

Current Issues and Outreach Committee Report/Minutes
2018 Midyear Meeting
Fort Lauderdale Marriott Beach Harbor
Fort Lauderdale, FL
Monday, July 30, 2018
9:30 am – 10:30 am

Committee Recommendations

Committee recommendations summary or list
None

Board Recommendations

Board recommendation summary or list

Association Recommendations

Association recommendation summary or list
None

Committee Participants

Members Present: Liz Higgins (NM-Vice-Chair), Jennifer Combs (KY), Tim Lyons (MI), Caitlin Price (NC), Richard Ten Eyck (OR), Shaness Thomas (FL), Kent Kitade (Life Member), Ali Kashani (WA-Chair),

Advisors Present: Leah Wilkinson (AFIA), David Dzanis (APPA), David Fairfield (NGFA), David Meeker (NRA), Tomas Belloso (NGFA), Angela Mills (AFIA), Pat Tovey (PFI)

Committee Report

Committee Activities

ACTIONS:

Committee Minutes:

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 am EST by Chair, Ali Kashani

Announcements:

Liz Higgins (NM) will be retiring September, 2018 but will still help with the AAFCO News Feed. New committee members: Jennifer Combs (KY) and Caitlin Price (NC). Tamzin Gonzales (NE) has left NE Dept of Ag – Thanks for your work with the committee.

Modifications to Agenda:

None

Working Group Reports:

AAFCO News Feed – *Liz Higgins - NM*

Liz Higgins (NM) gave an update on the recent AAFCO News Feed (Volume 3, Issue 1) which was published on June 28, 2018. The group met during this meeting to go over assignments and format of the newsletter.

Discussion:

Generally Recognized as Safe Ingredients, Industry perspectives - *Leah Wilkinson, AFIA:*

Leah Wilkinson, Vice President, Public Policy and Education with the American Feed Industry Association (AFIA) gave a presentation on the importance of reliable ingredient review processes for the animal food industry. She highlighted a recent study in which the feed and pet food manufacturing industry contributes over \$300 billion to the national, state and local economies while representing just under 1 million jobs. To continue to provide safe, high quality, nutritious animal food products for livestock and pets, the animal food industry needs consistent, reliable and efficient ingredient review processes in order to bring new ingredients and technologies to the market. She indicated the impact on industry for every year of delay of getting an ingredient to market is \$1.75 million in lost revenue. Starting in 2010, the ingredient review processes dramatically slowed or actually stopped. Industry shifted to ingredient review processes that brought known clarity for review and timing of review. The shift went to more food additives petitions and generally recognized as safe (GRAS), either notified to FDA or not. During this same timeframe, FDA was finalizing the GRAS final rule which codified that companies are still able to make independent conclusions of GRAS for an intended use and market that product into interstate commerce. Issues have risen with some states not accepting these products as legal feed ingredients. AFIA continues to believe there are mechanisms in place for states that have adopted the model bill and regulations to accept these products. There are several workgroups dealing with these issues that will be reported on this week. AFIA is committed to working together for a solution that works for states and industry.

Online Database of Ingredients (ODI) Progress Update – *Steven Stewart - MN & Oca Hoeflein – MocaWorks:*

The committee thanked Steve Stewart (MN) for his efforts in developing the initial list and the idea to develop ODI and to Oca Hoeflein with MocaWorks for developing the working ODI.

Special thanks to Dave Phillips for his efforts in coordinating and leading the ODI working group as well as his facilitation and lead in many other discussions.

The committee also expresses its thanks to the project members of the Online Database of Ingredients (ODI) working group (Dave Phillips, Charlotte Conway, Liz Higgins, Nathan Price, Laura Earhart, Steven Stewart) as well as to others in an initial discussion group (Leah Wilkinson, Pat Tovey, David Fairchild, Kristen Green, Dave Phillips). The contribution of many others is also recognized and much appreciated.

Many feed labeling creating and review activities involve validation of the ingredient list. These activities can be quite time-consuming and/or labor intensive. The general goal of the project is to confirm proper naming and conditions for use; Ensure all ingredients have acceptable names and be able to identify ingredients with acceptable names; Ensure any special conditions for use are respected; Include appropriate name modifiers; and observe any limitations to specific uses

Some of the technical features of ODI is one-click access to ingredient info as relating to AAFCO Chapter 6 Ingredients with matching of names by either exact matches or partial matches. Batch analysis by entering an ingredient list is one of the features of ODI. There is a Master list of ingredient names. The contents, creation and maintenance of the master list will be the responsibility of AAFCO and not the software developer. This list will be dynamic as there are always new feed ingredient definitions submitted to AAFCO.

The ODI was demonstrated at the meeting. A beta test group will be formed to test the ODI.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 AM.