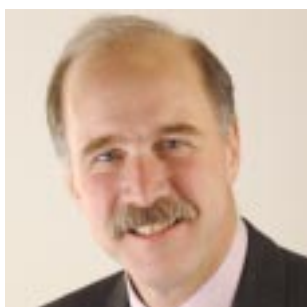
Dr Ian Brown (occupational health) is a medically qualified registered specialist in occupational medicine and toxicology. He is also a graduate in agricultural biochemistry and nutrition and has a wide range of knowledge and experience covering occupational health, toxicology, agriculture and food safety. Dr Brown is currently Director of Occupational Health and Safety at Southampton University Hospital NHS Trust and a Consultant Physician in Occupational Medicine and Toxicology. He is also Chairman of the Pesticide Residues Committee and a member of the Injuries Advisory Council.



John Cheetham (local authority enforcement) until 31 May 2004. He was Head of Trading Standards (Operations) at Nottinghamshire County Council. He has extensive experience of local authority enforcement with specific knowledge of the enforcement of animal feedingstuffs legislation. He was the Chairman of the Feedingstuffs and Fertilisers Focus Group of the Local Authority Co-ordinating Body on Trading Standards.



Professor Andrew Chesson (animal nutrition) was Head of Biological Chemistry at the Rowett Research Institute until July 2003 and is now based at the University of Aberdeen. He acted as vice chair of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Task Force on the Safety of Novel Foods and the European Commission's Scientific Committee on Animal Nutrition (SCAN) until its responsibilities were transferred to the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) in 2003. He now chairs the EFSA panel on additives and products or substances used in animal feed (FEEDAP) and is a member of the overarching EFSA Scientific Committee.



Dr Bruce Cottrill (animal nutrition) is a senior research scientist at the Nutritional Sciences Research Unit of the University of Reading, as part of an ADAS/University initiative. He has 25 years' experience of a wide range of farming and livestock practices and in advising government departments (MAFF/Defra and the Food Standards Agency) on feed-related issues. He has served on various expert national and European Community committees.



Professor Julie Fitzpatrick (veterinary science) holds a personal Chair in Farm Animal Medicine and is the Head of Farm Animal Medicine and Production Division at the University of Glasgow Veterinary School. She has 20 years' experience as a veterinary surgeon with a long-standing interest in farm animal medicine. She is currently a member of the Veterinary Residues Committee.



Paul Foxcroft (animal by-products) until 31 May 2004. He is a director of Prosper de Mulder and has worked in the animal feed industry for 25 years, of which the last 17 have been in the animal by-products sector. He is a graduate in Agricultural Biochemistry and Nutrition. Mr Foxcroft is active in various industry associations that represent the animal by-products sector including the UK Renderers Association and the European Renderers Association.



Dr Nigel Halford (novel technology) is a Principal Investigator leading a research group at Rothamsted Research, the UK's largest crop and agricultural research institute. He has been involved in research using the genetic modification of plants for almost 20 years. Dr Halford has considerable experience of assessing the risks of GM technology and also has the practical experience of running a field trial on GM wheat. He is the author of more than 70 refereed scientific papers, many relating to plant biotechnology and has written a book and numerous articles on GM crops.



Dr John Heritage (novel technology) until 31 May 2004. He is Senior Lecturer in Microbiology at the University of Leeds. He is a Chartered Biologist with a broad based background in biological sciences. He is interested in the evolution and dispersion of genes that code for antibiotic resistance. Dr Heritage was also a member of the Advisory Committee on Novel Foods and Processes.



Fiona Hodgson (lay person/consumer) until 31 May 2004. She owns her own interior design company as well as bringing up four children. She has a strong interest in animal welfare issues and consumer affairs and made a valuable contribution to MAFF's Farm Animal Welfare Council during her eight years' membership.



