Welcome!

Welcome to the AAFCO Newsletter, your source for information about upcoming events, new members, retirements, meetings, and AAFCO-sponsored events. The AAFCO newsletter is published twice a year before the midyear and annual meetings.

Remember, this is YOUR newsletter. We only know what's going on if you tell us. Please send information or pictures you would like to see in the next newsletter.

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Tamzin Gonzales
tamzin.gonzales@nebraska.gov

Letter from AAFCO’s Board

The AAFCO Board of Directors would like to welcome you to the second AAFCO newsletter. There are changes in store for AAFCO. Earlier this year, a workgroup determined AAFCO should pursue hiring an executive director to address the association's activities and provide guidance and management in support of AAFCO's goals. On May 18, 2017, the Board of Directors sent out a request for proposal for an executive director of AAFCO. We hope to have the executive director position filled by the end of 2017. For more information...[read more].

The FDA-NASDA Animal Food Cooperative Agreement was developed to coordinate a National Implementation Framework for the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Preventive Controls for Animal Food Rule. NASDA, FDA, and AAFCO representatives had a face-to-face meeting in Mobile, Alabama, January 13 and 14, 2017. During the meeting, Framework Chapters were established and workgroups were assigned. Monthly conference calls are on-going, and two additional face-to-face meetings have been scheduled to further the framework development. The goal is to have the framework completed in December 2017.

AAFCO committees are getting ready for our annual meeting in Bellevue, Washington, August 10–12, 2017. The Pet Food Committee will host a Pet Food and Specialty Pet Food Labeling Workshop on August 12 and 13 following the meeting. This workshop covers both the basics of pet and specialty pet food labeling as well as more complex issues such as product claims. We believe this workshop will be very valuable to both regulators and industry. The workshop is limited to 200 participants and has filled. If you want to be put on a waiting list in case there are cancellations, please email Jennifer Roland at aafco@aafco.org.

As always, we encourage AAFCO members to get involved in the organization. We thank the membership and advisors for their hard work for the association.
Get to Know Your AAFCO Board Members

2017 Board Members (left to right): Dave Phillips (Junior Director), Kristen Green (Junior Director), Stan Cook (President-Elect), Mark LeBlanc (Immediate Past President), Bob Geiger (Senior Director), Ken Bowers (President), Bob Church (Junior Director), Erin Bubb (Junior Director), and Ali-Kashani (Secretary-Treasurer).
Incoming AAFCO President: Stan Cook, Missouri Department of Agriculture

Stan Cook from the Missouri Department of Agriculture will be the new AAFCO President on January 1, 2018. Since 2011, Cook has managed the Missouri Department of Agriculture Bureau of Feed, Seed, and Treated Timber. He holds a bachelor of science degree in business administration from Lincoln University and is a graduate of the Agriculture Leadership of Tomorrow, Class I.

Prior to the bureau, Cook served as a loan officer for The Missouri Agricultural and Small Business Development Authority. His experience in Missouri Agriculture also includes 25 years in commercial livestock production. He served nine years as a member of the Board of Directors of Farm Credit Services serving as vice chair of the Eastern Missouri Farm Credit Board and has served as a member of the executive committee of the Central Production Credit Association Board. He has worked as a USDA Certified Market Reporter responsible for a voluntary direct price-reporting program for hogs, pigs, and timber and as a relief auction reporter. Cook continues to live and work on a sixth-generation farm near California, Missouri. Cook is currently chair of the Pet Food Committee and of the PFC’s Label Modernization Working Group, and he is a member of the following committees: Education and Training, Feed and Feed Ingredient Manufacturing, and Inspection and Sampling.

