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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Letter from AAFCO’s Board

“Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success.”

These words of Edward Everett Hale have an interesting application when applied to AAFCO. Our beginning, the time when the states came together, was in Chicago in 1909. We have made a lot of progress by staying together for 110 years. We have had success in our years together as an association producing feed descriptions, model bills, one of the finest and largest proficiency testing programs in the world, and a cooperation of state programs that does not exist in many areas of work. Our continued success depends on how well we improve our ability to work together.

I believe our strategic plan is moving us in the direction of success as we collaborate on projects that help us better work together as an industry. You can find AAFCO’s Strategic Plan in the Official Publication and Feed BIN. Our Strategic Plan focuses on the following areas: develop and provide professional development and technical training opportunities in support of feed programs; enhance collaboration, communication, and cooperation among regulatory agencies; and promote and support laboratory technology, methods, quality systems, and collaboration.

There are several projects underway that support these goals. The Education Committee is working to establish a Learning Management System (LMS) that will manage training opportunities and record accounting for inspection personnel. The Education Committee is also collaborating with the Inspection and Sampling Committee to develop curriculum for Advanced Inspector
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Training Seminars (AITS) and a possible addition of a second set of advanced curriculum that will provide skill development in investigative work as well as advanced documentation and report writing.

In support of enhancing cooperation between regulatory agencies, we are developing an electronic platform to share regulatory documents and information, as well as enhance data sharing and improve coordinated enforcement. Also in progress is development of an electronic tool to assist both industry and regulatory personnel to quickly and easily identify defined ingredients. These projects help states to become more efficient and proficient at what we do on a daily basis. The projects also move us forward in terms of standardization.

The Proficiency Testing Committee has had real success by achieving ISO 17043 Accreditation. A new sugars method was developed that has successfully completed the Association of Analytical Chemists Validation Process. These important milestones greatly enhance the value of AAFCO.

There are too many on-going projects that are advancing the value of AAFCO to mention here. A few examples are the Pet Food Label Modernization task force, which is making good progress to improve the communication to consumers concerning pet food labeling. A work group is exploring an expedited route to acceptance of Generally Recognized as Safe (GRAS) products, whereas another work group is developing a core curriculum for inspector training.

...continued from page 2
These valuable projects are advancing because of the work and dedication of AAFCO members. From the Board of Directors, I want to say thank you to all of you who are serving as committee members or workgroup members for your contribution to our organization. As Mr. Hale said, our success depends on our ability to work together.

I would be remiss in this communication to fail to mention one of the most significant positive changes in AAFCO’s success. Sue Hays, our new executive director, has proven to be a great fit and is diligently working to keep the AAFCO ball rolling in a positive direction. Sue will move from half time to full time next month and with that additional time, the ball will roll with increasing speed in the many areas in which AAFCO is working.

Yours in AAFCO,
Stan Cook
AAFCO President

Get to Know Your AAFCO Board Members

AAFCO Board at 2018 AAFCO Midyear Meeting in Anaheim, CA (left to right): Ali Kashani, Secretary-Treasurer; George Ferguson, Director; Erin Bubb, Director; Bob Church, Director; Kristen Green, Director; Stan Cook, President; Bob Geiger, President-Elect; Ken Bowers, Immediate Past President; not pictured: Susan Hays, Executive Director; Dave Phillips, Director.
AAFCO Retains Executive Director

First executive director in the association’s 109-year history!

The Association of American Feed Control Officials (AAFCO) announces the first-ever executive director of AAFCO has been retained by the Board of Directors. Susan M. Hays, owner and president of MGT Co., began working with AAFCO on February 19, 2018.

MGT Co. is an established association management firm. AAFCO is looking forward to meeting the increasing challenges of feed safety and consumer protection in the 21st century with the addition of a focused and knowledgeable executive director.

Hays started MGT Co. in 1994 and since then has worked with six agricultural organizations, providing executive director services on a contractual basis. She has been the first executive director for four of those organizations. She brings long-standing expertise in AAFCO to the position of AAFCO executive director.

FASS will remain the headquarters of AAFCO and will be responsible for all association member services. Please contact Jennifer Roland at jenniferr@assochq.org for your AAFCO communications.
Letter from the Executive Director

As you will read in this newsletter and hear at our annual meeting next month in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, AAFCO has a number of projects in progress on several different fronts. This is an exciting time to be involved with AAFCO, and I am very happy to be AAFCO’s first-ever executive director.

I bring a diverse background of agriculture association management to AAFCO. I have had six agriculture associations under management at various times since 1987. These agricultural organizations have served regional, state, national, and international memberships.

My regulatory experience includes

- Work with USDA and FDA on behalf of associations,
- FSMA written comments, and
- AAFCO participation on the Feed Labeling Committee and Model Bill & Regulations Committee since 2005.

In mid-February I hit the ground running with AAFCO. The projects I am working on have the potential to positively help members and industry in several areas.

- **Productivity:** The Online Ingredient Database program in the Feed Labeling Committee is scheduled for a live demonstration by Oca Hoeflein with MocaWorks on Monday, July 30, at the AAFCO annual meeting during the Current Issues and Outreach Committee meeting. When launched later in 2018, this software, tied to the AAFCO Official Publication, has the potential to streamline the review of labels by members and industry.

- **Pet Food Label Modernization:** As the project leader for this important update to pet food labeling, I am assisting the work groups with their sections and their conference calls to keep moving forward, even through difficult conversations. You will have the opportunity to hear the work group updates during the Pet Food Committee meeting on Tuesday, July 31.