Diane McCrea (consumer) is a consultant in food and consumer affairs. She has considerable experience of committee work, having been a member of several advisory committees and boards, including the Meat and Livestock Commission and the Food Standards Agency's Advisory Committee on Research. Ms McCrea has also represented Consumers International for more than 10 years at international food standards committees of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (including the Codex Task Force on Animal Feeding).



Dr Helen Raine (feed compounding and feed industry) is a qualified animal nutritionist with considerable experience of feed manufacturing and supply. She is Director of Food Assurance for ABNA Ltd. and also sits on the Council of the European Feed Manufacturers Federation and represents the UK on various working groups.



Dr Desmond Rice (feed compounding and veterinary background) until 31 May 2004. He is a veterinarian who is recognised by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons as a specialist in livestock nutrition. He has sat on several industry committees, is a past president of the Northern Ireland Grain Trade Association and the Northern Ireland Veterinary Association. He has worked in veterinary practice, veterinary research and is currently a consultant to the veterinary profession and the animal feed and human food industries.



Richard Scales (local authority enforcement) is Principal Trading Standards Officer at Hampshire County Council with 13 years' experience of Trading Standards work including feed law enforcement. He currently specialises in agricultural aspects of enforcement and is a member of the Local Authorities Co-ordinators of Regulatory Services (LACORS) Feeds and Fertilisers Panel. Mr Scales also chairs the South East Trading Standards Authorities Feeds Sub-Group.



Dr Nigel Shepperson (feed industry) is an animal nutritionist who is currently Quality, Health, Safety and Legislation Director at Provimi Ltd, a feed additive and supplement manufacturer. He has an agricultural sciences background and has 17 years' experience in the feed additive and supplement sector. Dr Shepperson is an active member of the Agricultural Industries Confederation and the British Association of Feed Supplement and Additive Manufacturers.



Dr Colin Stewart (microbiology) served at the Rowett Research Institute from 1967 until his retirement at the end of 2002. The main focus of his research concerned microbial fermentation of dietary polymers in the ruminant gut. He has acted in an advisory capacity on grant applications for many organisations. He has also served on the editorial board of several research journals and organised international workshops.



Marcus Themans (farmer) runs a 150 acre mixed unit in South Shropshire, based around a 200 sow herd, producing bacon pigs to farm assurance standards. He is the chairman of the National Farmers Union's Technical Committee, which involves responsibility for animal feed, fertilisers, pesticides, health and safety, utilities and farm inputs, and is on the NFU Council. He is a member of Meadow Quality Livestock (co-operative marketing group) and Heart of England Fine Foods.

Current Terms of Office of ACAF Members

13. To ensure continuity, re-appointments to ACAF (usually for periods of three years) are staggered so that only a proportion of the membership falls vacant each year. The terms of office of ACAF members expire as follows:

Until 31 March 2005

- Dr Chitra Bharucha* (Chairman)

Until 31 May 2005

- Dr Ian Brown (occupational health)
- Professor Andrew Chesson (animal nutrition)
- Dr Helen Raine (feed compounding)

Until 30 September 2005

- Dr Paul Brantom* (toxicology)
- Dr Bruce Cottrill* (animal nutrition)
- Professor Julie Fitzpatrick* (veterinary science)

Until 31 August 2006

- Dr Colin Stewart* (microbiology)
- Ms Diane McCrea* (consumer)
- Mr Marcus Themans* (farmer)

Until 30 June 2007

- Dr Dozie Azubike* (lay person)
- Dr Nigel Halford* (novel technology)
- Dr Nigel Shepperson* (feed industry)
- Mr Richard Scales* (local authority enforcement)

*first term of office

ACAF Secretariat

14. The Committee's secretariat is staffed by officials from the Food Standards Agency and Defra.



Top row from left to right – Raj Pal (FSA), Mick Merry (Defra) and Christine Elmer (Defra).

Bottom row from left to right – Keith Millar (FSA) and Karen Dell (FSA).

During 2004 Christine Elmer was replaced by Alan Williams and Karen Dell by Andrew Watton.

