



January 10, 2002

Dear Nasda Members:

On behalf of the Association of American Feed Control Officials (AAFCO), I wish you and your staff a safe and productive New Year. I would also like to take a moment of your time to list some of AAFCO's achievements during the past year:

- ❑ The AAFCO Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) Task Force has developed and provided educational materials to assist states in achieving compliance with the ban on feeding prohibited protein to ruminant animals. These educational tools can be shared with the feed industry, livestock producers and consumers.
- ❑ AAFCO has adopted a new comprehensive BSE Policy that encourages states to participate with the federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in conducting BSE inspections at feed manufacturing establishments. This policy statement recommends that individual state feed regulatory programs incorporate a BSE inspection component into their routine feed inspections. Information obtained from those inspections would be shared with FDA to be compiled in a national database.
- ❑ AAFCO has provided both oral and written comments to FDA on proposed changes to the 1997 regulation on BSE, 21 CFR Part 589.2000, and written comment to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) on the development of a report mandated by the Animal Disease Risk Assessment, Prevention, and Control Act from the USDA. Copies of the letters containing our comments are available on the AAFCO Website at www.aafco.org.
- ❑ In a concerted effort sponsored by AAFCO and FDA, state feed regulatory programs participated in an "Internet Surf Day" to find and educate the distributors of animal feed, through the Internet, of the registration and licensing requirements of individual states and bring them into compliance. Fertilizer and pesticide state regulatory programs are modeling similar efforts after AAFCO's Surf Day.
- ❑ AAFCO has developed and incorporated into their Official Publication, draft policy, guidance and sample letters on uniform enforcement of marketed ingredients that do not have proper approval and/or are distributed with unsubstantiated claims that may not be safe for their intended use. AAFCO will provide an educational session at the upcoming Feed Administrators Seminar for a coordinated enforcement effort later this year.

- ❑ AAFCO has participated at the Codex Alimentarius Commission meetings in the development of the Proposed Draft Code of Practice on Good Animal Feeding, so that our members have an opportunity to provide input on possible global regulations and/or policies that would affect our regulated industry and the agricultural community.

These are only a few of our Association's accomplishments. However, if you are interested in more detailed information and additional AAFCO activities, I would be happy to provide them to you at your convenience.

Please note that the above mentioned accomplishments would not be possible without the active participation from your feed regulatory staff at AAFCO meetings and seminars. For this reason, I would like to ask for the continued support of your staff's involvement in AAFCO, a volunteer association that has been successful in providing services and achieving uniformity among states on feed regulations since 1909. AAFCO hosts four meetings per year that allow the opportunity for all levels of your feed regulatory staff to participate.

- ❑ Annual and mid-year meetings provide an opportunity to interact with representatives of the industries that we regulate to hear views and invite their cooperation to achieve the highest degree of compliance with applicable regulations. Guidance and model recommendations formulated at these meetings impact consumers, feed industry and regulatory programs in every state.
- ❑ The Feed Administrator's Seminar allows feed program administrators to discuss issues and problem solve without outside distraction. Many new regulatory concepts have originated from this meeting.
- ❑ The Investigator/Inspector Workshop provides regional training to state field regulatory staff in the areas of feed, fertilizer and seed.

Thank you for your attention to my request. If AAFCO may be of any assistance, and if I may provide any additional information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



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