

2008 Inspection & Sampling Committee Report – Stephen McMurry (KY) Co-Chair

Committee Recommendations: None

Board Recommendations:

Association Actions:

ANNUAL MEETING –

The Inspection and Sampling Committee (ISC) met in the Ford Ballroom of the Amway Grand Hotel at 1:15 p.m. on 8-3-07. Ten committee members, 2 committee advisors, 1 life member, 3 FDA, 7 industry, and 10 state control officials were present for a total of 33 individuals in attendance.

An overview of the first Advanced Inspector Training Seminar (AITS) was conducted by Andy Gray, Montana Dept of Agriculture. A total of 31 students from 16 States attended this training. The training was a great success. All students passed the exam of 58 questions.

A discussion was led by Andy Gray about an AITS guideline to be utilized by host states of the training. Many changes occurred to the document. Andy Gray is going to incorporate these changes and send out to the committee for review. It was suggested to place several templates on the AAFCO website for host states of training seminars to utilize for registration, scholarship applications, and training guidelines.

Steve McMurry, University of Kentucky, led a discussion on the AITS test questions. One Suggestion was to have the participants write one question at the end of the test. Another suggestion was to have a time set aside at the Administrators Seminar to brainstorm questions and scenarios. This discussion was followed by a preview from Steve McMurry about the upcoming Advanced Inspector Training Seminar to be held in October of 2007.

Rob Hougaard, Utah Department of Agriculture and Food, discussed the Basic Inspector Training Seminar (BITS) to be held in September of 2007.

Steve McMurry reviewed the inspector certification process. At the mid-year meeting, the AAFCO board established a certification task force and a certifying body to begin work on this process. The task force is meeting on 8/4/07 to begin their work.

Andy Gray discussed the sampling CAG that is working with FDA. It was discussed that maybe the CAG could meet at the upcoming mid-year meeting in San Antonio, TX. They will be looking at the Canadian sampling disk for ideas to bring to the working activities of this CAG.

Tony Claxton, Missouri Department of Agriculture, was nominated to work on the wording of the techniques used for sampling feed tubs which was approved at the business session of this meeting. This will be incorporated into the AAFCO Feed Inspector's Manual when completed.

The CAG on labeling was also discussed, and suggested that the labeling of feed and pet food should be put together in one manual/teaching module.

A question was raised as to whether speakers should pay a registration fee when attending either the BITS or AITS. It was thought that this would help offset some of the costs for the host states. The topic was discussed at length, until the committee was told to vacate the room due to another commitment of the hotel. A consensus from the members was that the speakers should not pay the registration fee but the committee needed to include guidance in the BITS and AITS guidelines so host states would know that these meals needed to be covered.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 pm, which included a break from 2:55 thru 3:35 pm for needed refreshments, no actions from the board were needed.

MID-YEAR MEETING –

The Inspection and Sampling Committee (ISC) met in Ballroom C of the Menger Hotel in San Antonio, TX at 8:00 a.m. on 1-30-08. Eleven committee members, 2 committee advisors, and 13 other individuals were in attendance.

Steve McMurry presented the summary report for the AITS held in KY. He presented the budget and concerns for any state wanting to host this seminar. The committee asked for volunteers to host an AITS. Idaho has shown interest in possibly hosting training in the future.

Andy Gray presented a draft document of the AAFCO Advanced Inspector Training Seminar Guidelines. The language of the document will be changed so that this document represents only the Guidelines of an AAFCO training. The document will be sent to committee members for comments before being posted on the AAFCO website. The formation of a workgroup for the review of the test and testing process for AITS was formed, to have feedback by the Annual meeting in August; the members are Jim Fear, FDA, Doug Lueders, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, Gloria Dunnavan, AAFCO Life Member, Randy Sample, ADM Alliance Nutrition, David Fairfield, NGFA, and Jennifer Godwin, North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. This group was charged with developing an additional document to outline the AITS testing procedures and policy in regard to an acceptable score, re-testing for persons who score lower than acceptable, how the testing process should fit into the Certification Program, etc.

Rob Hougaard gave a report on the Basic Inspectors Training Seminar (BITS) in Utah. The committee thanked Rob and Utah for all their hard work.

The guidelines for the Basic Inspectors Seminar were given to all committee members. It will be sent to all committee members electronically for review.

The presentation on Feed Tub Sampling method procedures will be cancelled for today as Tony Claxton was unable to attend the meeting. The procedures will be presented at the Annual meeting in August.

Steve McMurry gave a presentation on the Draft document AAFCO/FDA Feed Regulatory Certification Program. He explained the history of the document, and asked how the committee would like the Certification Board to proceed. Steve McMurry volunteered to represent the Inspection and Sampling Committee on the Certification Board.

Jim Fear, has asked for volunteers to serve on a Subject Matter Experts (SME) group to develop a web-based module for feed sampling that would be included as a training component of the AAFCO/FDA Inspector Certification Program. The members on this group are Brett Groves, Office of the Indiana State Chemist, Mike Davidson, California Department of Food and Agriculture, and Bob Geiger, Office of the Indiana State Chemist. They will be meeting in the near future and reporting back to the committee in August at the Annual meeting.

Ken Jackson, Nebraska Department of Agriculture, asked if any states have a video library that could assist AAFCO members for inspection and sampling. Is anyone willing to give their materials to other states? He will check with Sharon Krebs to see if anything is available from the AAFCO office. He will provide a list on the website of available inventory.

Chad Linton, West Virginia Department of Agriculture, gave an inventory update on the feed probes in storage at the AAFCO office. There are 12 on hand, with 9 possibly be sold at this meeting. Inventory updates to be conducted at the annual meeting in August.

Randy Sample, brought a point to be considered by the inspectors at the mill that feed is being sampled that is extremely old. He would like the inspectors to be aware of the old feed and to make sure that lot numbers are recorded during sampling.