



Laboratory Methods and Services Committee Report/Minutes

January 9, 2014
8:00 am to 5:00 pm
New Orleans, LA

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. The committee recommends that the Board approve the 2014 revisions to the AAFCO QA/QC Guidelines for Feed Laboratories that were presented to the committee as final.
- 2.

BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. None
- 2.

ASSOCIATION ACTIONS:

1. None
- 2.

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Committee Report:

- *Committee Activities*

ACTION: Agenda Approval

MOTION: “Motion to accept the agenda for the 2014 Mid-year meeting of the Lab Methods and Services Committee” passes (all in favor) (Doc #1)

ACTION: Approval of the 2014 Revision of the AAFCO QA/QC Guidelines for Feed Testing Laboratories

MOTION: “Motion to accept the Revision of the AAFCO QA/QC Guidelines for Feed Testing Laboratories as presented by the co-editors Brenda Snodgrass and Louise Ogden” and forward to the AAFCO Board of Directors for final approval. Name/Second - passes (all in favor)

ACTION: Approval of the Multi-Analyte Pesticide Method Needs Statement

MOTION: “Motion to accept the Multi-Analyte Pesticide Method Needs Statement as presented by K. Hafler as final” Name/Second - passes (all in favor)

Committee Minutes:

- The Laboratory Methods and Services (LMS) committee membership roster and industry advisor listing is currently in review. New AAFCO policies and procedures necessitate reducing the “member roster” to “Active Members” only. The committee plans to develop established roles within the committee and maintain working groups to help distribute the work. Members are expected to respond to e-mails, be active in a Committee task and vote when requested. Note: you do not need to attend the AAFCO meetings to be a member of the AAFCO committee.
- People wishing to volunteer for any of the working groups should contact Aaron Price or Nancy Thiex.
- The AAFCO website may be updated pending approval of the AAFCO Board. A tab for lab issues has been set up on the current web site. The committee should identify the information and documents that should be added to update our tab.
- Updates on collab studies:
 - Starch collaborative study (update provided by Nancy Thiex): 15 labs participated in the analysis of 10 samples. AOAC to put together an Expert Review Panel (ERP) to review the study. Contact AOAC if interested and qualified to be member of the ERP. Mary Beth Hall to complete manuscript by end of January.
 - AOCS Fatty Acid Collab almost complete. Update provided at next meeting.
- Working Group updates:
 - Tylosin WG – Tom Phillips reported that he had used a Waters UltraPerformance Convergence Chromatography (UPC²) system that looks promising. It is based on



- principles of supercritical fluid chromatography. He is not considering HPLC-MS/MS because FDA's aversion for that technology.
- Vitamin A WG – Ken Riter current Chair. Ken reported that there had not been much activity since last meeting - he is still planning to review check sample data. The WG decided to merge with the Vitamin E WG to create a Fat Soluble Vitamins WG (see below).
 - Vitamin E WG- Dorota Inerowicz current Chair. Dorota has sent an e-mail looking for interested labs. 4 labs expressed interest in working with her. The WG had had one conference call where they agreed to merge with the Vitamin A WG and form a "Fat Soluble Vitamins" WG. The two WGs to be merged mid-January. Will test submitted methods for A and E either together or separately. In the process of collecting samples and looking for suggestions/donations from manufacturers. People interested in joining should contact Dorota or Ken. In the future, vitamin D could be added to this group.
 - Sugars (mono- and disaccharide) WG - Jeff Horst current Chair. Jeff presented the responses to his recent survey (Docs #2a and 2b). It was agreed that not everyone had interpreted the questions the same way. Next followed a presentation by Andy Crawford and Jeff on the outcome of the ring trial involving the analysis of two standard solutions (0.1% and 1% sugar) (Docs #3a,3b and 3c). The ring test indicated a CV of around 10% for each solution but did not indicate any clearly superior technology as judged by the performances in the hands of the participating labs. During a get-together following the committee meeting it was agreed that the next step would involve Silliker Labs reviewing their extraction studies and if possible, share the data with other members. It was also recommended that labs do sugar determination as part of the AAFCO Check Sample program.
 - Mycotoxin WG - Vicki Siegel current Chair. Nancy mentioned that Vicki is very busy with the Check Sample program and asked for volunteers to take over as chair for the Mycotoxin Working Group. Robert Sheridan and Mary Koestner volunteered and representatives from OH Dept. of Ag expressed interest as well.
 - Best Practices WG – Lawrence Novotny co-Chair. The group has focused on "Crude Fat" as the analyte on which to establish a template. Lawrence presented a draft of the Recommendations for comments (Doc # 4). Jimmie and Lawrence asked for feedback as to the usefulness of the document and expect to review check sample data to determine the preferred method/matrix combinations and needs for expansion of method scopes. It was recommended that the final version be posted on the AAFCO web site or similar easily accessible location to serve as a reference for regulators and industry. Next analyte for consideration is phosphorus. People interested in participating should contact Lawrence.
- AAFCO Web-site (BIN) – Tom Phillips is one of the BIN administrators and demonstrated its capabilities. Currently the purchase of the electronic version of the OP (\$70 for regulatory officials, \$125 for industry) is required in order to get access. Since many industry people



actively involved with AAFCO Lab related issues are unlikely to purchase the OP, Tom will check into the possibility of “duplicating” the content on the “Lab” tab on the AAFCO web-site. Tom to report back at the August meeting.

