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Dates

August	Teagasc see link
21 st & 22 nd Aug	FSAI Science of Food Safety
5th & 6th Sept	Director General College
24th Sept	Climate Change Work Shop
8 th Oct	Premix/Mineral Feed Committee
9 th Oct	Animal Nutrition Committee
12 th Nov	Workshop on trade impact of pesticide residues

Consultations/ Websites

Crop Forecast	DAFM Reg. & App. FBO's
DAFM FBO Forms	DAFM Brexit
DAFM AMR	DAFM Trader Notices
FSAI AMR	Pig Innovation

General News

Meeting with DAFM



IGFA met with DAFM's new Principle Officer Shelia Nolan and her team in July. John Muldowney (DAFM) presented on climate change (CC) and a discussion on CC task force took place. Mary Canty (DAFM) presented on the new [Official Controls Regulation](#) (OCR), which will start to apply from 14th December 2019. This will replace [R882/2004](#). John Clarke (DAFM) circulated information on latest Fertiliser regulations. Barry O'Reilly (DAFM) gave an update on June SCoPAFF meeting. This presentation will be made available to all igfa member again at the Climate Change Work shop

Deirdre Webb presented briefly on "Assurance along the chain" and Cornelia O'Connell outlined a brief over view of "on line HACCP course for feed manufacturers developed by IGFA", which has been reviewed by Industry experts and the benefits of using the industry developed codes by the authorities such as the code of good labelling. The need for adequate notice periods for future HFAA was stressed. RASFF were discussed, particular interest salmonella. DAFM to follow up with the commission as to why a considerable number of salmonella RASFF's are classified as "not serious" under risk decision.

DAFM agreed to hold an import/export seminar early October and to review and make recommendations on the on line HACCP course. *(In 2018, the total number of non-compliances found during DAFM inspections of FBO's was 680, comprising mostly minor infringements. Serious Infringements were not detected in 2017-2018. The highest number of infringements related to HACCP*

(50% of total number of infringements) and hygiene (20%). Traceability and labelling related infringements were about 10% each).

We will revert with the date and location of the import/export seminar asap.

European Parliament Structure

The European Parliament is made up of 751 Members elected in the 28 Member States of the enlarged European Union. Since 1979, MEPs have been elected by direct universal suffrage for a five-year period. The table below outlines the **ENVI / AGRI and Trade Committees 2019-2024**.

Agricultural Committee	Chair N. Lins (Germany EPP)	Full member list click here
Environment & Public Health	Chair P. Canfin (French Renew EU)	Full members list click here
International Trade	Chair B. Lange (Germany S&D)	Full member list click here

To search for your MEP's by country click on this [link](#)

Plant Breeding

"[Grow Scientific Progress](#)" believe that the current regulatory system results in an implicit ban of **new plant breeding techniques**. These new techniques are valuable tools for breeding more resilient crops, with fewer resources and in less time: a much-needed advancement in times of climate change and prospected food insecurity. Starting on the 25th of July, they will gather one million signatures from EU citizens who support the initiative. To support click this [link](#) and complete form

Deforestation



Deforestation must be decoupled from EU Consumption.

On July 23rd, the Commission released its 21-page communication on deforestation titled “**STEPPING UP EU ACTION TO PROTECT AND RESTORE THE WORLD’S FORESTS**”.

The aim is to launch an assessment of possible new regulatory measures to limit the impact of EU consumption on deforestation and forest degradation. It presents five key priorities

1. Reduce the footprint of EU consumption and encourage the use of products from deforestation free regions.
2. To work with third countries to support initiatives to develop sustainable forest supply chains.
3. Encourage forest regeneration.
4. Encourage “green finance” for sustainable forest programmes.
5. Support the availability and transparency of information on supply chain and to encourage research and innovation in the sector.

The Communication clearly indicates that the agricultural supply chain must play its part and will expect industry and stakeholders to develop deforestation free chains. The EU grain oilseed and feed industry, responded to the publication by welcoming the initiatives to develop a “permanent system of dialogue between producing countries and the EU on the issue”. It is anticipated that this initiative will better coordinate the many initiatives already in place.

The EU feed Industry claimed it is committed to removing commodities from their supply chain that are at risk of contributing to deforestation and degradation.

FEFAC pointed to its “soy sourcing guidelines and bench mark” and a voluntary commitment by over 160 feed compounders to responsible sourcing of soybean meal.

An extensive FAQ ,fact sheet and press release from the Commission is available [here](#).