- **Education and Networking:** From the seminar in April 2018 to the upcoming AAFCO annual meeting and future events, I will be assisting Jennifer Roland, the Board, and committees with programs for AAFCO. As a former Certified Meeting Professional (CMP) and a regular participant at AAFCO meetings since 2005, I contribute expertise with not only venues but also agendas, speakers, and programs for groups of all sizes.

- **Member Benefits:** Giving members the most bang for their membership dues buck is important to the Board. I am assisting the Board with additional member benefits to help all AAFCO members be better informed and more productive.

This is an exciting time for AAFCO. By using technology, AAFCO can offer new products and services that members and industry need to stay current in today’s regulatory environment. Offering more education and networking programs expands members’ resources. Whether we are regulators, inspectors, or industry, stronger networks and resources enable each of us to better do our jobs.

Your participation is valuable and needed. We hope you are involved now, and if you are not involved, contact Jennifer Roland to learn more about AAFCO committees where your expertise can be used.
In early March 2019, AAFCO joined the Council on Licensure, Enforcement and Regulation, or CLEAR. This membership brings AAFCO access to the resources, information, and relationships available within the international regulatory community.

CLEAR was conceived over 30 years ago as a resource for any entity or individual involved in the licensure, nonvoluntary certification, or registration of the hundreds of regulated occupations and professions. Since its inception, CLEAR’s membership has included representatives of all governmental sectors, the private sector, and many others with an interest in this field.

CLEAR’s broad membership consists of regulatory boards, colleges, organizations, vendors, and other stakeholders from across the international regulatory community. The organization is in service to any entity or individual involved in the licensure, nonvoluntary certification, or registration of the hundreds of regulated occupations and professions.

The list of CLEAR members includes 529 organizations. You can check out the membership list at the CLEAR website.

One benefit of this membership to AAFCO members will be CLEAR’s involvement in AAFCO Advanced Inspector Training Seminar (AITS) beginning with 2018 AITS. The 2019 AITS includes CLEAR-certified instructors presenting two 8-hour sessions from the National Certified Investigator and Inspector Training (NCIT) Specialized track.

- Investigative Analysis includes complaint scene analysis that assists the investigator in obtaining the correct investigative information and written statement analysis that includes techniques for identifying omissions and potential deception in a written statement.
- Investigative Report Development includes information and practical exercises to improve an investigator’s written reports when it approaches report development as an integrated process used from beginning to the end of an investigation.

The AAFCO Board of Directors will participate in a CLEAR Board of Directors training in September 2019. This one-day in-person program offers directors training on the foundations of occupational and professional regulation, the roles and responsibilities of Board members, professional discipline, and other topics.

Within the regulatory community, the resources offered by CLEAR are well respected. Watch for more CLEAR courses at future AAFCO trainings.
The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Agricultural Environmental Services is excited to participate in this year’s AAFCO annual meeting.

The Division of AES functions are extremely diverse, primarily responsible for the enforcement of the following Florida Statutes: Chapter 388 regarding mosquito control; Chapter 482 regarding pest control; Chapter 487 regarding pesticide safety; Chapter 576 regarding fertilizers; Chapter 578 regarding seed; and Chapter 580 regarding commercial feed and feedstuff.

The division’s functions are divided among four bureaus, all of which report to an administrative section of the division:

- The Bureau of Licensing and Enforcement;
- The Bureau of Inspection and Incident Response;
- The Bureau of Agricultural Environmental Laboratories; and
- The Bureau of Scientific Evaluation and Technical Assistance.

The division and its bureaus, overseen by AES Division Director Kelly Friend, provide a wide variety of services that support the Florida Feed Law. These include registering distributors of commercial feed, processing quarterly tonnage reports, certifying private laboratories that conduct feed analyses, evaluating analysis results, and assessing penalties for feed products that do not meet label guarantees.

The Division of AES is a recipient of the Annual Feed Regulatory Program Standards (AFRPS) Cooperative Agreement grant with FDA and is in the process of both implementing the standards and preparing to obtain ISO 17025 laboratory accreditation.
Upcoming AAFCO Events and Trainings

**AAFCO Annual Meeting**  
**July 29–August 1, 2018**  
**Fort Lauderdale Marriott Harbor Beach Hotel**  
**Fort Lauderdale, FL**

The AAFCO annual meeting will be held July 29 through August 1, 2018, in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, at the Marriott Harbor Beach Resort. Nicknamed “the Venice of America,” Fort Lauderdale’s world-renowned beaches, canals, and waterways stretch for miles. Fort Lauderdale is also one of southeast Florida’s hubs for the arts, museums, and events. Enjoy gondola rides on the canals, shopping on the famous Las Olas Boulevard, and enjoy the landscape along the beachfront promenade.

Registration for the annual meeting is now open. Early registration deadline is June 27, 2018. The deadline for hotel registrations is July 6, 2018.

Online registration form for annual meeting  
Printable registration form for annual meeting

Meeting Materials  
Draft Agenda  
Committee Report Book

**The host hotel block is full on Sunday, July 29; Monday, July 30; and Tuesday, July 31.**

More meeting information is available on the AAFCO website.
AAFCO Non-Medicated Feed Labeling Workshop
July 28–29, 2018
Fort Lauderdale Marriott Harbor Beach Hotel
Fort Lauderdale, FL

AAFCO’s Feed Labeling Committee is holding a non-medicated feed labeling workshop on July 28 to 29, 2018, just prior to the AAFCO annual meeting in Fort Lauderdale. This workshop will be a great opportunity for control officials, individuals from the animal feed industry, and others to better understand and interpret the AAFCO Model Regulations for animal feed labeling. This may also be a great refresher course for more experienced individuals, as each topic presented will take an in-depth look at the labeling requirements as well as more complex issues, such as product claims. This workshop will focus on non-medicated feed. This is not a Pet Food Labeling Workshop. [read more...]