Summary of the Main Topics Considered by ACAF

Review of Feed Law Enforcement

15. Legislation on the safety, composition and labelling of animal feed is designed to protect the safety of consumers eating livestock products, and the health of animals. The responsibility for enforcing feed legislation rests with a number of authorities. The Committee considered that the effectiveness of feed law enforcement was an important area that should be reviewed. It embarked on its review at its nineteenth meeting on 15 April 2003 and continued throughout 2004. This encompassed the whole system of enforcing feed law and standards, including inspections, penalties and audit arrangements.

16. At its meetings during 2004 the Committee explored the feasibility of alternative structures and organisation to the existing system of feed law enforcement in the UK. It also considered information on enforcement activities and structures in other European (EU) Member States. After considering a first draft of its report, the Committee agreed to set up a sub-group to take forward drafting suggestions and identify recommendations.

17. The final draft is due to be presented to the Committee at its first meeting in 2005, prior to publication.

Review of On-farm Feeding Practices – Roll-out

18. The Committee's Report on On-farm Feeding Practices was published in September 2003. Its recommendations strongly urge farmers to identify and address hazards on their farms. The Report contains guidance covering the key stages from purchase, through storage and mixing, to feeding the animals. The Food Standards Agency (FSA) Board welcomed the Report at its meeting in November 2003.

19. During 2004 officials from the FSA's Animal Feed Unit actively sought the views of farming interests by holding a number of meetings throughout the UK. The Report was well received and it was noted that ACAF's recommendations were based on common sense and that farmers were already putting most of them in place. Officials also included a section on ACAF's review on On-farm Feeding Practices in a series of awareness training sessions for local authority Trading Standards Officers (TSOs).

20. In addition, officials in Defra and the State Veterinary Service alerted staff to the existence of the document thereby raising awareness of the Report when visiting farms. Further work on rolling out the Report will continue during 2005, in particular the production of a simple, eye-catching A3 poster summarising the main points for farmers.

21. Officials from the Agency's Animal Feed Unit are scheduled to report back to the FSA Board on the roll-out of the ACAF Report and its recommendations in May 2005.

Genetically Modified (GM) Issues

Traceability and Labelling of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) and GM Food and Feed

22. The Committee was informed that Regulation (EC) No. 1830/2003 dealing with traceability and labelling and Regulation (EC) No. 1829/2003 dealing with authorisation procedures and labelling issues for genetically modified food and feed became directly applicable in all EU Member States on 18 April 2004. Regulation (EC) No. 1829/2003 introduces for the first time rules for the labelling of GM animal feed and a centralised procedure for the scientific assessment and authorisation of GMOs and GM food and feed. Products from animals fed GM animal feed will continue to be exempt from the labelling requirements.

23. The Committee noted that a formal consultation on draft domestic implementing legislation took place in June 2004, with domestic legislation being laid before Parliament in September and entering into force in October 2004.

ACAF GM Sub-group

24. On behalf of the full Committee, the sub-group advises the Advisory Committee on Releases to the Environment (ACRE), on the safety for use in animal feed of new GMOs or material derived from them that are the subject of applications under EC Directive 2001/18 on Deliberate Releases of GMOs to the Environment. The sub-group is accountable to the full Committee via the sub-group's Chairman who provides a report at each ACAF meeting. As a further accountability measure, the Committee's Chairman is an ex-officio member of the sub-group. Membership of the sub-group is set out in Annex V.

25. The GM sub-group held two meetings in 2004 to discuss procedural matters and applications to market new GMOs. The sub-group's opinions on GM applications are incorporated into ACRE's advice to Ministers which can be viewed on the Defra website at:
www.defra.gov.uk/environment/acre/index.html

For further information on ACRE's responses please contact:

The ACRE Secretariat
3/G9 Ashdown House
123 Victoria Street
London SW1E 6DE
Tel: 020 7 944 3409
e-mail: gm@defra.gsi.gov.uk
web: www.defra.gov.uk/environment/acre/advice/advice20/htm

EC and Codex Developments

26. The Committee received reports on a wide range of emerging and developing EC policies and legislation throughout 2004, including proposals on feed hygiene, official feed and food controls and feed labelling.