- Sampling and total uncertainty – Chuck Ramsey presented on Total Uncertainty and Sampling related issues (Docs #5a, 5b and 5c). He highlighted that sampling is becoming a hot subject. Many organizations including ISO are working on drafting guidelines covering sampling activities and accreditation for this activity may be required in the future.
- Method Needs Statements (MNS) – Aaron Price reported that the current MNS are listed on the AAFCO web site albeit somewhat buried.
 - Multi pesticide residue MNS – Robert Sheridan and Kristin Haefler presented their current version. A motion was made and the vote was unanimous to accept the draft as the final product. Next step will be to advertise for methods likely to meet the MNS.
- FDA Cooperative Agreement (FCA) –
 - QA/QC Guidelines under revision by the Quality Assurance Working Group – Brenda Snodgrass and Louise Ogden presented an overview of the revised AAFCO QA/QC Guidelines, including the recommendations above and beyond ISO 17025 for a laboratory providing analytical testing in support of feed regulatory programs. Brenda Snodgrass and Louise Ogdens’s team completed the 3-volume document which is currently available for purchase (\$25 for regulatory officials, \$125 for Industry members). The motion was made and passed to consider the books the “final” draft ready for AAFCO Board approval and distribution.
 - Sampling WG - Ken McManus reported on a multi-lab sample preparation variation study. (Doc #6). The data will be analyzed further and a final presentation will be made at the August meeting.
 - APHL Update – Shari Shea discussed APHL activities associated with FCA including the activities associated with the Food/Feed Testing Subcommittee (Doc #7). Also reviewed were the features of the APHL web site including its discussion board (not industry accessible). Accessing the Accreditation Discussion Board on the APHL website. If you do not have a “MyAPHL” account, go to www.aphl.org and create a new account at the top right hand corner. Once you do this, you will have access to the board by simply clicking on this link; Food and Feed Laboratory Accreditation Discussion Board. If you see an access denied screen, don’t give up, just click on the “request access” link. To ensure notification of all postings to the board, you may click on “set post alerts” on top of the main page to the board and provide the email address through which you want to receive alerts and specify the kind of alerts you would like to receive.
APHL also has a Resource file that is open to the public as well as assist unfunded labs in getting ISO accredited.
The updated, December 2013 version, ISO 17025 Accreditation "Available Training" Document is now available. To download it, go to the APHL Food and Feed Laboratory Accreditation-Training Resources page at



<http://www.aphl.org/aphlprograms/food/laboratory-accreditation/Pages/Training-Resources.aspx>. The ISO/IEC 17025 Accreditation Training Steering Committee compiled the informational resource identifying training opportunities that may be useful for those seeking ISO accreditation. The materials listed in the PDF document are training activities or materials that could be relevant to ISO/IEC 17025 accreditation. The items on the list are not specifically endorsed or recommended by APHL, AFDO, or AAFCO. The document is current as of December 18, 2013 with a planned update in six months. If you have any questions about this document, please contact Josh Rowland (josh.rowland@aphl.org).

- Collaborative Check Sample Program – Andy Crawford presented the stability study executed as part of the scheme to the program ISO approved. (Doc #8)
- AFDO update – Yvonne Salfinger reviewed AFDO deliverables under FCA. (Doc #9) Looking for professionals to register as Subject Matter Experts and offers a listing covering the contact information for Sr. Stagg at regulatory establishments in different States.
- PT program listing – Thiex reported that the PT program listing needed to be reviewed and updated. Tom Phillips, Sharon Webb, Teresa Grant and Kristina McCallum volunteered to spearhead this task. Suggested enhancing the current format by adding web links to the different supplier web sites. This task must be completed in July in time for AAFCO Board approval at the August meeting.

Discussion followed on the best way to illustrate the products resulting from the FCA and how to help labs by having activities such as roundtable discussion / webinars / workshops on how best to address accreditation challenges.

- Fertilizer ISO TAG activities and related activities – Bill Hall reported that the TAG associated with Fertilizers (ISO TC134) had been very busy, completing definitions and now evaluating new methods.
- Feed related ISO activities (ISO 34 Subcommittee 10) - Aaron Price monitors this for Canada. Nothing to report.
- AOACI Ag community – Hall reported that the Community sponsored a symposium at the AOACI annual meeting - good speakers, relatively low attendance (approx. 40) and several posters. The sampling symposium scheduled for the upcoming 2014 AOAC meeting (90min) complements well TDRM's symposium on the same subject. A WG is preparing videos addressing fertilizer sample prep and analysis by ICP.
- AAFCO Ingredient Committee related issues - Tom Phillips has been assigned the role as a liaison to the Ingredient Committee for the purpose of verifying that Ingredient Definitions list appropriate methods for verifying compliance with the definition. Lars Reimann would represent Industry on this task.



- Curriculum Framework for Laboratories – Craig Kaml presented the current status of the International Food Protection Training Institute’s (IFPTI) work on putting together a competency framework and curriculum for regulatory laboratory personnel (Docs 10a and 10b).

Action Item Table:

Responsible	Item	Action	Timing / Status
All	Joining the vitamin A /E working group	Let Ken Riter and Dorota Inerowicz know if you are interested in joining	Prior to next meeting
Ken Riter & Dorota Inerowicz	Vitamin A / E working group	Review data from check sample program (CSP) to draw conclusions regarding methods in use.	Prior to next meeting
All	Vitamin A reporting	If you’re reporting vitamin A data, send V Siegel an email letting her know what method you’re using and give her permission for your data to be used by the working group.	Prior to next meeting
All	Carbohydrate working group	John Szpylka, Silliker to check if Silliker sugar extraction methodology comparison could be shared with other AAFCO members	By end of February
All	Best Practices working group	Review draft of “Crude Fat” “Best Practices”. Send comments to Lawrence Novotny	By end of February
All	Best Practices working group	Contact Lawrence Novotny if interested in phosphorus methodologies.	By end of February