Saturday, July 28, will be a full day of presentations (8:00 am to 3:30 pm). A feed control official and an industry representative will present each topic. Topics for this workshop include proper labeling for the Guaranteed Analysis, Ingredient Statement, Mechanics of Labeling, Customer-Formula Labeling, Product Claims, Human Food Ingredients, and Special Purpose Products and Additives. A good understanding of the AAFCO Model Regulations is essential to any firm wishing to market animal feed products in the United States.

Sunday, July 29, will be a half day (8:00 am to 12:00 pm). There will be small group breakout sessions for workshop attendees to hear up to five topics of their choice, which are chosen on the registration application for the workshop. These breakout sessions will include a short presentation on the topic and then provide time to answer questions from the audience. These topics include Direct-Fed Microbials, Enzymes, Backyard Poultry and Livestock Treats, Specific Species/Class, Incorporating Processing Terms in Feed Ingredients, Non-GMO/GMO, Ingredient Misbranding, Product Certification, Food Animal Petition versus AAFCO Definition versus GRAS, Crude Fiber versus ADF versus NDF, Labeling Exemptions, Function/Purpose Statements and Net Weight, and Feed Labeling 101.

Registration is now open for this workshop, and over 75 individuals have already registered. The workshop is limited to 150 attendees, so get your registrations in. Please note that there is a separate registration form for the workshop [read more...]. We hope to see you there!
53rd Annual Feed Administrators Seminar
April 23–27, 2018
Gettysburg, PA

The 53rd Annual Feed Administrators Seminar was held in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, on April 23 to 27, 2018. 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 included Leadership Training, Communication Skills, Industry Roundtable, FDA-CVM, NASDA and AFDO updates, Rebranding AAFCO, Part 507 cGMP Inspections, and other topics. Seminar attendees were treated to “A Night of Living History” as well as an opportunity to tour the local sites. Many thanks to our hosts in Pennsylvania and the folks who organized it for a great seminar!
The 54th Annual Feed Administrators Seminar will be held May 6 to 10, 2019, in Pennsylvania. More information will be available on the AAFCO website later this year [read more...] and in the next AAFCO News Feed.

Night of living history—General Lee and Mrs. Lee visited!

53rd Feed Administrators Seminar attendees.
2018 Advanced Inspector Training  
June 12–14, 2018  
Kansas City, MO

The 2018 Advanced Inspector Training Seminar (AITS) was co-hosted by the Kansas and Missouri Departments of Agriculture in Kansas City, MO, June 12 to June 14. Fifteen (15) states were represented totaling forty-two (42) registered attendees.

The agenda featured two days of trainings by the Council for Licensing, Enforcement, and Regulation (CLEAR). George Saxton provided the trainings on behalf of CLEAR. The first day focused on advanced investigative analysis looking at both scene and written statement analysis. Participants were taught how to develop a process of analytical thinking to assist in obtaining correct investigative information while analyzing a scene. Inspectors also spent time learning how to analyze written statements to recognize where information may have been omitted and where additional questions or investigation are needed. The second day CLEAR discussed investigative report development. This training focused on information and practical exercises to improve written reports.

The final day of training included regulatory topics such as inspectional issues and concerns, providing an opportunity to seek advice from other inspectors and subject matter experts regarding a variety of inspection work. Discussions included VFDs, Part 507 cGMPs, and PC inspections. Kevin Klomhaus from FDA CVM answered questions pertaining to federal inspections. Bob Leuer from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture gave a presentation on feed labeling requirements as well as medicated feed labeling calculations. Additionally, Jamie Spencer from the Kansas Department of Agriculture and Devin Hart from the Missouri Department of Agriculture presented on complaint investigations.

Great discussions were had by all and many thanks go to the Kansas and Missouri Departments of Agriculture for hosting AITS!
Upcoming Trainings for Implementation of Title 21 CFR Part 507 Current Good Manufacturing Practice, Hazard Analysis, and Risk-Based Preventive Controls for Food for Animals

Current Good Manufacturing Practices (CGMP) Animal Food Regulators Course Prerequisites

• Complete VM101W100 in Pathlore—“Grain and Feed Mill Operations”—online course that takes about 10 hours; may have completed a face-to-face training for this course offered over the past 3 years (VM101). The link to Pathlore is https://orauportal.fda.gov/stc/ora/psciis.dll?CLASSMENU=ORA&SearchOption=FIELDS&fisDirectList=1&field0=satcour&value0=C.

• Complete VM8000W in Pathlore—“Regulatory Foundations of Current Good Manufacturing Practices (CGMPs) for Food”—online course that takes approximately 4 hours. The link to Pathlore is https://orauportal.fda.gov/stc/ora/psciis.dll?CLASSMENU=ORA&SearchOption=FIELDS&fisDirectList=1&field0=satcour&value0=C.

Preventive Controls Animal Food Regulators Course Prerequisites

• Complete the Food Safety Preventive Controls Alliance (FSPCA) Preventive Controls for Animal Food course—face-to-face course offering requiring registration—the course is offered through this website: https://www.ifsh.iit.edu/fspca/fspca-preventive-controls-animal-food.

• Complete the VM9000W in Pathlore—“Preventive Controls (PC)”—online course that takes approximately 4 hours. The link to Pathlore is https://orauportal.fda.gov/stc/ora/psciis.dll?CLASSMENU=ORA&SearchOption=FIELDS&fisDirectList=1&field0=satcour&value0=C.