Upcoming Events and Trainings

AAFCO Annual Meeting
August 10–12, 2017
Bellevue, WA

The AAFCO annual meeting is being held in Bellevue, Washington, August 10–12, 2017, at the Hyatt Regency in Bellevue Square. The meeting will have interesting topics as well as the Pet Food Labeling Workshop, starting the afternoon of August 12 and ending August 13. If you need a little pick-me-up to get through the meetings, you will be able to find a respectable cup of coffee from local coffee roasters within walking distance of the hotel. Bellevue Square is one of the largest shopping centers in the area, and to the west, across from Lake Washington, Seattle is 20 minutes away. To the north about the same distance is Woodinville, where you will find over 100 wineries and tasting rooms along with microbreweries, distilleries, and cideries. Whether you are in Bellevue, Seattle, or Woodinville, you will find an assortment of food, drink, music, and culture to delight all of your senses.
AAFCO Pet Food and Specialty Pet Food Labeling Workshop
August 12–13, 2017
Bellevue, WA
The AAFCO Pet Food and Specialty Pet Food Labeling Workshop will be held from 1:00 pm August 12 to 5:00 pm August 13, 2017 (1.5 days) immediately following the AAFCO annual meeting at the Hyatt Regency Bellevue. The workshop is designed to enable control officials, individuals from the pet food and specialty pet food industry, and others to better understand and interpret the AAFCO Model Regulations for Pet Food and Specialty Pet Food. This 1.5-day workshop covers both the basics of pet and specialty pet food labeling as well as more complex issues such as product claims. A good understanding of the AAFCO Model Regulations is essential to any firm wishing to market pet foods and specialty pet foods, treats, and supplements in the United States. For more information on the workshop, visit [http://www.aafco.org/Meetings/Annual/2017](http://www.aafco.org/Meetings/Annual/2017).

NOTE: The workshop is limited to 200 participants and has filled. If you want to be put on a waiting list in case there are cancellations, please email Jennifer Roland at aafco@aafco.org.

AAFCO Basic Investigator Training Seminar (BITS)
October 24–26, 2017
Boise, ID
The 2017 Basic Inspector Training Seminar (BITS) will be hosted by the Idaho State Department of Agriculture October 24 through 26 in Boise, Idaho. BITS is a joint venture between the Association of American Feed Control Officials (AAFCO), the Association of American Plant Food Control Officials (AAPFCO), and the Association of American Seed Control Officials (AASCO). This three-day training consists of an educational mixture of safety, biosecurity, basic inspection techniques, and basic labeling information for all three regulatory programs. BITS also provides a day of hands-on sample training for different feed, fertilizer, and seed sampling techniques. Stay tuned to the AAFCO website for upcoming registration information.

AAFCO Feed Labeling Workshop
July 28–29, 2018 (tentative)
Ft. Lauderdale, FL
AAFCO’s Feed Labeling Committee will host a Feed Labeling Workshop prior to the 2018 AAFCO annual meeting in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. Please note the dates are tentative. More information will follow in the next newsletter and on the AAFCO website ([www.aafco.org](http://www.aafco.org)).
Events and Trainings

AAFCO Feed Administrators Seminar
May 1–5, 2017
Medora, ND

The 52nd Annual Feed Administrators Seminar was held in Medora, North Dakota, on May 1–5, 2017. The Administrators Seminar is an opportunity for new control officials to learn about AAFCO’s role within the regulation of animal feed issues. It also gives veteran control officials a chance to discuss national issues related to the regulation of animal feed, along with sharing some of their knowledge and experiences with other attendees. Some of the discussion topics were the Veterinary Feed Directive, new and novel ingredients, compliance software developments, and FSMA outreach. Seminar attendees were treated to an evening with Teddy Roosevelt as well as an opportunity to tour the local sites. Dave Phillips and Bob Church kept everyone entertained with their twin shirt choices. Sites included the Chateau de Mores as well as the Teddy Roosevelt National Park. Many thanks to our hosts in North Dakota and the folks who organized it for a great seminar! If you have not heard, the 53rd Annual Feed Administrators Seminar will be held in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. More information will be available on the AAFCO website if you are interested in attending next year's seminar.
AAFCO Advanced Investigator Training Seminar (AITS)
June 6–8, 2017
Gettysburg, PA

The 2017 Advanced Inspector Training Seminar (AITS) was hosted by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture (PDA) in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, from June 6 through June 8, 2017. Fifteen states were represented totaling 54 attendees.

The agenda included regulatory topics such as 21 CFR 507, Subpart B—An Overview of Current Good Manufacturing Practices, which was presented by Kevin Klommhaus from FDA’s Center for Veterinary Medicine; Jeffrey Verzal from the Iowa Department of Agriculture discussed Veterinary Feed Directive Regulations and inspections; and Medicated Feed Labeling Requirements were presented by Meagan Davis of the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry.

