



## Laboratory Methods and Services Committee Report/Minutes

August 4, 2015  
8:00 am to 5:00 pm  
Denver, CO

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. None

**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 2015 Annual Meeting of the Lab Methods and Services Committee” passes (all in favor)**

Committee Minutes:

- Committee attendees introduced themselves.
- The Laboratory Methods and Services Committee (LM&SC) membership roster and industry advisor list was reviewed and Aaron Price indicated new appointments. A. Price reminded Committee Members that they must vote (even if it is only to abstain) or otherwise request that they be removed from the Committee. People wishing to be added or eliminated from the list should contact A. Price.
- FSMA Implementation Task Force Update was provided by Theresa Grant. The group is focused on ways to determine if critical control points (CCPs) are correctly identified based on a list of risks and associated levels to be provided.
- Method Needs Statement Update was provided by A. Price. No need for new method needs statements. Survey to be repeated in 2016. FDA is interested in multi-residue methods such as multi-drug residue methods. Difficult to find suitably validated methods or labs willing to participate in method validation efforts. It was agreed to request presentations on drug residue analysis methods at the Jan 2016 meeting and follow up with the formation of a working group. Other potential method needs were focused around protein adulteration (melamine, leather hydrolysate).
- AAFCO Project Funding Opportunities Update was provided by Nancy Thiex. AAFCO had offered around \$50,000 for method validation. Proposals were requested and reviewed, support was awarded and some of the presentations were a result of this funding. Similar funding may be available in the future.
- Working Group updates:
  - CTC WG – Tom Phillips was absent.
  - Tylosin WG – Tom Phillips was absent
  - Fat Soluble vitamins WG – K. Riter reported that 9 samples were sent out in April/May to 11 labs for Vitamin A, 8 labs for Vitamin E. Data were received from 8 labs. Similar results were obtained with all the Vitamin A methods. Issue with “within lab” variation – almost as large as “between lab” variations. It was suggested to grind sample just prior



to analysis. Andy Crawford will compile sample size used by the different labs to see if that correlated with the observed variability. Working Group to make recommendations as to the next steps.

- Best Practices WG – Sharon Webb reported that the group is currently focused on phosphorus. High P levels are the most challenging. Dry ashing makes P, Ca, Cu, Fe, Mn and Zn very insoluble in the acid solubilization method. White Paper should be completed prior to January meeting after which the group will start to tackle another difficult analyte.
- Sugars (mono- and disaccharide) WG – D. Berg reported that he had settled in 50% water/ethanol as the preferred extraction solvent and ion chromatography for the separation and quantitation of the individual sugars present (Dionex ICS 5000 with PAD). Separations and LOQ looked good. Goal is to finalize and subsequently publish the method SLV. It was suggested to include a listing of interferences checked (e.g., sugar alcohols and other sugars) and their retention time relative to glucose.
- Mycotoxin WG – Robert Sheridan reported that the latest extraction solvent mixture suggested by Romer Labs (79% acetonitrile: 1% acetic acid: 20% water) enabled the extraction of 11 mycotoxins. While Robert’s lab uses matrix matched standards there were discussions about the benefits arising from using isotope labeled standards. Discussions followed regarding the sample amount used for the assay. NY used 2 g while Romer recommended using 25 g. R. Sheridan is currently looking for collaborators and plans to distribute method and reference samples.
- Quality Assurance WG - Gail Hagood reported that the group had completed its task and highlighted the tools available on the AAFCO website.
- Sampling WG – has worked successfully for 3 years. The first 12 chapters of the guidelines should be published soon on the AAFCO website and the next 2 chapters should be completed within the next year. The process includes verifying that the guidelines comply with the recommendations in the “Good Sample Protocol”.
- FDA Cooperative Agreement:
  - Food Emergency Response Network (FERN) update provided by Michael McLaughlin from the Office of Regulatory Affairs and how it interfaced with FDA’s goal of improving the food defense and food safety systems. FERN is managed by USDA-FSIS and FDA-ORA and currently encompasses 169 labs. FERN labs have been used in FDA’s surveillance program (e.g., avocado program; As in fruit juice, absence of radiological contaminants in products from Japan; PAH analysis in as part of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, etc). New grants available to facilitate the entry of more labs into the program.
  - Collaborative Check Sample Committee – Thiex reported that the feed program had added a lot of new analyte codes and needed another high NPN sample. The mycotoxin program was in its 2nd year and working well. The mineral program has just started.



The program is working on getting accredited to ISO 17043 and hired a consultant to complete a gap analysis. SOPs need to be written and the Committee has recommended the hiring of a part time (10hr/month) QA Project Manager.

- Partnership for Food Protection – Brenda Snodgrass reported that the group was formed in 2004 as a response to a Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD-9). It has a very informative web site and has produced a “Best Practices” manual.
- Co-Ag activities led by APHA/AFDO- Yvonne Salfinger reported that APHL had supported many labs toward their journey to ISO 17025 accreditation. She highlighted the resources listed on the APHL web site ([www.aphl.org](http://www.aphl.org)) and offered to provide advice and support if contacted.
- The Training Workgroup Update was given by Mark Stenske. The group is tasked with working on the curriculum addressing the training competencies outlined by IFPTI for feed laboratories. However it is currently at a standstill as the program’s value to labs has not been unanimously agreed upon.
- AFRPS and ISO 17025 accreditation for feed labs update was presented by Theresa Bills. She reported that she had received 21 applications for the Animal Feed Program Standard Cooperative Agreement and that she had funding for 24 labs. A panel will review applications August 10-11.
- Other Topics:
  - Appropriate Crude Fat Methods for DDGs – Lars Reimann provided a summary of the history behind the review of the appropriate methodology for determining crude fat in DDGs and suggested that due to trade issues it was time to revisit this issue. He announced that AOCS had initiated a ring test program focused of DDGs and recommended interested parties participate using their method of choice as well as the method recommended by the industry back in 2007.
  - Fat extractions of high fat samples using the Thermo Dionex fat extractor – several labs reported low bias when using this extractor compared to other extractors and other methods in general.
  - Aflatoxin in Indian corn and Dioxins in Palm oil – Aaron Price provided summaries of CFIA’s findings related to those two events.
  - Formation of Laboratory Centers of Excellence among State Labs – Thiex reported that FSMA may drive such consolidation / specialization among state labs. Recommended the formation of a work group to draft a concept paper (Theresa Grant, Robert Sheridan, Aaron Price, Lars Reimann volunteered, may have been others).



Action Item Table:

Responsible	Item	Action	Timing / Status
All	Reviewing Committee Roster	Review the committee roster and let Nancy or Aaron know if you would like to be added to or removed from the committee.	Prior to next meeting
Fat Soluble vitamins WG chairs	Method performance study	Review data received and correlate sample amounts used in the analysis with the observed within lab CV.	Prior to next meeting
D. Berg	Method SLV	Complete method SLV. Distribute for comment and submit for publication	Prior to next meeting
R. Sheridan and mycotoxins working group	Get collaborators and samples	Identify labs interested in participating in ring trial, distribute method and reference samples	Prior to next meeting
WG on "Centers of Excellence"	Organize	Draft concept paper for group review.	Prior to next meeting
S. Webb and Best Practices working group	Phosphorus white paper	S. Webb and her group to complete white paper and submit to the group.	Prior to next meeting
A. Price	LM&SC conference calls	Schedule next conference calls of the LM&SC with members and advisors.	End of September, early-November, and mid-December