FDA Current Good Manufacturing Practices (CGMP) for Animal Food Regulators Courses

In FY18, the following courses are being offered:

• June 26–28, 2018 in Oakland, CA
• August 14–16, 2018 in Minneapolis, MN
• September 11–13, 2018 in Philadelphia, PA

The courses are posted in Pathlore by searching the course catalog at this link: https://orauportal.fda.gov/stc/ora/psciis.dll?linkid=10031&mainmenu=ORA&top_frame=1

In FY19, four courses are planned to be offered with no set dates for these offerings yet.

FDA Preventive Controls for Animal Food Regulators Courses

In FY18, one course will be offered August 20–24, 2018, in Minneapolis, MN.

In FY19, six courses are planned to be offered with no set dates for these offerings yet. The courses will post in Pathlore once they become available: https://orauportal.fda.gov/stc/ora/psciis.dll?linkid=10031&mainmenu=ORA&top_frame=1
FDA Sanitary Transportation of Human and Animal Food Course

An FDA online course had been created in Pathlore, FD9001W—Sanitary Transportation of Human and Animal Food Rule, to walk food safety staff through this regulation, 21 CFR 1, Subpart O—Sanitary Transportation of Human and Animal Food. This training will be required to be completed prior to conducting inspections under the regulation. The class can be found at the following link: https://orauportal.fda.gov/stc/ORA/psciis.dll?CLASSMENU=ORA&SearchOption=FIELDS&fisDirectList=1&field0=satcour&value0=C. The online course will take approximately four hours to complete.

Industry Training for Carriers Covered By the Sanitary Transportation of Human and Animal Food Regulation

FDA has put together an online training that is about one hour in length to help carriers meet the requirements of the Sanitary Transportation regulation. Here is the link to the training module: https://www.fda.gov/Food/GuidanceRegulation/FSMA/ucm576097.htm

FDA Medicated Feeds Course (VM 206)

The Medicated Feeds online course (VM206W100) has deployed and is available in Pathlore. The length of this course is 10 hours. To access this course, here is the link to Pathlore: https://orauportal.fda.gov/stc/ORA/psciis.dll?linkid=10031&mainmenu=ORA&top_frame=1
Animal Feed Regulatory Program Standards (AFRPS) Updates

July 1, 2018 = due date for Research Performance Progress Report (RPPR)

New Faces

Effective immediately, Gordana Zuber is replacing Dan Lukash as the grants specialist assigned to the Animal Food Regulatory Program Standards (AFRPS) Cooperative Agreement (CA). She is working collaboratively with Isaiah Isakson, who is the current Project Officer, replacing Teresa Bills, for the AFRPS CA to meet your needs. Please feel free to contact Gordana if you have any questions or would like to introduce yourself. You may contact her via email, Gordana.Zuber@fda.hhs.gov, or via telephone, (301) 348-1747.

All cooperative agreement management correspondence regarding the AFRPS CA should be sent to Gordana and Isaiah for review and approval, including requests for budget revisions, key personnel changes, and so on. We are pleased to be managing this program and helping you to continue to achieve success with your cooperative agreement.
2018 AFRPS Face-to-Face Meeting Overview
Theme: AFRPS Journey: Past, Present, and Future
March 20–22, 2018
Jacksonville, FL

What is the result when uniting regulatory and laboratory staff from 22 AFRPS CAP states, two states who are considering joining the CAP, and FDA staff in Jacksonville, FL? The 2018 AFRPS Face-to-Face Meeting, of course! On March 21, a group of animal food regulatory and laboratory professionals traveled across the country to be part of this three-day opportunity to share ideas, discover resources available, and discuss lessons learned.

This was the third annual face-to-face meeting, and it gets better each year. The planning committee’s goal was to provide a platform for sharing ideas and best practices for both regulatory and laboratory, and we feel we accomplished that goal. The meeting had a wide range of workshops and a great group of presenters. Steven Solomon, PhD, Director, FDA, Center for the Veterinary Medicine, opened the meeting by “Sharing the Vision.” He recognized the AFRPS CA grantees’ extraordinary drive and commitment to achieve the goals ahead.

Interactive presentations and panel discussions provided opportunities to meet ORA senior management, FDA staff members, and AFRPS coordinators from participating states. Topics included Chain of Custody, Auditing, SOP Development, ISO 17025 changes, Future Funding Opportunities, Sustainability, and Animal Food Contract Statement of Work (SOW). As part of the meeting, one day consisted of regulatory and laboratory staff separating into different sessions to discuss related topics in detail.

The poster sessions were a highlight of the conference. Eleven states prepared posters with associated presentations. Presenters shared their how-to steps on topics from getting started to implementing a standard. They outlined the challenges and obstacles they faced, the lessons they learned, and their plans of continuation for the future. Question and answer and sharing of ideas among the group concluded this informative session.

It was a great meeting that allowed states to share ideas and identify resources to assist them in their implementation of the feed standards. Enrollment in the AFRPS is an exceptional opportunity for state agencies and their regulatory programs. Looking forward to the 2019 AFRPS Face-to-Face Meeting!
AFRPS State Highlight

University of Kentucky and the development of Standard 4: Auditing

*As presented at the Animal Feed Regulatory Program Standards face-to-face meeting in March.*

The University of Kentucky, Division of Regulatory Services, used years one and two as assessment years due to minimal funding and no AFRPS Coordinator; however, work began on Standard 4 due to its relationship to Standard 3, Standard 10, and the desire to raise the level of inspector participation in AFRPS. Key components of Standard 4 were already a part of the UK Program: inspections, inspection reports, sample collections, sample collection reports. The first steps in Standard 4 implementation included modifications to the FDA Inspection Form to include additional questions and the creation of a KY State Establishment Inspection Form. Additional new components included written procedures for conducting the four types of audits. These written procedures defined the audit frequency, specific performance factors, and review of the audit scores. The procedures also allowed for the incorporation of sample history and risk of the feed facility based on the Kentucky risk-based inspection program.