Additionally, Robert Van Saun from The Pennsylvania State University provided the group with a very detailed animal nutrition presentation that included common subclinical symptoms of nutrient availability issues. Derek Ruhl, the emergency preparedness coordinator for the PDA, provided an overview of Incident Command Systems and provided real-life examples of those principles. Representatives from the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Pennsylvania State Police provided the attendees with helpful information regarding hazardous chemicals, feed defense, evidence collection, and documentation. Art Kaplan, the PDA Rapid Response Team coordinator, led the attendees through a Table-Top Exercise to stimulate discussion around a potential feed contamination event. Last, Brian Moore of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection presented information regarding the disposal of contaminated feed, feed ingredients and storage of residual waste.

Overall, the highlight of the training was the leadership development experience. The group ventured through the Gettysburg Battlefield and throughout the tour, learned the stories of some of the leaders who lead their troops to battle. Though the anecdotes were sometimes humorous, the scenes painted by the tour guide haunted the attendees as they imagined the historical battle that happened during the summer of 1863.

The attendees wish to express their thanks to Erin Bubb and David Dressler for working diligently to host a very informational and enjoyable meeting.
AAFCO Committee Updates

Do not forget that conference agendas for upcoming meetings can be found at 2017 Annual Meeting. Reports for past meetings for the Board of Directors and all committees can all be found on the AAFCO website at Board Meetings and Committee Meetings.

Current Issues and Outreach Committee (CIOC)—Ali Kashani, Chair

Feed BIN Fridays were revived with limited participation, in an effort to enhance communication among regulatory agencies. Feed BIN training for committee chairs is still highly recommended. A Feed BIN subcommittee is looking for more participants to continue discussion and development of the Resource Library; please contact Meagan Davis or Richard Ten Eyck if you are interested in being involved.

The CIOC meeting is scheduled for August 10, 2017, during the AAFCO annual meeting. Presentations will include the topics Human Food By-products as Animal Feed Ingredients and Recent Findings from Inspections Conducted Under cGMP of FSMA from Various Perspectives.

A small working group has been formed to develop a communications plan for AAFCO-specific FSMA implementation activities. The purpose of the communications plan is twofold: 1) create a framework for AAFCO to relay information about FSMA-related projects internally and externally, and 2) provide state regulatory agencies with a model communications plan to use as they consider FSMA implementation.

Are you new to AAFCO, interested in becoming more involved, or just looking for a good networking opportunity? Come dip your toe in the pond and join us for the AAFCO 101 Reception on Wednesday evening, August 9, 2017, from 6 to 7 pm. The AAFCO First-Timers Reception, traditionally held the evening before midyear and annual meetings, has been reworked. We will provide a casual setting for folks to hear about the basic mechanics of the association, as well as meet our board members, committee chairs, and industry advisors. Do not forget to sign up for AAFCO 101 on your 2017 annual meeting registration. Contact Liz Higgins for more information. A reminder email will be sent to everyone that signs up for AAFCO 101 with information about the reception.

AAFCO 101 First-Time State Regulatory Attendees

2017 midyear meeting first-time state regulatory attendees. Back row: Paul Spain, Tennessee Dept. of Ag; Mark Powell, Tennessee Dept. of Ag; Casey Goccanni, Kansas Dept. of Ag; Robert Tolton, Arizona Dept. of Ag; Christopher Braaksma, Mike Stage, Arkansas Dept. of Ag; Brenita Walker, FDA; Darrell Cook, Utah Dept. of Ag. Front row: Jolene Gordon, Tennessee Dept. of Ag; Wilmer Pacheco, Johanna Nurmi, Jenice Butler, FDA; Sherry Hackworth, Ted Gatesy, Shannon Coulson, Jennifer Combs, Kentucky Div. of Regulatory Services.
**Education and Training Committee—Tim Lyons, Chair**

Agenda for Annual Meeting, Bellevue, WA

- Presentation of National Feed Curriculum Training Modules
- International Food Protection Training Institute and US Food and Drug Administration, Office of Training and Education Development (OTED—formerly DHRD)
- ETC Workgroup Strategy
- Report out of Workgroups

