

Proficiency Testing Program Committee Report
2020 AAFCO Annual Meeting
Thursday, August 6, 2020 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Committee Recommendations

- (1) Increase prices 20% for all 4 scopes, effective for 2021 Program Year (January 1, 2021)

Board Recommendations

None

Association Actions

None

Committee Participants

Members Present: Brenda Snodgrass – OK (Chair/Program Manager); Louise Ogden – PT Program (Vice-chair/Quality Manager); Nancy Thiex – PT Program; Bob Kieffer – PT Program; Amy Kieffer – PT Program; Andy Crawford – PT Program, Ametra Berry – GA; Deepika Curole – LA; Tai Ha – NE; Quintin Muenks – MO; Kristi McCallum – CO; Patty Lucas – FL; Manisha Das – FDA/CVM (alternate); Victoria Watkins – KS; Sharon Webb – KY; George Ferguson – NC (Board Liaison); Lei Tang - FDA

Advisors Present: Lars Reimann – AFIA; Ken Riter – PFI, Frank Sikora – Magruder; Susan Wiegert – AFIA; Pat Tovey – PFI (alternate)

Committee Report

Committee Activities

See Action Item Table

Sub-Committee Activities

None

Committee Minutes

1. Welcome & Call to Order – Brenda Snodgrass called the meeting to order at 11:00 pm. The agenda was reviewed and approved.
2. Program Leadership and Administrative Update
 - a. ISO 17043 Accreditation Update (Ogden) – The ANAB assessment is scheduled for December 2020. The assessment will be a virtual visit.
 - b. Customer Surveys (Ogden)
 - i. Soluble/insoluble fiber – The method codes for these methods will be added to the method code list.
 - ii. Animal Drugs – Based on the survey results, we will focus on the top drugs that are still added to animal feed.
 - iii. Pet Food Ingredient Survey to inspectors – Lizette Beckman (AAFCO Pet Food Committee) will resend a survey.
 - iv. Open discussion

1. Lars R. suggested hemp/hemp protein. Since this is not an approved ingredient, the program will hold off on purchasing because of states acceptance of hemp and shipping issues internationally.
 2. N. Thiex noted to the group that many times we can only find items in boxcar load or in tons.
 3. Scheme Discussion
 - a. Program Participation Report – A. Crawford presentation (PT_Participation_2020)
 - i. Discussion on vegetable pomace results
 - ii. No appreciable drop in participation due to COVID-19
 - b. Global Demographics – A. Crawford presentation (PTP_2020_Demographics)
 - c. Open discussion (Q&A)
 - i. We aren't able to provide an advanced list of matrices in each scheme for the entire Program year because the procurement of materials must remain flexible when ordering due to availability in the US Market Place. For example, ordering affected by COVID-19 pandemic; Pet Food Ingredient material selected for first quarterly round was not available. Material was changed to brewer's yeast and order was placed. The day after the material shipped to Able Labs, the ethanol plant shut down due to the pandemic and could no longer supply brewer's yeast for the time being.
 - ii. Canned Pet Food Add-on – Our provider had to delay the production of the sample. Their plant had to change priorities because of COVID-19 pandemic.
 - iii. Food Protein Factor Calculations in regard to vegetable pomace, discussion from K. Riter, L. Reimann, S. Webb, & B. Snodgrass, consensus is to multiply % Nitrogen by 6.25 to calculate % Crude Protein.
 - iv. Arsenic and Selenium for speciation – is there general interest (N. Thiex)? One domestic participant lab on the call (NY) expressed interest. Survey will sent to participating labs to gauge interest.
4. QRMs
 - a. Issue with QRM 201921 (Equine Feed), fat content dropped from 8.01 % to ~ 5.25 %. Further examination found an enzyme (lipase) for breaking down fat was listed on the product label. S. Webb suggested emailing the 2019 participating labs about the fat concentration change in case labs may be using their remaining sample for quality control purposes.
5. Official Publication Analytical Variances (AVs) Update
 - a. B. Snodgrass said the workgroup has not met since the AAFCO 2019 Mid-year Meeting in Albuquerque.
 - i. Snodgrass is currently reviewing Official Publications back to 1939 for history of AVs, including their original intended use, data set sources, evolution of statistical model, and revisions through the 2020 AAFCO Official Publication (OP).
 - ii. In 1968 the newly appointed AAFCO Tolerance Investigator recommended the formation of a Tolerance Committee to be charged with determining uniform tolerances for feed components (analytes) to

guide regulators in enforcement decisions. This committee eventually merged with the Collaborative Check Sample Committee (now named Proficiency Testing Program Committee.)

- iii. The 1974 OP included statistical metrics (based on Collaborative Check Sample Program (CCSP) Data from 1956 through 1977.
- iv. Committee members and advisors discussed the need for regulatory enforcement decisions to be based on total variance of entire process. See comments in Section 6.b.i of this report.
- v. University of Kentucky has been awarded a field sampling project funded by AAFCO to study variance in field sampling.
- vi. The AAFCO Laboratory Methods & Services Committee is currently working on a Laboratory Preparation and Test Portion Selection project to study variance in laboratory sampling.
- vii. It is the general consensus of the Committee and Advisors that Analytical Variance is the smallest contributor to combined measurement uncertainty, also called Global Estimate of Error in Sampling Theory.