Challenges and obstacles of implementing Standard 4 for Kentucky included determining the FDA inspection form did not meet the standard, defining a qualified auditor, and, with 3,400+ feed samples being run yearly,

how to determine the number to audit and when to give feedback. To utilize the vast experience of our nine inspectors (combined 162 years of experience with UK), the feed program determined that a qualified auditor would not be a supervisor or an individual inspector as a “Division Auditor.” UK chose to define a qualified auditor as a UKDRS Inspector or Inspector Program Coordinator with five years of experience and three passing FDA Audits within the last five years, or an FDA auditor from the district FDA Office.

> Paired FDA audit forms with UK supplemental form.
The University of Kentucky, Division of Regulatory Services, found that there were benefits to pairing inspections for audits. Audits were always performed in conjunction with other work. These paired inspections allowed the inspectors to work outside their regular territories and experience different issues in different markets. Auditing identified initial problems within the program and not the inspectors; however, auditing will be key in the future to evaluating the progress of new inspectors. The auditing of current experienced inspectors (average of 18 years in the field) is unlikely to improve inspections, sampling, or paperwork. UK will review Standard 4 auditing annually and the documentation will possibly change as new inspectors are hired or as needs dictate. All Animal Feed Regulatory Program Standards should be considered living documents written in broad enough terms to be followed exactly and subject to modification through proper revisions as needed. If asked would we implement Standard 4 the same way now as we did a year ago, the answer would be no. We would more than likely designate only two inspectors to fill the qualified auditor role and, in the future, our procedures may change through revisions to reflect this.
AAFCO Committee Updates

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

The CIOC meeting is on Monday, July 30, during the AAFCO annual meeting. Presentations will include Generally Recognized as Safe (GRAS) Ingredients and the Online Database of Ingredients (ODI) progress update.

Are you new to AAFCO, interested in becoming more involved, or just looking for a good networking opportunity? Come join us for the AAFCO 101 Welcome Reception on the evening of Sunday, July 29, from 6:00 to 7:00 pm in the Dunes Coconut Terrace (back-up indoor location TBD) at the Marriott Harbor Beach Hotel. The AAFCO 101 Welcome Reception will provide a casual setting for folks to hear about the basic mechanics of the association, as well as to meet our board members, committee chairs, and industry advisors. Remember to sign up for AAFCO 101 on your 2018 annual meeting registration. You do not have to be a first-timer to an AAFCO meeting to be able to attend this reception. If you did not sign up for the reception and would like to attend, or if you would like more information, contact Liz Higgins at LHiggins@nmda.nmsu.edu. A reminder email will be sent to everyone that signs up for AAFCO 101.
AAFCO 101 First-Time State Regulatory Attendees (left to right): David Nobo, KS; Katie Simpson, IN; Tamzin Gonzales, NE; Madison Starnes, SC; (not pictured): Theodore Bert, CA; Michael Cagna, NJ; Casey Dykier, CA; Mary Ketchum, MN; Maryam Khosravifard, CA; Melanie Marquez, MN, Karen Pietrzen, MI; Dylan Siem, MN.

AAFCO 101 First-Time Industry Attendees (sitting, left to right): Naoka Lida, Miyarisan Pharma; Jenn Braun, Phibro Animal Health; Erika Testrake, Eurofins Scientific; (second row, left to right): Alan Felton, King Techina Group; Rochelle Ledezma, Perfection Pet Foods; Tamara MacDonald, DSM Nutritional Products; Jeff Plodzien, Sensient Food Colors; Alejandra McComb, Enviroflight; Tracy Taylor, Land’O Lakes; (third row, left to right): Troy Balkalyar, Phibro Animal Health; Travis Maxwell, 3MB Specialties; Liz Carruth, Dakota Dry Bean; Laura Findahl, Simmons Pet Food.
Feed and Feed Ingredient Manufacturing Committee—Eric Brady and Austin Therrell, Co-Chairs

The Feed and Feed Ingredient Manufacturing Committee (FFIM) is pleased to announce tremendous progress in regard to the goals of the committee. Special attention has been placed on completion of the FSMA Implementation Task Force Work Groups. This year has shown improved collaboration between the committee, work group leads, and the FDA. Communication has also shown great improvement throughout the committee.

We are pleased with the progress and partnerships that are developing. The positive atmosphere surrounding the committee shows that great things will be possible in the future. The chairs of the committee are dedicated to improving relationships within the membership while accomplishing our prescribed tasks and providing a fresh outlook for Feed and Feed Ingredient Manufacturing.

Feed Labeling Committee—Dave Dressler, Chair

The Feed Labeling Committee is hosting a Non-Medicated Feed Labeling Workshop on July 28 and 29 just prior to the AAFCO annual meeting. For more information [read more...].

Online Database of Ingredients (ODI) Progress Update

The ODI is a web-based software package under development that is intended to provide enhanced searches for ingredients listed in Chapter 6 of the online version of the Official Publication (OP). Search results will include links to AAFCO and CFR definitions. Built into the online OP, the program will provide efficiency and consistency for regulators reviewing ingredient statements and industry developing new products.