**AITS Training—Recap of the 2017 AITS**

- 2017 Administrators Seminar
- BITS Training 2017 Reminder
- Small Conference Grant availability for Seminar, BITS, and AITS

**Ingredient Definitions Committee—Richard Ten Eyck, Chair**

Ingredient Definitions Committee Meeting 8/11/17 draft agenda AAFCO Annual Meeting

10:00 am–11:30 pm Pacific Time, Bellevue, WA

1) Roll call of committee members

2) Investigator recommendations to move Tentative to Official
   a) T9.10 Poultry By-Product Meal
   b) T9.14 Poultry By-Products
   c) T9.57 Poultry
   d) T9.71 Poultry Meal
   e) T33.25 Stearic Acid
   f) T33.26 Palmitic Acid
   g) T36.14 Direct-Fed Microorganisms
   h) T60.117 Dried Black Soldier Fly Larvae

3) Workgroup reports
   a) AAFCO-Affirmed GRAS Workgroup report
   b) DFM Nomenclature Changes Workgroup—Jan
   c) Negative List Workgroup

4) New definitions, deletes, and edits
   a) New Feed Term “Livestock”—Ali
   b) Section 30 header edits—Jan
   c) 54.31 Dried Cheese Product, add to 22.1 Animal Protein Products—Jacob
d) 54.32 Dried Cheese, add to 22.1 Animal Protein Products—Jacob

e) 73.xxx (old 30.xx) Hydrogenated Glycerides feeding rate

f) Iron Tartrates 73.xxx—Richard

g) GRAS Notification #20 into section 101—Nathan

5) Discussions

a) Status on high-profile ingredients (if needed)—Richard / CVM

b) Update on lawsuit on GRAS, state impact (placeholder)

c) Powdered Cellulose standard of identity

d) Bakery with meat in it (placeholder)

e) Hemp update—Bob and Brett

f) Discussion of common human foods in pet food (placeholder)

AAFCO Guidelines on Hemp in Animal Food March 5, 2017

For more information, visit the aafco.org website.

Ingredients used in animal food (pet, livestock, and poultry) in the United States undergo a scientific review prior to being allowed for sale or distribution. The most comprehensive list of ingredients defined for animal food use is found in the Association of American Feed Control Officials Official Publication (AAFCO OP). Ingredient definitions and their common name come into the OP through one of three routes. They can be the subject of a Food Additive Petition to the FDA (FAP); receive a letter of no questions from the FDA to a generally recognized as safe (GRAS) notification (new—subject to membership approval); or the most popular route, be requested of AAFCO. Each of these routes has some level of a safety and utility review done by the FDA/CVM. States and others then rely on the AAFCO OP to allow feeds to be made with defined ingredients. The common ingredient name established by AAFCO is reflected in the feed’s ingredient statement. The FDA and a few states also recognize self-conclusions by firms of GRAS for an intended use.

Hemp production is increasing in the United States. In 2015 AAFCO asked the hemp industry to come forward and present information for the scientific review to establish definitions for animal foods made from the hemp plant. We expected information on hemp seed oil, hemp seed meal, and whole hemp seeds. To date, the industry has not provided any data showing that ingredients derived from the hemp plant are safe and useful in animal food. AAFCO is encouraging the industry to submit their data promptly. Regulatory members continue to ask for the information prior to distribution of hemp seed products in their state. To allow an entire industry to enter the market without the appropriate safety data is unfair to other ingredient manufacturers that are doing their due diligence. There are some potential safety concerns related to the presence of certain compounds, including THC (tetrahydrocannabinol) and CBD (cannabidiol), in parts of the hemp plant that must be addressed. One thing has become clear as we have had discussions with the hemp industry, materials and products that are CBD infused need to be treated as drugs. There is no nutritional intended use for this compound. This means that several parts of the hemp plant will not be appropriate for animal feeding.

