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Remember to visit our website www.nzfma.org.nz

Mill Run

Welcome to this, the first issue, of **Feed Forum**. A new publication from the New Zealand Feed Manufacturers Association, **Feed Forum** is intended to supplement the recently revised NZFMA website and to help increase communication flows between our members and the NZFMA office and Executive.

This issue of **Feed Forum** includes information updates on the new NZFMA website, ongoing consultations with Biosecurity New Zealand and the New Zealand Food Safety Authority and a "heads-up" on the upcoming Biosecurity New Zealand review of the Ruminant Protein Regulations.

Page 3 features an update on the recent NZFMA agreement to participate in the Cereal Performance Trials.

The "Feeding Ruminants for Profit" Project is a new initiative recommended by the Executive and we are pleased to

provide an update on this project on page 4.

A feature we hope to include in upcoming editions of the newsletter is an Industry Comment. We would welcome any feedback and suggestions for further articles or information for inclusion in future editions of **Feed Forum**.

The annual NZFMA Regulatory Seminar will be held in Wellington on the 18th of July 2007. Now is your opportunity to inform the office if there is any particular topic you would like addressed.

Members will be aware that feed manufacturing both within New Zealand and internationally is increasingly in the spotlight, with consumers seeking increased assurance of food safety. New Zealand's dependence on export markets and the sensitivity of those overseas consumers to food safety and animal welfare related issues is a key driver in the

development of New Zealand's regulatory approach. This was highlighted in the recent NZFSA review of Animal Feeds. Similarly, market sensitivity, be it overseas or local, is a key concern for producers.

Feed Manufacturers can play a significant role in helping producers to address food safety concerns and thus add value for customers by providing a consistent and good quality feed through the implementation of HACCP and GMP as laid out in the NZFMA Code of Practice. With the increasing scrutiny on both feed manufacturers and producers, the NZFMA continues to encourage the maintenance, implementation of and adherence to the NZFMA Code of Good Manufacturing Practice.

Finally, we look forward to receiving any comments and feedback on the Newsletter that you would be kind enough to provide.

New Website Launched

The new NZFMA website was launched on the 12th of February 2007.

By now, all members should have received their login name and password to access the new site. If you are a member and haven't as yet received your login, please contact natalie@pianz.org.nz.

The new site has been designed with the intention of providing a one-stop information source

for our members and a convenient way for the NZFMA office to provide information updates to our members.

The new website also contains detailed information on relevant regulatory documents which are open for consultation, draft NZFMA submissions and final submissions made by the NZFMA.

We encourage members to comment on consultation docu-

ments and submissions as this is one way of ensuring that the NZFMA works on your behalf.

The quarterly and annual statistics, links, Codes of Practice and other information available on the old site will still be available on the new site.

If there is something you'd particularly like to see on the site, please let us know.

We hope you find the new site useful!

EU revises guidelines for mycotoxins in animal feeds

Mycotoxins are secondary metabolites produced by a variety of moulds that grow on crops before or after harvest and on feeds and other organic materials during storage.

In temperate climates, like New Zealand, the mycotoxins of major concern are the trichothecenes, (including deoxynivalenol (DON), nivalenol (NIV), T-2 toxin & HT-2 toxin), zearalenone (ZEN), the fumonisins (FB) predominantly fumonisin B₁ (FB₁), the ochratoxins, predominantly ochratoxin A (OA), and ergot. Aflatoxins (AF) are of concern in food and feedstuffs imported

from warmer tropical/subtropical regions.

The FAO (2004) estimated that 25% of the world's food crops are contaminated by mycotoxins each year.

Regulatory standards and guidelines

The knowledge that mycotoxins can have serious effects on humans and animals has led many countries to establish regulations on mycotoxins to safeguard the health of humans, as well as the economical interests of producers and traders (FAO, 2004). However, setting mycotoxin regulations is a complex activity, which involves many factors and interested parties and there is no single internationally accepted regulation on maximum levels in commodities and animal feeds.

Recent European Commission guideline changes

The European Commission recently reviewed their guidelines for mycotoxins in the Official Journal of the European Union and recommended six amendments to the previous standards:

1. Increase monitoring for the presence of DON,

ZEN, OA, FB₁ and FB₂ and T-2 and HT-2 toxin in cereals and cereal products intended for animal feeding and compound feedingstuffs.

