### Pet Food Scheme

#### Purpose of Pet Food Scheme

The Pet Food Scheme consists of quarterly rounds of a pet food *ingredient* and includes *ingredients derived from animal and plant sources*.

The Scheme also distributes a fifth round of dry pet food coinciding with the Animal Feed Scheme. This dry pet food alternates each year between a dry dog food and dry cat food.

## Background

#### 2011 AAFCO Mid-Year Meeting Discussion

Separate Program for pet food- We have been asked to consider providing a separate program for pet foods that would incorporate samples of finished pet foods (dry and canned products) and ingredients that are used specifically by their industry. A wish-list of potential samples has been specifically by their industry. A wish-list of potential samples has been provided by a pet food manufacturer that would incorporate a pet food PT sample each month. Discussion raised the following concerns: - State labs performing a variety of testing are already testing a large number of PT samples and may not want the expense or have the time for an additional sample. The existing pet food sample in the regular Program could be maintained and we have the option of offering the pet food sample at reduced cost to State labs that are already in the AAFCO Program and would like to run separate pet food program samples. - Volunteers are busy enough with the regular program; do not want to jeopardize quality of the existing Program. Possible initial "prototype" program offering quarterly samples. Further discussion will continue at the Annual meeting.

#### 2011 AAFCO Annual Meeting Discussion

Program expansion - separate Program for pet food. The committee considered options for providing a separate PT program for the pet food industry. The monthly program would include samples of finished dry and canned pet food products, and pet food ingredients that are not typically included in the regular Program. One of the biggest challenges is to ensure a steady source of bulk sample material. Lars suggested that we approach the Pet Food Institute (PFI) and ask for their involvement. Update: Vicki went to the AAFCO Pet Food committee meeting on Sunday afternoon and told them about the project. The PFI will contact Vicki and arrange a conference call so that they get full information on what is involved. Another challenge is to ensure that the regular Program is not adversely affected by introduction of the new Program. Suggestions from the group included offering the pet food Program as a quarterly "add-on" to the regular Program. [The downside to this option is that the regular Program sample matrix is often not relevant to pet food manufacturers.] Amy from AOCS offered the idea of partnering with AOCS in this Program. AOCS has staff resources and sources of bulk sample material that have been identified in a wish-list from a large pet food manufacturer. How many labs would join the new Program? There are about 20 a large pet food manufacturer. How many labs would join the new Program? There are about 20 labs we are already aware of, and if the Program was accredited, we would have another 20 labs interested (personally communicated to Vicki during the meeting). Action item: interested parties should continue to explore the project and report back to Vicki any relevant details. Vicki will update on discussion with the PFI and AOCS at the January 2012 meeting.

# 2012 AAFCO Annual Meeting August Program expansion: Pet Food Add-on

A quarterly Program for pet food ingredients will be offered in 2013, with the first sample shipment anticipated in February. Members of the regular feed Program will be eligible to sign up for the add-on provided they are in the U.S. and that they complete their registration before December 31st. Action item: Develop a web order form with FASS; market the Program to eligible participants; order sufficient bulk sample in the first week of January.

#### Discussion

- 1. Modify the name of the scheme to Pet Food Ingredients?
- 2. Pet Food Add-on to include a wet canned product?
- 3. Issues with preparation of some ingredients and whole dry foods
  - 1. High Fat Content
  - 2. Molasses