



An Update from the AAFCO Annual Meeting

August 15, 2009

The Association of American Feed Control Officials Proudly Celebrates its 100th Year at the AAFCO Annual Meeting in Washington DC – the site of the first AAFCO meeting in 1909. Current AAFCO members were joined by many of the association’s past-presidents and life members to acknowledge the association’s 100 years of public service. Congratulations were received from industry representatives, including National Grain and Feed Association, the Pet Food Institute and American Feed Industry Association, as well as Dr. David A. Acheson, FDA Assistant Commissioner for Food Safety and Dr. Bernadette Dunham, Director of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration’s Center for Veterinarian Medicine.

We were honored that Dr. Acheson decided to spend part of his last day with FDA at the AAFCO Centennial Annual Meeting. The Association expressed its appreciation of Dr. Acheson’s efforts in dispersing the food safety message nationally and internationally. Dr. Acheson has joined a consulting firm that will allow him to remain involved with food safety issues.

A few dedicated members unselfishly contributed their time and expertise to the publication of the AAFCO “Centennial Publication” that highlights the association’s milestones and leadership. The “Centennial Publication” was distributed to meeting attendees and is still available upon request.

During the **General Session of the Annual Meeting**, the membership passed the following initiatives: The Model Non-Commercial Feed Bill, The Model Good Manufacturing Practices Regulations for All Feed and Feed Ingredients; and an amendment to the Association’s by-laws to change the terms served by the AAFCO officers.

The AAFCO Model Non-Commercial Feed Bill was adopted by the AAFCO membership as a stand alone bill. In other words, it was not incorporated into the AAFCO Model Feed Bill and therefore would not be automatically adopted by states that reference the AAFCO Model Feed Bill in their statutes. States may elect to adopt the Model Non-Commercial Feed Bill to establish the authority to regulate on-farm feed manufacturing.

After many years in the making, a key component of the AAFCO Feed Safety Plan, the **AAFCO Model GMP Regulations** was passed by the membership. The new regulations if adopted will empower the state regulatory agencies to inspect non-medicated feed and feed ingredient manufacturers to the standards established by the new regulations. In those states that adopt the new regulations, manufacturers of non-medicated feed and feed ingredients will have to take into account animal and human safety when developing their good manufacturing practices program.

The new AAFCO Model GMP Regulations with the new AAFCO Model Non-Commercial Feed Bill provides a more comprehensive regulatory approach in support of feed safety, food safety, and promotes human and animal health.

The membership voted to adopt changes to the association by-laws that **amend the terms of office for the association's officers** to coincide with the calendar year, January 1st through December 31st. Previously, the terms of office began and ended at the adjournment of the annual meeting. This change was made to avoid the confusion of identifying the association's officers and board of directors in the AAFCO Official Publication which is issued every January. The terms of the present board of directors and officers end December 31, 2010 to accommodate this change.

Also during the general meeting, the **AAFCO membership elected its officers and board of directors**. The newly elected officers and directors who will serve AAFCO until December 31, 2010: Immediate Past President – Andy Gray of Montana; President – Kent Kitade of California; President-Elect – Chad Linton of West Virginia; Secretary-Treasurer – Rod Noel of Indiana, Director – Kevin Armbrust of Mississippi; Director – Bob Waltz of Indiana; and the newest member on the board of directors – Meagan Davis of Kentucky.

Mr. Ricky Schroeder of Texas who steps down as Immediate Past-President of AAFCO is recognized for his dedication as an AAFCO officer and board of director.

At the annual meeting, the Long Range Planning Committee briefly discussed **reducing the number of AAFCO committees**. The new committees would be more focused and efficient by forming workgroups and taskforces, charging them with a specific task or goal and timeline. The Long Range Planning Committee formed a small workgroup to investigate the possibilities.

An **Education Taskforce** was formed by the AAFCO Board of Directors to work with the board of directors and committee chairs to identify and secure subject matter experts for education and outreach projects. This taskforce will be chaired by Meagan Davis. The Education Taskforce was assigned to find speakers for the 2010 Midyear Meeting in Los Angeles on the FDA-CVM pilot GRAS Notification Program.

The Pet Food Committee is evaluating the feasibility of conducting another **Pet Food Labeling Workshop**. Stay tuned for the updates. AAFCO in conjunction with industry representatives successfully conducted a Pet Food Labeling Workshop prior to the 2008 AAFCO Annual Meeting in Nashville, Tennessee.

Save these dates:

AAFCO Midyear Meeting	January 19 - 21, 2010	Crowne Plaza in Redondo Beach, CA
AAFCO Feed Administrators Seminar	April 20 – 22, 2010	Hickory Knob State Park, McCormick, SC
AAFCO Annual Meeting	August 2010	Portland, OR