2. Ensure that samples are simultaneously analysed for the presence of DON, ZEN, OA, FB₁ and FB₂ and T-2 and HT-2 toxin to allow the extent of co-occurrence to be assessed.
3. Pay particular attention to the presence of those mycotoxins in by- or co-products from the production of food intended for animal feeding.
4. Ensure that the analytical results are provided on a regular basis to the commission for compilation into a single database.
5. Ensure that the guidance values, as set out in the Annex, are applied for judging the acceptability of compound feed and cereal and cereal products for animal feeding
6. Ensure, in particular, that feed business operators use in their Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) system the guidance values to determine the critical limits at critical control points which separate acceptability from unacceptability, for the prevention, elimination or reduction of identified hazards.

..... To page 3





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Industry Profiles

Jeffrey Winmill: NZFMA Chairman

A member of the NZFMA board for the last 3 years, Jeff accepted the role of NZFMA Chairman in November 2006.

Jeff has a long history in the poultry industry dating back to 1975 when he started work on his family's poultry farm. In 1996 he joined forces with the

Michael Guthrie and the late Howard Paterson to form Mainland Poultry and is currently National Operations Manager for Mainland Poultry and PCL Feeds.

With the new ruminant protein regulations, the Australian drought and global grain prices reaching record highs, Jeff sees some challenging times ahead for the compound feed industry in New Zealand.

Michael Brooks: NZFMA Executive Director

Michael is well known to NZFMA members, having held the position of Executive Director of the NZFMA, PIANZ and EPF since October 2001. Michael came to the poultry industries after 11 years in the red meat industry.

Michael's role as Executive Director has afforded him a

great deal of variety. From lobbying to public relations to technical issues, he never knows what a new day will bring.



His career highlights within the NZFMA include the resolution of the ruminant protein regulations issue, and the

increase in NZFMA membership over the last six years.

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New Zealand regulations

Whilst there are currently no regulatory limits set for mycotoxins in animal feeds in New Zealand, under the Agricultural Compounds and Veterinary Medicine Act (1997), the Agricultural Compounds and Veterinary Medicines Regulations (2001) and the Agricultural Compounds and Veterinary Medicines (Animal Feed) Order 2006, any one manufacturing animal feed is obliged to ensure that their products are fit for purpose as an animal feed.

Products can only be considered fit for purpose if they do not:

1. Produce residues in primary produce that fail to comply with applicable food residue standards set in or under any enactment
2. Result in toxic reactions causing pain or distress in the animal
3. Result in malnutrition causing pain or distress in the animal
4. Result in physical harm causing pain or distress in the animal
5. Contain pathogenic micro-organisms at levels that could cause disease resulting in pain and distress in the animal.

Feed Manufacturers are therefore encouraged to consider the potential for mould and/or mycotoxin contamination of raw materials used sourced for use in complete feeds and take steps to address this where necessary. Some guidelines for the Maximum Acceptable Levels of mycotoxins (from www.afma.co.za) in animal feeds for various species are detailed above for reference purposes.

Guidelines to Maximum Acceptable Levels for Mycotoxins in Animal Feeds

Species	Aflatoxins	Fumonisin	DON	Zearalenon	T-2	Ochratoxins
Poultry						
Broilers	20 ppb	50 ppm	2 ppm	>800 ppm	0.4 ppm	0.5 ppm
Layers	20 ppb	15 ppm	5 ppm		1 ppm	0.5 ppm
Ducks	20 ppb	50 ppm	2 ppm			
Swine						
Nursing	20 ppb	10 ppm	0.3 ppm	0.2 ppm	0.2 ppm	0.2 ppm
Growing	20 ppb	10 ppm	0.3 ppm	0.2 ppm	0.2 ppm	
Sow	20 ppb	10 ppm	0.3 ppm	0.1 ppm	0.2 ppm	
Ruminants						
Dairy	20 ppb	15 ppm	0.3 ppm	0.25 ppm	0.1 ppm	
Beef	20 ppb	30 ppm	0.5 ppm	0.25 ppm	0.1 ppm	
Sheep	20 ppb	30 ppm	0.5 ppm	0.25 ppm		
Horse	20 ppb	1 ppm	1 ppm	0.1 ppm		
Rabbit	20 ppb	1 ppm	1 ppm	0.5 ppm		
Dogs	20 ppb	5 ppm	1 ppm	0.5 ppm		

NZFMA to join Cereal Performance trials

The Cereal Performance Trials (CPT) is a collaborative for evaluation of advanced cereal breeding lines, operated by collaborating New Zealand breeding and seed companies and managed by a CPT Committee administered by the Arable Section of the New Zealand Plant Breeder and Research Association.

A key outcome of the CPT is the objective measurement of relative agronomic and quality performance of commercial and pre-commercial cereal breeding lines available to the NZ arable industry across appropriate production regions.