Quoting from the FDA and Marijuana website: “FDA has therefore concluded that it is a prohibited act to introduce or deliver for introduction into interstate commerce any food (including any animal food or feed) to which cannabidiol has been added.”
For further information

AAFCO Ingredient Definition Process
http://www.aafco.org/Regulatory/Committees/Ingredient-Definitions

AAFCO Hemp Seed Oil Investigator
brett.boswell@state.mn.us

AAFCO Hemp Seed Meal, Whole Hemp Seed Investigator
bchurch@mt.gov

FDA Food Additive Petitions
http://www.fda.gov/AnimalVeterinary/DevelopmentApprovalProcess/ucm056809.htm

FDA GRAS Notification
http://www.fda.gov/AnimalVeterinary/Products/AnimalFoodFeeds/GenerallyRecognizedasSafeGRASNotifications/default.htm

FDA and Marijuana: Questions and Answers
http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/PublicHealthFocus/ucm421168.htm#dietsuppsexclude

DEA Announces Actions Related to Marijuana and Industrial Hemp
http://www.oisc.purdue.edu/seed/hemp/dea_cannabis.pdf

DEA Eases Requirements for FDA-Approved Clinical Trials on Cannabidiol
http://www.oisc.purdue.edu/seed/hemp/dea_cbd_research.pdf

**Inspection and Sampling Committee—Chad Linton, Chair**

The Inspection and Sampling Committee has been quietly hard at work on the *AAFCO Inspectors Manual*. The manual is reviewed every year, and the latest version can be found for free on the AAFCO website under Publications. This is a great resource for anyone wanting to train their employees on the proper procedures for inspecting and sampling all types of facilities and products.

The *AAFCO Inspectors Manual* is currently being reviewed by a subcommittee led by Kevin Klommhaus, FDA, on FSMA Compliance. They will be making sure that the manual follows all current FSMA guidelines. And not to be out done or forgotten, Jacob Fleig, Missouri, is updating the manual for the new VFD law. The new law will replace the current section in the manual to reflect the changes starting this year. But another subcommittee is working to update the *AAFCO Inspectors Manual* with an updated aseptic sampling section, led by Bob Geiger, Indiana, and Miriam Johnson, North Carolina. We plan to have the updated sections in the *Inspectors Manual* sometime soon. Thanks to each of you for your hard work on these updates, and I look forward to seeing the newest version of our *AAFCO Inspectors Manual*.

Our committee is also working on a Feed Sampling Study led by Mark LeBlanc, Louisiana, to verify that the sampling procedures that we have in the *AAFCO Inspectors Manual* are the most scientific approach for sampling feed. I would like to give a special thank you to Kelsey Luebbe, formerly of Nebraska, for her hard work and dedication to this committee before she left to pursue other endeavors. We hope to continue with getting a RFP out for conducting this study this year.

And last but certainly not least, I would like to thank Meagan Davis, Louisiana, for continuing to lead our committee with the planning and execution of the Basic Inspectors Training Seminar (BITS) and the
Advanced Inspectors Training Seminar (AITS). We are currently conducting an AITS in Pennsylvania this June, and plan to have a BITS in Boise, Idaho, on October 24–26, 2017. There is still time to have your inspectors trained in all aspects of feed. We partner with AAPFCO and AASCO for the fertilizer and seed portions of inspection and sampling at each BITS also. Please contact us if you would like to send some of your inspectors to the BITS in October of this year.

If you see anything that you wish to contribute to or feel strongly about, please feel free to contact Chad Linton any time, and he can help make your wishes come true.

**Pet Food Committee—Kristen Green, Chair**

The Pet Food Committee is currently actively exploring ways to modernize pet food labeling. The committee received a charge from the Board of Directors in 2016 to “Review and consider potential changes to modernize pet food labeling that enhance transparency and expand safety.” Some of the areas of interest include the use of a nutrition facts box type formatting, inclusion of safe handling instructions, revising the ingredients listing, and modernizing feeding directions. The workgroups are composed of regulators, industry advisors, and consumer advocates. Groups have been meeting over the last several months to put forth recommendations within these areas.

The AAFCO Pet Food and Specialty Pet Food Labeling Guide was originally developed to help control officials, industry, and other interested parties to better understand and interpret the AAFCO Model Regulations for Pet Food and Specialty Pet Food. This revised version contains valuable explanations of common labeling issues as well as label examples designed to assist the pet label reviewer or developer to follow the current AAFCO Model Regulations. Click [here](#) to order your copy.