Feed Hygiene Proposal

27. Members of the Committee received updates throughout 2004 on the European Commission proposal for a Regulation laying down requirements for feed hygiene. The proposal fulfils a commitment, in the Commission's White Paper on Food Safety of January 2000, intended to strengthen controls on feed safety and subsequently food safety. It will improve rules on animal feed by facilitating greater traceability in the case of feed incidents. All feed businesses will have to be approved or registered and comply with minimum standards.

28. The Committee noted that the European Parliament had agreed amendments to the proposal at its first reading on 31 March 2004 and political agreement was reached at the meeting of the Council of Agriculture Ministers on 26 April 2004. The Regulation will come into effect from 1 January 2006 with most of its provisions applying from January 2008.

Official Feed and Food Controls

29. The Committee was informed that this measure, which was formally adopted by the Agriculture Council and the European Parliament, was published in the Official Journal of the European Communities in late April 2004 as Regulation 882/2004. This framework Regulation consolidates and builds on existing legislation to establish a comprehensive, harmonised, risk-based 'farm to table' approach, with the intention of improving consumer protection and facilitating the functioning of the internal market. The provisions in general will apply from 1 January 2006 and those on financing of official controls, from 1 January 2007.

30. The Committee was informed that the Food Standards Agency was considering how to give this directly applicable Regulation effect in the UK. The European Commission is developing implementing rules that may be

made under the Regulation. It is giving priority to the establishment of the list of 'high risk' feed and food of non-animal origin, which will be subject to more stringent import controls. The Committee noted that the Food Standards Agency will consult with interested parties once proposals for the list are received.

31. The Commission is also developing guidelines for the national control plans and annual reports that Member States will be required to produce and which will cover animal feed law enforcement. These guidelines (also expected in 2005) will include criteria for the audit of competent authorities. To help establish these criteria, the European Commission's Food and Veterinary Office is undertaking a programme of fact-finding missions (including one to the UK) to study audit systems currently in place.

Feed Labelling Review

32. The Committee was informed that the European Commission is considering a wholesale review of the current feed labelling legislation, with the intention of producing one composite Regulation to replace a number of existing measures. To help inform the UK's input to the Commission's review, the Food Standard Agency's Animal Feed Unit conducted a public consultation. The Committee received a summary of responses to this consultation in September 2004. A formal proposal from the Commission is not expected before 2006.

Codex Task Force on Animal Feeding (TFAF)

33. The Committee noted that the Codex Task Force on Animal Feeding had drawn up a Code of Good Animal Feeding which had subsequently been formally adopted by the Codex Alimentarius Commission. The European Commission had expressed the view that additional work was still needed in the area of animal feeding within Codex in order to safeguard the food chain. The Task Force agreed that further work was needed and that specific project proposals for new work should be prepared and submitted to the Codex Alimentarius Commission.

Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition (SACN) Sub-group on Vitamin A

34. The Committee had been invited in 2003 to co-operate with the UK's Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition (SACN) in its assessment of vitamin A intake for UK consumers. The Committee was informed by the Scientific Secretary to SACN that high levels of vitamin A could have an adverse affect on human health and that the Food Standards Agency was concerned that a proportion of the UK adult population could be exceeding the upper intake level for vitamin A as advised by experts.

35. The Committee had agreed to nominate Dr Bruce Cottrill for co-option to the Vitamin A sub-group of SACN and this continued during 2004. The final report of the sub-group is due for publication in 2005.

Use of Fish Meal in Animal Feed

36. In 2001 the Committee issued advice that fish meal was safe to feed to livestock. However, the feeding of fish meal to ruminants was banned in the EC because of the risk of contamination with meat and bone meal. The Committee has therefore taken a keen interest in progress on research into methods for detecting meat and bone meal in fish meal. It considers that an effective detection method is the key to any future relaxation of the ban.