As the New Zealand Feed Manufacturers recognise the role that local grain growers play in meeting New Zealand's require-

ments for both feed and milling wheat. Similarly, the contribution of solid research such as that performed under the guidance of the CPT Committee to the development of new grain cultivars for use in New Zealand is viewed by the NZFMA as important for the long term sustainability of the New Zealand grain industry. The NZFMA is therefore excited to be playing an active role in the CPTs.

The New Zealand Feed Manufacturers proposal for evaluation of the CPT grain varieties obtained from the 2006 / 2007 growing season include

- An evaluation of the physical characteristics and yield of the grain
- NIR analysis for protein, moisture and

amino acids and proximate analysis for fat

- Determination of the soluble / insoluble fibre component of selected grains
- Determination of AME and starch digestibility for certain grains.

This work will be carried out over the coming year in conjunction with research providers such as Crop and Food and Massey University and Industry experts.

The NZFMA is confident that participation in the CPTs will enable the development of a comprehensive database which will allow for the ongoing development of cereal cultivars which have benefits for both arable farmers and feed millers.



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Current Consultations

Previously, NZFMA members have been notified of the opportunity to comment on various amendments to regulations or other documents by email.

In an effort to reduce the number of bulk emails which members receive, the Member's Section of the new NZFMA website contains a page dedicated to consultation (www.nzfma.org.nz/members/consultation.php). The page contains details of all current documents affecting NZFMA members which are open for consultation and submissions as well as draft and final submissions made by the NZFMA on behalf of our members.

We encourage you to visit the site and submit your comments.

There are no issues affecting NZFMA members which are currently open for consultation. However, the NZFMA expect that Biosecurity New Zealand will shortly be seeking further comment on the Import Health Standard for Animal Feeds of Plant Origin as well as on proposed amendments to the Ruminant Protein Regulations.

Look out for your opportunity to comment.

NZFMA Members will soon get the opportunity to comment on the Biosecurity New Zealand Review of Ruminant Protein Regulations.

Ruminant Protein Regulations Review

Biosecurity

New Zealand are currently undertaking a review of the Ruminant Protein Regulations (1999).

Biosecurity New Zealand Scientific Advisors have already completed their review of the regulations and a draft of the proposed regulations are currently being reviewed by MAF Policy.

which will be under consideration is the definition of feed. The current definition does not include any product produced in a premises that does not produce, render or utilise ruminant protein. This has been lead to some confusion, in particular around the labeling requirements for animal feeds produced in ruminant protein free mills.

Another aspect of the current regulations which is under consideration is the minimum requirements for labeling.

The NZFMA office is looking forward to the opportunity to comment on the draft amendments to the Ruminant Protein Regulations. NZFMA members will be updated on any developments via the website and future issues of **Feed Forum**.

The Review of the regulations has been undertaken by Biosecurity New Zealand in recognition of some of the practical issues associated with the implementation of and adherence to the regulations.

An example of one of the issues

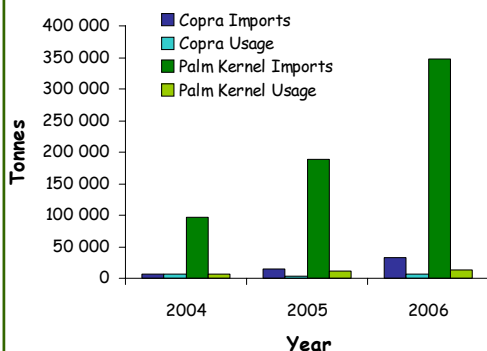


Feeding Ruminants for Profit



The NZFMA recently established a Dairy Supplement working party with the intention of providing a generic NZFMA approach to the increasing use of supplementary feeds in dairy production systems.

A review of the palm kernel and copra import statistics reported by Statistics New Zealand as included in the Annual NZFMA Statistics (www.nzfma.org.nz/Members/stats_annual.php) illustrates



how significant on-farm usage of these supplementary feeds has become. In contrast to the relatively constant use of both copra and palm kernel by NZFMA mem-

bers, the tonnage of imported palm kernel meals has increased by more than 300 % since 2004, whilst copra imports have increased by 500 %, albeit from a much lower base.

In recognition of the increasing producer demand for supplementary feeds, the NZFMA felt it would be pertinent to develop a generic resource detailing the benefits of supplementary feeding for use by both members and producers.

The NZFMA Dairy Supplement working group of Alun Faulkner (NRM), John Musgrave (Harvey Farms) and Glenys McRae (PCL Feeds) are in the final stages of development of a generic brochure which details the advantages of feeding professionally formulated and nutritionally balanced supplements at varying stages in the production cycle.

We expect that the developmental work will shortly be completed and NZFMA members will be notified as soon as this resource is available.

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