**Proficiency Testing Committee and Laboratory Methods Committee—Brenda Snodgrass, Chair**

**Nibbles and Bits for Lab Rats**

**Proficiency Testing Program Committee** ([http://pt.aafco.org](http://pt.aafco.org))

The Proficiency Testing Program (PTP) is pleased to announce the AAFCO Proficiency Testing (PT) schemes for Animal Feed and Pet Food have been accredited to international standard ISO/IEC 17043:2010 Conformity assessment—General requirements for proficiency testing. **On March 28, 2017, the PT Program personnel received notice from ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board (ANAB) that our Animal Feed and Pet Food schemes meet the international requirements and were awarded our accreditation!** ([Click here to view the Certificate and Scope](#)) The PTP managers are now working diligently to expand our Accredited Scope to include the Minerals and Mycotoxin Contaminants schemes. Additionally, the entire team is busy serving the program's participants, maintaining quality system requirements, making program improvements, and training. Please visit our new website at [http://pt.aafco.org](http://pt.aafco.org).
The 2017 Proficiency Testing Program (PTP) Schemes are well underway, including the Animal Feed, Pet Food, Minerals, and Mycotoxin Contaminants Schemes. All four schemes have also been registered on an international database for PT Programs. The registrations can be viewed on the EPTIS website.

The PTP managers are looking forward to updating the 2017 annual meeting attendees in Bellevue, Washington, on August 9, 2107. We hope to see you there!

Laboratory Methods and Services Committee  
http://www.aafco.org/Laboratory

2017 Annual Meeting  
http://www.aafco.org/Meetings/Annual/2017

Plan to attend the AAFCO annual meeting in Bellevue, Washington. The AAFCO LM&SC will meet August 11, 2017, from 8 am to 5 pm. A draft agenda is available at http://www.aafco.org/Portals/0/SiteContent/Meetings/Annual/2017/Committee-Agendas/Lab_Methods_and_Services_Agenda_Annual_2017_DRAFT.pdf.

A very full day is planned with reports from the many working groups, with a focus on mycotoxin analysis, quality assurance, and laboratory sampling. In addition, poster presentations are being accepted and will be added to the final agenda. If you have a poster presentation to contribute, please contact Aaron (Aaron.Price@inspection.gc.ca) or Nancy (nancy.thiex@gmail.com).

Best Practices Working Group  
The Best Practices Working Group is at work on moisture methods. A working group on best practices for mycotoxin analysis is being formed.

Past Meeting Minutes, Presentations, and Laboratory Resources  
Check the website (http://www.aafco.org/Laboratory) often for recent posts including past meeting minutes and presentations, resources for ISO 17025:2005 accreditation, best practices documents, and a document library.
Veterinary Feed Directive (VFD) Update

New Video Available—Veterinary Feed Directive—An Overview

Veterinary Feed Directive—An Overview Video

Starting January 1, 2017, medically important antimicrobials in medicated feed will become veterinary feed directive (VFD) drugs, and the resulting VFD feed must be authorized by a licensed veterinarian and distributed and used in compliance with the VFD regulation. Also, animal producers will no longer be able to use these VFD feeds for growth promotion or feed efficiency. This video explains these changes and provides an overview of the requirements in the VFD regulation. More information on the Veterinary Feed Directive can be found here.

Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Update

The FDA released several FSMA guidance documents over the last few months; some may still be open for comment.

Find a FSPCA Preventive Controls for Animal Food training near you.

Trainings

This is a list of FDA current trainings and online prerequisite courses that need to be completed before coming to the CGMP Animal Food Regulators course:

- Course Name: Grain and Feed Mill Operations, Course ID VM101W100; available on demand online now through Pathlore.
- Course Name: Regulatory Foundations of Current Good Manufacturing Practices (CGMPs) for Animal Food, Course ID: VM8000W; available on demand online in July 2017 through Pathlore.
- The upcoming course, VM 102—Current Good Manufacturing Practice (CGMP) for Animal Food Regulators, which is classroom based will be held on August 29–31, 2017, in Kansas City, Missouri. The announcement for this course was sent out to states in February 2017.

