Specific Aim #8: Food Laboratory Conformance

Data has been analyzed and reported to participants for both. The third quarter sample is egg powder and will ship to participants in the last week of August 2013.

Mycotoxin Contaminants Program
A mycotoxin contaminants program will be available to participants in the 2014 Check Sample Program Year, which begins in January 2014.

Heavy Metal Contaminants Program
A heavy metal contaminants program will be available to participants in the 2015 Check Sample Program Year, which begins in January 2015.

Increase frequency for formulated levels of all veterinary drugs
Increased frequency for veterinary drugs will be available to participants through the regular CCSP in the 2014 Check Sample Program Year, which begins in January 2014.

Veterinary Drug Contaminants Program
A veterinary drug contaminants program will be available to participants in the 2016 Check Sample Program Year, which begins in January 2016.

Subscribe to the AAFCO Check Sample Program!
Participation in the AAFCO Check Sample Program fills the Proficiency Testing requirements for laboratories seeking Accreditation to ISO/IEC 17025:2005 with a feed or pet food scope and/or laboratories meeting the quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC) requirements of the AAFCO QA/QC Guidelines as cited in the proposed Animal Feed Regulatory Program Standards, Standard 10. The AAFCO CCSP is crucial for all laboratories providing analytical testing in the area of animal feeds or pet foods.

For information on the AAFCO Check Sample Program, please visit: http://aafco.org/Directory/CommitteePages/CheckSampleProgram.aspx

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Preparing Food and Feed Laboratories for ISO 17025 Accreditation

Through a cooperative agreement with FDA’s Office of Partnerships, APHL, AFDO and AAFCO are preparing food and feed regulatory testing laboratories seeking to achieve, maintain and enhance ISO/IEC 17025:2005 accreditation. Objectives of the work include:

- developing laboratory training programs around accreditation
- building a mentoring program for laboratories at various stages of accreditation
- reaching national consensus on equivalency
- enabling direct electronic sharing of analytical data
- improving communication among federal, state, and local testing laboratories and with their associated regulatory and public health programs
- building a framework for unified laboratory response to food/feed safety emergencies
- expanding a proficiency testing program for feed laboratories
- improving the rapid submission of isolates to the public health system

Specific Aim #8: Food Laboratory Conformance

Use association infrastructure to assist food and animal testing laboratories to achieve, maintain, and enhance the scope of laboratory accreditation and achieve conformance with applicable programs.

Under this Specific Aim, AAFCO is leading efforts to:

- seek accreditation to ISO 17043 for the Collaborative Check Sample Program (CCSP)
- extend the scope of the CCSP program by the addition of programs to current program or supplementation of the current program with the following:
  - Pet Food Program
  - Mycotoxin Contaminants Program
  - Heavy Metal Contaminants Program
  - Increase the frequency and variety of formulated levels of veterinary drugs in animal feed check samples in the initial program
  - Veterinary Drug Residues Program
- create a listing of acceptable PT sources

Member Involvement

AAFCO will utilize its existing Collaborative Check Sample Program (CCSP) Committee to advise and implement the efforts of this activity. CCSP Member and Advisor Roster is available on the AAFCO website http://www.aafco.org/Directory/CommitteeMembers.aspx. The Committee is chaired by Victoria Siegel (IN).

A second working group has been formed under the auspices of the CCSP Committee. The CCSP Quality Assurance Oversight Team (QOT) will be involved in document review, interpretation of the standard and auditing of the Program’s management system. The volunteers for the CCSP QOT have been identified and currently represent state regulatory labs, commercial testing labs, industry, CFIA, and a liaison from A0CS.

AAFCO Check Sample Program Accreditation Activities

AAFCO is seeking accreditation to ISO 17043 for the CCSP. Activities have included:

- Steering group conference calls were held May 17, May 21, June 25 and July 25 2013. QOT conference calls were held on July 25 and July 26.
- Face-to-face meetings January 22, 2013 in Albuquerque, NM, and August 12, 2013 in St. Pete Beach, FL.
- The Data Reporting Website was moved to a new host server at FASS to facilitate necessary website improvement for both the expansion and accreditation. So that the code can operate under FASS’s IIS based server, it has been translated from PHP to ASP programming languages.
- Chair Siegel promoted the Pet Food Program, established the enrollment for the subscription, polled the clients for the appropriate materials, and initiated the program.
- Crawford completed necessary programming changes to accommodate the Program.

Pet Food Program

AAFCO is seeking to expand the scope of its Check Sample Program activities to better meet the needs of FSMA by initiating programs in mycotoxins, heavy metals, veterinary drug residues and pet food.

- Steering group conference calls were held May 17, May 21, June 25 and July 25 2013.
- Face-to-face meetings January 22, 2013 in Albuquerque, NM, and August 12, 2013 in St. Pete Beach, FL.
- The Data Reporting Website was moved to a new host server at FASS to facilitate necessary website improvement for both the expansion and accreditation. So that the code can operate under FASS’s IIS based server, it has been translated from PHP to ASP programming languages.

Mycotoxin Contaminants Program

- Method codes for mycotoxins were developed and incorporated into the data reporting website.
- Data reported by participants was used to develop a statistical treatment for mycotoxin data in the program. The treatments proposed and presented by Crawford were accepted by the CCSP Committee.