The Board has authorized moving forward with the implementation of the project. Contract negotiations are nearing finalization. The target date for completion is to be ready for release with the 2019 online OP. There will be a demonstration of Version 1 of the ODI program at the AAFCO annual meeting in Fort Lauderdale on July 30 in the Current Issues and Outreach Committee Meeting.

Ingredient Definitions Committee—Richard Ten Eyck, Chair

Draft: 6/15/18 rev 3

Ingredient Definitions Committee Meeting
7/31/18 draft agenda

10:00 to 11:30 am Eastern, Ft Lauderdale, FL
Marriott Harbor Beach Grand Ballroom E-K

1) Roll Call of Committee members
2) Investigator recommendations to move tentative to official
   a.) T6.12 Taurine – Yes, Richard
   b.) T33.25 Stearic Acid
   c.) T33.26 Palmitic Acid
   d.) T60.117(B) Dried Black Soldier Fly Larvae
e.) T71.35 Brassica carinata Meal, Solvent Extracted**
f.) T73.051 Iron Tartrates – Yes, Richard
g.) T73.311 Hydrogenated Glycerides – Yes, Richard
h.) T73.400 Iron Nickel Tracer – Yes, Richard
i.) T87.35 Glucose Syrup – Yes, Richard
j.) T96.14 Scheffersomyces stipites Dried Yeast

3) Work Group Reports
   a) GRAS verification workgroup report – Sue Hays
   b) DFM Nomenclature Changes workgroup – Maggie Faba
   c) Negative List Workgroup – Kent Kitade
   d) Confusing Pet Food Names Workgroup – Brett Boswell
   e) Guidelines For requesting Definitions Editing Workgroup – Kristi Smedley

4) New Definitions, deletes & edits:
   a) New Feed Term “Livestock” – Ali
   b) New Feed Term “Common and Usual” – Ali
   c) Plant Protein Collective Term (Placeholder)
   d) 33.xxx Marine Microalgae – Brett B
   e) DFM name changes Multiple organisms – (placeholder) Mika
      1. *Lactobacillus bulgaricus* has been reclassified to *Lactobacillus delbrueckii* (existing DFM species), so *L. bulgaricus* would be deleted from definition 36.14
      2. *Lactobacillus cellobiosus* has been reclassified to *Lactobacillus fermentum* (existing DFM species), so *L. cellobiosus* would be deleted from definition 36.14
      3. *Lactobacillus lactis* has been reclassified to *L. delbrueckii* (existing DFM species), so *L. lactis* would be deleted from definition 36.14
      4. *Propionibacterium shermanii* has been reclassified to *Propionibacterium freudenreichii* (existing DFM species), so *P. shermanii* would be deleted from Definition 36.14
   f) Vitamin names (placeholder) – Tom

5) Discussions:
   a) Lab Grown Proteins (placeholder) – Brett B.
   b) Hemp Update – Bob C. & Brett B., Scott Z.
   c) GRAS policy discussion – Doug Lueders
   d) Bentonite Definition Edits – Richard
   e) Adding odor control in rabbits to intended use of 87.29 *Yucca schidigera* extract – Discussion – Richard
As summer is now here, we are gearing up for the annual meeting in Fort Lauderdale, FL. The Inspection and Sampling Committee has several workgroups diligently working to complete the goals assigned to them.

Updates to the AAFCO Inspectors Manual continually occur to provide the most current and relevant information to field staff and their supervisors. Currently, the sections under review include FSMA guidelines, feed ingredients, drug carry-over, and aseptic sampling techniques. The workgroup formed to review aseptic sampling techniques is currently gathering information relevant to the techniques necessary and appropriate to consider when collecting sterile samples. They are continuing to work towards completing procedures to present to the committee for review with the goal of including what is necessary to maintain sample integrity. Thanks to all of the folks involved for your hard work on these updates. The AAFCO Inspectors Manual will always be available in its most updated version on the AAFCO website (www.aafco.org) under the Publications tab. If you have thoughts or comments about the manual that you feel the committee should address, please send them our way for discussion.

Prior to the Midyear Meeting held in Anaheim, CA, a Sampling Study workgroup was formed. The charge of this workgroup was to write a Request for Proposals in which current sampling methods will be revalidated through independent peer reviewed research. Once the Inspection and Sampling Committee and Board of Directors approve the RFP, it will be sent out to the appropriate venues for proposals to conduct the study. This workgroup will not write the parameters on how to conduct the study, but instead determine the data to be collected from the study. The group has had great discussions since the Midyear Meeting and is working to determine the scope of the study and creating the RFP. Stay tuned to the committee meeting at the annual meeting for more information.

As most of us now know, Meagan Davis has taken on a new role in industry. Her hard work and efforts in steering the BITS and AITS seminars will be greatly missed. We wish her the best in her new endeavors. AITS was held in Kansas City, MO, June 12 to 14, 2018. Thank you to the Kansas and Missouri Departments of Agriculture for your time and assistance in hosting this training.

The logistics and arrangements for BITS 2018 have begun. The seminar is scheduled for September of 2018 and will be hosted by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. Registration announcements will be coming soon. If you have staff that would benefit from taking the BITS course, please consider sending them to this training. We welcome states who are interested in hosting either of the seminars to
let us know so that we can continue to conduct these trainings each year and provide our field staff with the knowledge they need to conduct their field assignments. Stay tuned for the 2019 seminar schedules so that you may register your staff as soon as possible.