The website link to search and register for these courses is https://www.fda.gov/Training/ForStateLocalTribalRegulators/default.htm.

Click on the OTED Course Catalog link to search for these courses: https://www.fda.gov/Training/ForStateLocalTribalRegulators/ucm346204.htm.
AFRPS Outreach Activities—New Mexico Department of Agriculture

The New Mexico Department of Agriculture’s (NMDA) Feed, Seed, and Fertilizer (FSF) Section has been implementing AFRPS Standard Seven Outreach into their program. This standard’s goal is to reach a targeted audience including other regulators, industry stakeholders, consumers, and academia to provide information about animal feed topics. The department has purchased educational outreach materials to get the word out. Pet food can lid covers, pet food scoops, livestock cups, and pocket note pads are some examples of educational materials. These materials are distributed primarily by FSF inspectors who are out in the field conducting inspections at feed stores and other retail facilities. At the time of inspection, the inspector is able to discuss the purpose of the educational outreach materials. The livestock cups have also been handed out to students at local 4-H meetings to use for their show animals. Pet food can covers and scoops were also distributed to employees at New Mexico State University’s Founders Day, where numerous questions were received about pet food. The staff also gives presentations at Elementary School Ag and Career Day activities to discuss the importance of feed labeling and to “Read Before You Feed.” Throughout New Mexico retail stores, you will see placards displayed in animal feed (both livestock and pet food) aisles that give a brief description of what the FSF Section is responsible for, what is required on a label, and contact information for the department. This is one standard that NMDA has enjoyed implementing. Only ten more standards to go!

If your state would like to highlight an AFRPS standard you are working on for the next newsletter, please contact Liz Higgins.

Did you know?

These products are inspected by New Mexico Department of Agriculture Feed, Seed, and Fertilizer section. Random sampling is conducted to ensure not only the safety of the product but also that label guarantees are met.

NMDA

To learn more about NMDA, visit our website at www.nmda.nmsu.edu

PURPOSE OF A FEED LABEL:
- Allows you to select a product that meets your animal’s needs
- Contains information about the product such as:
  - Product Name
  - Purpose Statement (lists the intended species and animal class)
  - Guaranteed Analysis (lists the percentage of nutrients)
  - Ingredient Statement (lists the name of each ingredient)
  - Feeding Directions (indicates how the product is to be fed to produce the desired results)
  - Manufacturer/Distributor (company responsible for the product)
  - Net Weight
At the 2017 AAFCO midyear meeting in Mobile, Certificates of Appreciation were presented to the following individuals. Ken Bowers (AAFCO president) is shown presenting the certificates.

Dragan Momcilivoc with FDA’s CVM for his work on AAFCO’s Medicated Feed Label Workshop.

Kelsey Luebbe for her work with AAFCO’s Current Issues and Outreach Committee.

Jennifer Godwin (now with the FDA) for her contributions to AAFCO.

Dan Danielson (now with the FDA) for his contributions to AAFCO.
Linda Morrison for her service to AAFCO. Linda has contributed to AAFCO on so many committees and special projects for the AAFCO board, too many to mention.

Farewell and Thanks for Your Work for AAFCO

AAFCO would like to thank April Hunt with the Michigan Department of Agriculture for her contributions to AAFCO. Hunt accepted a new position in February to head up the Emergency Response and Enforcement Unit in the Michigan Department of Agriculture’s Food and Dairy Division. Hunt has served on Model Bills and Regulations, Ingredient Definitions, and the Strategic Affairs Committees and has been involved with AAFCO for six years. She is also a past president of AAPFCO (fertilizer). We wish Hunt the best, and we will all miss seeing her at AAFCO meetings.

AAFCO would also like to thank Kelsey Luebbe with the Nebraska Department of Agriculture for her work with the Current Issues and Outreach Committee; Cama Coffman with the West Virginia Department of Agriculture for serving on the Feed Labeling Committee; April Wilcox with the West Virginia Department of Agriculture for serving on the Current Issues and Outreach Committee; and Christi Shee with the Office of Indiana State Chemist for serving on the Pet Food Committee. Best of luck in your new endeavors!