37. The Committee was informed that following the European Commission's ring trials using an updated microscopy method to detect mammalian material in the presence of fishmeal in official feed samples, a draft proposal had been put forward to amend the BSE-related feed ban – primarily proposing a relaxation of the controls. However, the Committee was informed that on 27 October 2004 the European Parliament adopted a non-binding resolution opposing the draft Regulation, arguing that the use of fishmeal for feeding of ruminants was not consistent with the duty to protect public health imposed on the Community by Article 152(1) of the Treaty of Rome.

ACAF Visit to Belfast, Northern Ireland

38. ACAF held its 26th meeting in open session in Belfast on 21 September 2004. The previous day the Committee visited the feed mill of John Thompson and Sons Ltd, and the W&R Barnett facilities at the Port of Belfast. Thompson's mill is one of the largest feed mills in Europe and Barnett's is the largest feed importer in Northern Ireland.



39. The Committee found its time in Belfast enjoyable and informative and look forward to a similar event in Wales during 2005.

European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)

40. At its September 2004 meeting the Committee discussed a paper which explained the role of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) and its relationship with the European Commission and Member States. The Committee heard that amongst the EFSA scientific panels there were three which were particularly relevant to the work of the Committee:

- the panel on additives and products or substances used in animal feed (FEEDAP);
- the panel on contaminants in the food chain (CONTAM); and
- the panel on genetically modified organisms (GMO).

41. The Committee noted that it was in a unique position to liaise with FEEDAP in particular, as two of its Members were members of that panel, one of whom is its chairman. The Committee concluded that it was important to be kept abreast of current and future work plans of the relevant EFSA scientific panels and where possible to feed into them.

42. The Committee noted that there was an evolving relationship between EFSA and Member States. EFSA is mandated to build a network of contacts throughout Member States and other organisations. The Committee heard that it was the intention of the Secretariat and the ACAF Chairman to meet with the EFSA FEEDAP Secretariat to discuss means of liaison on matters of mutual interest early in 2005.

Horizon Scanning and Forward Work Programme

43. At its July 2004 meeting the Committee considered its forward work programme and decided it should include the examination of the nutritional effects of animal feed on food people eat. Members also agreed to explore horizon scanning for technical developments which could have an impact on food and safety. Other subjects thought worthy of consideration included the European Commission's future proposals on feed labelling, the Committee's relationship with the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), GM issues, raw material contamination, aquaculture and feed for game birds and animals.

44. At its November 2004 meeting the Committee received two presentations on horizon scanning issues. Firstly, on feed for game birds, where the Committee was informed of the size and nature of the UK market and the various issues that impact upon it. It was agreed that no further work was required in the short-term. Secondly, the Committee received a presentation from Dr Minihane of the University of Reading, on manipulating animal feed in order to enhance the nutritional value of animal products for human consumers. Various studies were described which had shown significant results, particularly in affecting the levels and composition of fat content. The Committee agreed that this was an interesting area of work that it should explore further.

Food Standards Agency Strategic Plan 2005-2010

45. At its July 2004 meeting the Committee considered the FSA's draft Strategic Plan for 2005-2010. Some members of the Committee expressed disappointment that the document did not contain specific references to animal feeds, particularly when recent major food scares have had their origins in failures associated with animal feeding practices.

Annex I: Abbreviations

ACRE	Advisory Committee on Releases to the Environment
BSE	Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy
Defra	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
EC	European Community
EFSA	European Food Safety Authority
EFSA	European Food Safety Inspection Service
EU	European Union
FEEDAP	Panel on additives and products or substances used in animal feed
GM	Genetically modified
GMO	Genetically modified organism
HACCP	Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points
MAFF	Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food
MHRA	Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency
SACN	Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition
UK	United Kingdom