As part of the AFRPS requirements for states to standardize their regulatory programs, the AITS curriculum is being evaluated for consistency in the educational materials provided to attendees. A workgroup was formed to discuss and determine coursework that will be utilized at each training to ensure that all attendees receive the same teaching materials at every training. As part of developing the course work, discussions with the Council on Licensure, Enforcement & Regulation (CLEAR) have begun to determine if a customized module could be developed and incorporated into the AITS curriculum. CLEAR is a national organization that specializes in the education and training of regulatory professionals. CLEAR will be presenting portions of their current training modules during the 2018 AITS as a test run for this proposal. We look forward to the feedback received after AITS and to working with CLEAR in the future.

Any burning or pressing thoughts or agenda topics that you would like to bring to the attention of the committee? As always, they are welcomed. Please feel free to contact Miriam Johnson (miriam.johnson@ncagr.gov). Wishing everyone a wonderful summer and see you in Fort Lauderdale!

Laboratory Methods and Services Committee (LM&SC)—Aaron Price and Nancy Thiex, Co-Chairs

https://www.aafco.org/Laboratory

The LM&SC currently has some productive working groups. Notable activities are as follows:

**Best Practices Working Group, Fiber Working Group**, has redrafted the recommendation for fiber testing into manuscript format. The manuscript is currently under review by Journal of AOAC International. It is anticipated that the manuscript will be accepted and published prior to the annual meeting.

**Best Practices Working Group, Moisture Working Group**, has posted recommendations for moisture testing to the AAFCO web site. Further discussion and data collection is underway to establish a recommended method(s) for pet food.

**Best Practices Working Group, N Factor for Protein Working Group**, is currently kicking off their discussions.

**Mycotoxin Best Practices Working Group(s)**: Lead authors have been asked to submit outlines and drafts of manuscripts prior to the annual meeting.

**Laboratory Sampling Working Group** has a new guidance document for laboratory sampling processes, published in June 2018. Guidance on Obtaining Defensible Test Portions or GOOD Test Portions is a supplement to GOODSamples for laboratories and was supported by the FDA-funded three-association Cooperative Agreement. It is available as a free download from the AAFCO website: http://www.aafco.org/Publications/GOODTestPortions.

**Fat-Soluble Vitamins Working Group** continues to evaluate fat-soluble vitamin methods and method performance factors. They are currently evaluating test portions mass and its effect on test results.

Three-Association Cooperative Agreement (APHL, AAFCO, and AFDO): Work is underway on publication of GOOD Test Portions; sampling pilots are planned for IN Dept. of Public Health (June) and AR Dept. of
Environment, Food Safety Division (August). A GOODSamples implementation is planned for MN Dept. of Agriculture (July). Work continues on the Laboratory Curriculum Framework. Revisions to the Data Acceptance white paper published by APHL in June 2017 and the PFP Laboratory Best Practice Manual are nearing completion. Resources for laboratories are available at: https://www.aphl.org/programs/food_safety/laboratory-accreditation/Pages/Accreditation-Resources.aspx. We are very appreciative of the many valuable deliverables and outcomes of this six-year effort. It has provided tremendous support and infrastructure to the state laboratory community. While it is sad to see the current initiative come to an end in 2018, we remain hopeful for a second round of funding in the future.

AFRPS Labs Update: Many of the AFRPS labs have achieved ISO 17025 accreditation and the others continue to work towards the goal. Hot topics at the March 2018 face-to-face meeting included discussion on data acceptance, progress towards improvements with use of eLEXNET, and discussion on the future laboratory flexible funding model.

The Laboratory tab on the AAFCO web page is updated continuously. Please check the website to stay current and please notify the committee chairs when outdated information or links need attention.

We look forward to a productive annual meeting in Fort Lauderdale. Please plan to attend!

Proficiency Testing Program Committee—Brenda Snodgrass, Chair

http://pt.aafco.org

The Proficiency Testing Program (PTP) is pleased to announce the addition of the Mycotoxins Scheme to our International Standard ISO/IEC 17043:2010 Scope of Accreditation effective February 2018. The current scope can be viewed/downloaded [read more...]. With this addition, all of the AAFCO PT schemes are internationally accredited.

The PTP rolled out an upgrade to the Data Reporting Website (DRW), which allows participants to report nondetected analytes (parameters) with their limit of detection (LOD). While the Mycotoxin Scheme already had this feature, it is now available for every scheme. The Damaged & Missing Test Item Form was upgraded to give participants the ability to submit photographs of damaged samples with the form. Program participation continues to remain steady or increase over the 2016 and 2017 program years, and the entire team continues serving the program’s participants, maintaining quality system requirements, making program improvements, sending out surveys, and training.

The PTP managers look forward to seeing everyone at the 2018 annual meeting in Ft. Lauderdale, FL, on July 30, 2018. We hope you are able to join us!

Pet Food Committee (PFC)—Kristen Green, Chair

The AAFCO Pet Food Committee has been exploring the possibility of a partnership with USDA-AMS (Agricultural Marketing Service) for an audit program to validate human grade claims on pet food. The workgroup charged with exploring this option has presented their work to the PFC and is seeking comments. Anyone interested in this subject and commenting can find the documents in the Pet Food Library and a summary on the Pet Food Teamboard. PFC is welcoming comments from members and nonmembers alike in advance of the annual meeting.

