



PRESS RELEASE

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Contact AAFCO by phone: 217-356-4221 or e-mail: aafco@aafco.org

AAFCO extends MOU with FDA

The Association of American Feed Control Officials (AAFCO) is proud to announce the renewal of a [Memorandum of Understanding \(MOU\) agreement](#) with the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to cooperate on evaluating ingredients suitable for animal feed. The AAFCO ingredient definitions published in the Association's Official Publication cover the common name seen on feed labels, specifications, and intended uses.

AAFCO is pleased to have this agreement in place as the feed industry begins to draft feed safety plans required under the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA). AAFCO expects that FSMA will require ingredient suppliers to label their products with the correct AAFCO-defined common name.

"We believe that a number of firms will need to seek new defined common names or expand intended uses, and this agreement will help facilitate that," said AAFCO President Richard Ten Eyck.

Firms needing a new AAFCO definition can get started by sending a draft definition for their ingredient to the appropriate AAFCO investigator (<http://www.aafco.org/regulatory>).

"AAFCO appreciates the cooperation of the FDA as a technical resource for the Association," Ten Eyck added. "We encourage the allocation of resources to the FDA to make this a timely process." Ten Eyck says undefined ingredients, unapproved intended uses, and health claims place a high burden on state feed regulatory programs. He says the assistance of the FDA will help bring order to the marketplace.

AAFCO, established in 1909, provides an open forum for discussions of regulatory sciences in which regulators, the industry, and consumers alike can enhance the assurances of feed safety, quality, and effectiveness. AAFCO is a nonregulatory, volunteer, nonprofit body that develops model legislation, programs, and policies that, when adopted by state agencies or other governments, promote regulatory uniformity and provide the highest assurance

possible for the safety of the nation's food and feed supply.

AAFCO is active in providing proficiency testing to industry and regulatory feed laboratories around the world. Their Official Publication contains the most utilized list of defined animal feed ingredients in the world. The association plans on hosting informational meetings on FSMA, training on labeling medicated feed, and conducting a tabletop exercise on emergency preparedness in future meetings. For more information, visit www.aafco.org.

The Official Publication (OP) of the Association can be purchased in both online and paper formats at www.aafco.org. The publication lists the current ingredient definitions, model labeling regulations, and pet food nutritional feeding profiles.