Annex II: Papers Considered by ACAF in 2004

ACAF INDEX FOR PAPERS – 2004

NO. OF PAPER	NAME OF PAPER	MEETING INFORMATION	
		NUMBER	DATE
ACAF/04/1	Annual Report 2003	23rd	10 February 2004
ACAF/04/2	Review of Feed Law Enforcement – Results of Preliminary Modelling Exercise	23rd	10 February 2004
ACAF/04/3	Review of Feed Law Enforcement – Framework Document	23rd	10 February 2004
ACAF/04/4	The Agency's Animal Feeds Research Programme: Work Performed And The Way Forward	24th	20 April 2004
ACAF/04/5	EC Developments	23rd	10 February 2004
ACAF/04/6	An Update on the Work of Other Advisory Committees and the Food Standards Agency	23rd	10 February 2004
ACAF/04/7	Update on the European Commission's Proposal on Feed Hygiene	23rd	10 February 2004
ACAF/04/8	Feed Law Enforcement Based On The Current Systems And Organisation	24th	20 April 2004
ACAF/04/9	The Role And Responsibilities Of The Food Standards Agency In Relation To Animal Feed	24th	20 April 2004
ACAF/04/10	European Commission Proposal For A Regulation On Official Feed And Food And Animal Health And Animal Welfare Controls	24th	20 April 2004
ACAF/04/11	Enforcement Of Animal Feed Law In Other EU Member States	24th	20 April 2004
ACAF/04/12	An Update On The Progress Of Feed Additive, Bioprotein And Zootechnical Dossiers	24th	20 April 2004
ACAF/04/13	An Update On The Work Of Other Advisory Committees And The Food Standards Agency	24th	20 April 2004
ACAF/04/14	EC And Codex Developments	24th	20 April 2004
ACAF/04/15	Report on Feed Law Enforcement – First Draft	25th	7 July 2004
ACAF/04/16	ACAF report on On-farm feeding practices: Roll out to farming interests	25th	7 July 2004
ACAF/04/17	Forward Work Programme	25th	7 July 2004
ACAF/04/18	Consultation on 'Putting Consumers First: The Food Standards Agency Draft Strategic Plan 2005-2010'	25th	7 July 2004
ACAF/04/19	EC and Codex Developments	25th	7 July 2004
ACAF/04/20	An update on the work of the Advisory Committees and The Food Standards Agency	25th	7 July 2004
ACAF/04/21	Paper Not Used		
ACAF/04/22	Feed Law Enforcement Review	26th	21 September 2004
ACAF/04/23	Genetically Modified Food and Feed	26th	21 September 2004
ACAF/04/24	The European Food Safety Authority	26th	21 September 2004
ACAF/04/25	EC Developments	26th	21 September 2004

Advisory Committee on Animal Feedingstuffs: Annual Report 2004

NO. OF PAPER	NAME OF PAPER	MEETING INFORMATION	
		NUMBER	DATE
ACAF/04/26	Update on the Work of Other Advisory Committees and the Food Standards Agency	26th	21 September 2004
ACAF/04/27	Official controls on the Animal Nutrition: 2003 Returns to EC Commission	26th	21 September 2004
ACAF/04/28	The roles and responsibilities of the Food Standards Agency and Certain Government Departments in Relation to Aspects of Animal Feed	26th	21 September 2004
ACAF/04/29	Feed Assurance Schemes in the other European Member States	26th	21 September 2004
ACAF/04/30	An update on the progress of feed additive bio-protein dossier	26th	21 September 2004
ACAF/04/31	Feed Law Enforcement Review	27th	30 November 2004
ACAF/04/32	Horizon Scanning and Future Work	27th	30 November 2004
ACAF/04/33	EC Developments	27th	30 November 2004
ACAF/04/34	Update on the Work of Other Advisory Committees and the Food Standards Agency	27th	30 November 2004