The committee continues its work on creating a framework to modernize pet food labeling. Several of the subgroups of the Pet Food Label Modernization workgroup have come close to finalizing their recommendations and will be presenting them at the 2018 Annual AAFCO meeting in Fort Lauderdale.
Pet Food and Specialty Pet Food Labeling Workshop
January 24–25, 2018
Garden Grove, CA

Since there was such a great response to the Pet Food and Specialty Pet Food Labeling Workshop held in August 2017 in Bellevue, WA, so much so there was a waiting list, the decision was made to hold another workshop on January 24 to 25, 2018 in Garden Grove, CA, immediately following the AAFCO 2018 Midyear Meeting. The workshop was a huge success, with 112 attendees including 18 volunteers that helped present the topics and lead small groups through breakout activities. Feed control officials and industry representatives were paired, which gave a better perspective to each topic. The AAFCO Pet Food and Specialty Pet Food Labeling Workshop was 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. The one-and-a-half day workshop covered both the basics of pet and specialty pet food labeling as well as more complex issues such as product claims. There were five breakout sessions: Label Creation & Review, Intended Use/Structure Function Claims, Product Claims, Ingredients, and Yeast, Fermentation Products & Enzymes. The agenda can be viewed at [read more...]. A good understanding of the AAFCO Model Regulations is essential to any firm wishing to market pet foods and specialty pet foods (which include treats, supplements, and complete and balanced diets) in the United States. A special thanks to Charlotte Conway (FDA-CVM), Kristen Green (KY), and Jennifer Roland (FASS) as well as all the volunteers for their hard work.
Awards

The Distinguished Service Award presented to Robert Waltz at the 2018 AAFCO Midyear Meeting for outstanding dedication to animal food safety and AAFCO by serving on the Governing Council Partnership for Food Protection and the Food Safety Preventive Controls Alliance.

Farewell and Thanks for Your Work for AAFCO

AAFCO would like to thank Meagan Davis for her numerous contributions to AAFCO. Meagan accepted a new position as Senior Scientist with ToxStrategies, a multidisciplinary scientific consulting firm, where she works on developing protocols, GRAS dossiers, feed label reviews, and registrations. Meagan has worked at Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry as the Feed Program Director, Food and Drug Administration’s Center for Veterinary Medicine as a Consumer Safety Officer, and at University of Kentucky Regulatory Services as a Feed Regulatory Specialist. Meagan has served AAFCO since 2006 in many capacities, including Director on AAFCO’s Board of Directors, Chair of Enforcement Issues, and Feed Labeling Committees; Vice-Chair of Education and Training Committee; member of Current Issues and Outreach and Inspection and Sampling Committees, Animal Products Investigator for Ingredient Definitions Committee, and acted as primary point of contact for BITS, AITS, and AAFCO seminar. We wish Meagan the best in her new journey.
In Memoriam: Jan Jarman

It is with profound sadness that we share the news of Jan Jarman passing on February 12, 2018, following a courageous battle with cancer that began last summer.

Jan began her career with the State of Minnesota in 1995 as a soil scientist in the Pesticide and Fertilizer Management Division, followed by a move to a position in the Commissioner’s Office. Jan ended her career in the Food and Feed Safety Division’s Commercial Feed Program as an agricultural consultant, where people nationally and internationally recognized her as an authority on pet food regulation and labeling. While Jan certainly had an impressive and diverse educational background (AAS in veterinary technology, BS in animal science, MS in soil science), she had a unique and in-depth knowledge and understanding of a vast array of technical and nontechnical matters. In addition to her work with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, Jan also volunteered her time to serve on many committees and working groups for AAFCO, including Pet Food Committee Co-Chair, Chair of Carbohydrate Working Group, Ingredient Definitions Committee; AAFCO ingredient investigator for Direct-Fed Microbials, Fermentation Products, Yeasts, and Enzymes; Chair of DFM Nomenclature Workgroup; and many others.

Jan was a friend, mentor, and role model to many. Countless people in Minnesota and across the nation will greatly miss her. Our condolences to Jan’s family.
In Memoriam: Gloria Jean “Glo” Dunnavan

Gloria Jean “Glo” Dunnavan, 70, of Wilmington, North Carolina, passed away on January 16, 2018. Gloria Jean was born in Louisville, Kentucky, on October 2, 1947, to J. Calvin and Betsy Dunnavan. She graduated from Pleasure Ridge Park High School in 1965, and then attended the University of Kentucky, earning a BS in microbiology. Gloria Jean began her lifetime career in public service as an FDA inspector in Louisville and Nashville, TN. She moved to Gaithersburg, Maryland, in 1979 to work as a Compliance Officer in the FDA’s Center for Veterinary Medicine, where she handled the Center’s most complex and precedent-setting enforcement actions. She served as CVM’s Director of the Division of Compliance for 10 years, and during that time traveled the nation and the world as a globally recognized expert on mad cow disease. Throughout her 35-year career in the FDA, she was consistently recognized for her outstanding work and dedication to the safety of our food supply, earning many awards and honors including Vice President Gore’s Hammer Award, FDA’s Award of Merit, and several HHS Distinguished Service Awards. After leaving the FDA, her expertise led to a second successful career as a consultant in food safety. Upon her retirement, Glo lived her life to the fullest for 11 happy years in Wilmington, North Carolina. She enjoyed walking on the beach, attending concerts and performances, watching and reading science fiction, swimming at the Y with her friends, and hosting her nieces, nephews, and cousins at her beautiful beach cottage. Whether they knew her as Gloria Jean, Bean Jean, GJ, or Glo, her friends and family will remember her quick wit, excellent conversational skills, thoughtful insights, and generosity of spirit. She will be greatly missed by a great number of people whose lives she touched. Donations may be made in her name to the YWCA (Lower Cape Fear branch), or to Airlie Gardens.