6. Roundtable

- a. Add test code for RANDOX mycotoxin to the method code list.
- b. Reviewed the questions in SLIDO and Chat Box
 - i. Analytical Variances
 1. F. Sikora commented that measurement uncertainty (to include field sampling, laboratory prep, lab sampling, and analytical variance) from each individual lab may be the way to [determine regulatory compliance vs. non-compliance]. This is the current way of doing it [i.e. quantify error associated with a test result according to guidance from domestic and international organizations]. The hemp industry is using [this approach] for THC compliance/non-compliance decisions.
 2. N. Thiex commented that a Laboratory Sampling PT is underway which may provide additional information

7. Meeting Adjourned at 1:00 pm

Action Item Table

Responsible	Item	Action	Timing / Status
Committee Chair & Vice-chair/ FASS IT	Increase Scheme prices	All PT schemes will increase in price by 20% beginning with the 2021 Program year.	By November 1, 2020 for 2021 subscriptions/ In Progress
Committee Chair (Program Manager) & AV WG Volunteers	Analytical Variations from Official Publication	Internal Report on AV misuse, obsolescence, and proposed replacement/guidance.	2021 Annual Meeting/Paused due to Chair/PM availability/Will resume in ~ January 2021
Committee Chair (Program Manager) and Vice-Chair (Program Quality Manager) & Pet Food Industry Volunteers	Canned Pet Food Add-on	Source canned pet food material (dog) for inclusion in 2020 Program Year.	By November 2020/In Progress/Industry Volunteer to determine resources needed and availability of production facility since pandemic interruptions are still ongoing.

Appendix I: All Attendees

FIRST	LAST	Affiliation
Matt	Anspach	Eurofins FII
Josh	Arbaugh	WV Dept. of Ag
Stacy	Aylesworth	CA Dept of Food & Ag
Jennie	Bailie	Milk Specialties
Jared	Bartlett	ATC Scientific
Kyle	Bennett	Neogen
Ametra	Berry (*)	GA Dept of Ag
Nancy	Collette	Vicam
Andy	Crawford (†,^)	AAFCO PTP
Deepika	Curole (*)	LSU Dept. of Ag. Chem.
Dan	Danielson	FDA/OP
Manisha	Das (*)	FDA/CVM (Alternate Rep)
Clint	Decker	Vicam
Sally	Flowers	Nebraska Dept of Ag
James	Gong	Diana Pet food
Tai	Ha (*)	NE Dept. of Ag
Tami	Harris	Ralco Nutrition
Tim	Herrman	OTSC
William	Hock	NYS Dept. Ag & Market
Jeff	Horst	Agri-King Inc.
Alexis	Huyghues-Depointes	JM Smucker
Dorota	Inerowicz	OISC
Brenda	Keavey	WV Dept. of Ag
Bob	Kieffer (†,^)	AAFCO PTP
Amy	Kieffer (†,^)	AAFCO PTP
Mary	Koestner	Missouri Dept of Ag
Mark	LaBlanc	LA Dept. of Ag
Joyce	Lewis	Louisiana Dept of Ag and Chemistry
Patty	Lucas (*)	FL Dept. of Ag. & Cons. Serv.
Bozena	Lusiak	Nestle Purina
Kristi	McCallum (*)	CO Dept of Ag
Quintin	Muenks (*)	MO Dept. of Ag
Van	Nguyen	Louisiana Dept of Ag and Chemistry
Samuel	Nobo	KS Dept. of Ag
Louise	Ogden (†,*)	AAFCO PTP
Gregory	Olson	Louisiana Dept of Ag and Chemistry
Ruiging	Pamboukian	FDA
Stephanie	Peterson	Midwest Laboratories

FIRST	LAST	Affiliation
Lise-Anne	Prescott	CFIA
Lars	Reimann (^)	Eurofins & AFIA (Primary Rep)
Jeff	Rich	Romer Labs
Ken L.	Riter (^)	Nestle Purina Analytical Labs & Pet Food Institute (Primary Rep)
Yvonne	Salfinger	APHL
Leo	Schilling	Eurofins CAL
Brian	Schuld	Eurofins Scientific
Lauren	Smith	UKDRS
Brenda	Snodgrass (†,*)	AAFCO PTP/OK Dept of Ag
Taylor	Stadler	Eurofins FI
Colin	Stead	Randox
William	Sun	NPIC
Michele	Swarbrick (*)	MN Dept of Agriculture
John	Szpylka (^)	Merieux NutriSciences
Nancy	Thiex (†,*)	AAFCO PTP
Melanie	Titley (*)	CFIA
Thomas	Trupo	WV Dept. of Ag
Victoria	Watkins (*)	KS Dept. of Ag
Sharon	Webb, Ph.D. (*)	UK Div. of Reg. Serv.
Debra	Williams	Tropiclean Pet Products

† PT Program Staff
 * Committee Member
 ^ Committee Advisor