Annex III: Register of Members Interests

PERSONAL			NON-PERSONAL	
MEMBER	COMPANY/ ORGANISATION	NATURE OF INTEREST	COMPANY/ ORGANISATION	NATURE OF INTEREST
Dr D Azubike	None	None	None	None
Dr C Bharucha	General Medical Council GM Science Review Panel Council of Advertising Standards Authority	Associate Member Member Member	None	None
Dr P Brantom	Veterinary Residues Committee Veterinary Products Committee EFSA FEEDAP Panel Monsanto	Member Member Member Pesticide – Consultancy	None	None
Dr I Brown	Pesticides Residues Committee Industrial Injuries Advisory Council Advisory Committee on Toxic Substances	Chairman Member Member	None	None
Prof. A Chesson	Various scientific advisory committees	Member	University of Aberdeen	Holds a chair at the University of Aberdeen which, in common with all other universities, receives support for its research and other activities from commercial sources.
Dr Bruce Cottrill	None	None	A range of companies from the agricultural and food industries. Government departments including the Food Standards Agency.	Senior Research Consultant with ADAS Consulting Ltd and the University of Reading.
Prof. J Fitzpatrick	Boehringer-Ingelheim Milk Development Council	Consultancy Research Projects	Boehringer-Ingelheim Pfizer	Support for PhD students within her university department. Support for clinical residency in her university department.
Dr N G Halford	Institute of professionals, Managers and specialists Society of Experimental Biology American Society of Plant Biologists Association of Applied Biologists	Member Member Member Member of Crop Physiology Committee	Advanced Technologies Cambridge Biogemma UK Unilever Reading University Cardiff University Food Standards Agency	Research Collaborator Research Collaborator Research Collaborator Research Collaborator Research Collaborator

Advisory Committee on Animal Feedingstuffs: Annual Report 2004

PERSONAL			NON-PERSONAL	
MEMBER	COMPANY/ ORGANISATION	NATURE OF INTEREST	COMPANY/ ORGANISATION	NATURE OF INTEREST
Ms D McCrea	Various consumer Non Government Organisation groups, EU funded research projects and the Food Standards Agency	Consultancy work – project based	None	None
Dr H Raine	ABNA Ltd Agricultural Industries Confederation (AIC) Feed Executive Committee FEFAC (European Feed Manufacturers Federation)	Director of Food Assurance, Technology and Regulatory Affairs Member Praesidium Member	None	None
Mr R Scales	Feedingstuffs and Fertilisers Focus Group of the Local Authorities co-ordinators of Regulatory Services South East Trading Standards Authorities Feeds Sub group	Member Chairman	None	None
Dr N Shepperson	Provimi Ltd The British Society of Animal Science The Insitute of Biology The Nutrition Society	Director Member Member Member	Companies in the animal feed, animal health and pharmaceutical industry and direct sales to farms. British Association of Feed Supplement and Additive Manufacturers. Agricultural Industries Confederation.	Direct and indirect contact during normal course of business. Member of council, member of Regulatory and Technical Committee director (non-paid, non-shareholding). Member of Legal Affairs and Scientific Committee.
Dr C Stewart	Various scientific advisory organisations	Consultancy	Companies in agriculture, food and health on a non-profit basis (support for basic research)	Consultancies, normally arranged by Rowett Research Services
Mr M Themans	E M Themans Company Also Trading As: Wenlock Edge Farm	Farming Licenced Butchers	National Farmers Union	Spokesman for: Feeds and Transport COPA feedingstuffs representative

Annex IV: Request for Information on ACAF

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

Name:

Address:

.....

.....

.....

Company/Organisation:

e-mail address:

(if you would prefer to receive papers by e-mail)


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

Minutes of meetings	<input type="checkbox"/>	Annual & other reports	<input type="checkbox"/>
News Releases	<input type="checkbox"/>	Consultation documents	<input type="checkbox"/>
ACAF recruitment exercises	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other information <small>(please specify)</small>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please return your completed form to:

The Food Standards Agency
ACAF Secretariat
Room 415b
Aviation House
125 Kingsway
London WC2B 6NH
Tel: 020 7 276 8083
Fax: 020 7 276 8478
Email: acaf@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk

PLEASE CUT HERE



Annex V: Membership of ACAF Sub-groups

GM Sub-group

Professor Andrew Chesson (Chairman)

Dr Chitra Bharucha (ex officio)

Dr Paul Brantom

Dr Bruce Cottrill

Dr Nigel Halford

Feed Law Enforcement Review Drafting Sub-group

Dr Chitra Bharucha (Chairman)

John Cheetham

Dr Bruce Cottrill

Marcus Themans

Ms Diane McCrea

Richard Scales

Annex VI: Code of Practice for Members of the Advisory Committee on Animal Feedingstuffs

Public service values

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

- observe the highest standards of **impartiality, integrity** and **objectivity** in relation to the advice they provide and the management of this Committee;
- be **accountable** through Ministers, to Parliament and the public for its activities and the standard of advice it provides; and
- in accordance with the Government policy on **openness**, comply fully with the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information.

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

Standards in Public Life

3. All Committee members must:

- follow the Seven Principles of Public Life set out by the Committee on Standards in Public Life (see Appendix I);
- comply with this code, and ensure they understand their duties, rights and responsibilities, and that they are familiar with the function and role of the Advisory Committee on Animal Feedingstuffs and any relevant statements of Government policy. New Committee members should consider the need for relevant training;
- not misuse the information gained in the course of their public service for personal gain or political purpose, nor seek to use the opportunity of public service to their private interests or those of connected persons, firms' businesses or other organisations;

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

Role of Committee members

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

- engage fully in collective consideration of the issues, taking account of all relevant factors, including any guidance issued by the sponsor departments or the responsible Ministers;
- ensure that the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information is adhered to;
- agree an Annual Report and, where appropriate, provide suitable opportunities to open up the work of the Committee to public scrutiny;
- not divulge any information that is provided to the Committee in confidence;
- respond appropriately to complaints, if necessary with reference to the sponsor departments; and
- ensure that the Committee does not exceed its powers or functions.

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

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

Role of the Chair

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

- ensuring that the Committee meets at appropriate intervals, and that the minutes of meetings and any reports to Ministers accurately record the decisions taken and, where appropriate, the views of individual members;
- representing the views of the Committee to the general public; and
- ensuring that new Committee members are briefed on appointment (and their training needs considered), and providing an assessment of their performance, on request, when members are considered for re-appointment to the Committee or for appointment to the Committee of some other public body.

Handling conflicts of interests

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

Declaration of interests to the Secretariat

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

Declaration of interests and participation at meetings

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

Personal liability of Committee members

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

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

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

Openness and Confidentiality

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

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

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

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

Appendix I

The Seven Principles of Public Life

Selflessness

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

Integrity

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

Objectivity

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

Accountability

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

Openness

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

Honesty

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

Leadership

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

Appendix II

Types of Interest and their Notification

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

1. **Personal interests** – involve the member personally e.g.

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

Definition of “industry”

For the purposes of the Advisory Committee on Animal Feedingstuffs, “industry” means:

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

Definition of “other relevant bodies”

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

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

Type of interest	Notification	
	<p>£1000 or more from a particular company in the previous twelve months</p>	<p>less than £1000 from a particular company in the previous twelve months</p>
<p>Fellowships: the holding of a fellowship endowed by industry and other relevant bodies.</p>	<p>To be notified to the Secretariat in writing on appointment to the Committee. Any changes over the year should be declared on the annual declaration form and does not need to be notified at the time of change.</p>	<p>Does not need to be notified.</p>
<p>Support by industry and other relevant bodies*: e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a grant from a company for the running of a unit or department for which the member is responsible. • the grant of a fellowship or other payment to sponsor a post or member of staff in the unit for which the member is responsible. • the commissioning of research or other work by, or advice from, staff who work in a unit for which the member is responsible. 	<p>As above</p>	<p>As above</p>
<p>Trusteeships**: any investment in industry held by a charity for which the member is a trustee.</p>	<p>As above</p>	<p>As above</p>

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

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