Exports / Imports Jan – May

Igfa web site has been updated with the latest import/export figures

<http://igfa.ie/RegulationsMembersonly.html>

(password igfareg)

GMP+ Early Warning – Be alert

Via EWS GMP+ International received several notifications about batches of feed material contaminated with **Ambrosia spp** in the first months of 2019. The batches of products in question included: Millet, Soybean, Sorghum (Milo) and Sunflower seeds; in most cases the origin of the batches was France (harvest 2018). It is to be expected that more contaminated batches are found. Ragweed (Ambrosia) is a serious concern because it has harmful effects on agriculture as a crop weed, and effects on public health as a major allergen. A single plant may produce a billion grains of pollen per season – pollen which may remain airborne for days, affecting people hundreds of kilometers away. In addition, Ambrosia may cross-sensitize patients to other allergens, including food allergens. Ambrosia also affects crop production as a weed, “bird feed” (unprocessed) plays an important role in introducing Ambrosia to new, previously not infested areas.

For maximum permitted level (**MPL**) for Ambrosia spp see section VI Harmful botanical impurities of the undesirable regulation Directive 2002/32/EC page 19 of this [link](#)

GMP+ International are also asking its members to be alert for batches of sunflower acid oil (produced in Eastern Europe), which are possible contaminated with pesticides Chlorpyrifos and Metalaxyl. Lately, these contaminations are detected in products mainly from Ukraine. The maximum residue limit (**MRL**) in sunflower acid oils of Chlorpyrifos is 0.025 mg/kg and the MRL of Metalaxyl is 0.045 mg/kg. Exceedance of these limits was detected in the first half of this year in several batches, from different producers.

RASFF July 1st-31st

Total	350	Feed Premixtures	0
		Feed additives	0
Food	305	Feed material	21
		Fats and Oils	0
Food contact materials	15	Compound Feed	2
		Herbs & Spices	0
Feed Total	30	Pet food	7
		Nuts, nut products & seeds	0

Ireland noted in 3 alerts 1 compound feed 2 pet food see [RasffFeedJuly2019](#)

Technical News

General Food Law Amended



The EU has amended "**General Food Law regulation**" (178/2002) after a lengthy consultation and review driven in part by the furore over glyphosate, the world's most

commonly used weed killer and the initiative by citizens to demand access to more information on scientific dossiers.

Igfa members will recall that the reauthorisation of glyphosate ran into difficulty when IACRS (Inter-Agency Committee on Radiation Safety) issued a scientific opinion advising that the active ingredient may be carcinogenic. The advice was based on limited publicly available data and was not based on a full assessment of extensive authorisation dossiers. Never the less, the new regulation, also amends eight legislative acts dealing with specific food chain sectors, and will be published on the Official Journal of the European Union, but will mostly apply as of **2021**.

Under the new rules, **studies** and information supporting a request for a scientific output by EFSA are to be made **public automatically** when an application by a food business operator is validated or found admissible. **Confidential information** will be protected in duly justified circumstances and confidentiality requests will be **assessed by EFSA**. Other measures introduced by the revamped General Food Law include:

- the possibility for the Commission to ask **EFSA to commission studies** in exceptional circumstances to verify evidence used in its risk assessment process
- a new **database** of studies commissioned by food business operators
- a more **active role for member states** in helping EFSA attract more and the best scientists to participate in scientific panels
- **better risk communication** among all actors - the Commission, EFSA, member states and public stakeholders
- **fact-finding missions** by the Commission to ensure the compliance of laboratories/studies with relevant standards.

Industry may in future find the initiative, to improve risk communication across the food chain, places a responsibility on various institutional actors to "get off the fence on science" and should be welcomed. IGFA will monitor the progress of this new regulation through to implementation.

Pesticide Residue Report

EFSA 2017 Pesticide residue report shows that 95.9% of samples were found to be free of pesticides or to contain traces that fall within the legally permitted levels. In other words, legal limits were breached in 4.1% of the samples. This is a slight increase from 2016 but must be put in the context that more samples were taken from third country products. Third country products are showing higher levels of non-compliance than EU products (7.6 % versus 2.6 %). The report is based on 88,000 samples from across the EU and Iceland and Norway. Fish and feed were not included due to no MRL being set within [Regulation \(EC\) No 396/2005](#) for these products. Several non-approved pesticides were found but these were in both third country and EU products. In general food products of animal origin perform better with 87.5% of products free from pesticide residues and only 1.1% of samples in exceedance of the MRL. The highest levels of exceedances were in eggs and milk. In vegetables 45.8 % contained residues with 4.8% above the MRL.

Glyphosate/Barley/Soybean

Glyphosate was subject to increased testing in 2017 by member states. In total 25 member states submitted 8,672 samples that were analysed for glyphosate residue, of these samples, 97% were non quantifiable for glyphosate residues, 2.2 % of samples were found to contain residues above the LOQ but below the MRL and 0.2 % of samples breached the MRL. Of interest to us are the results for Barley (39 below the LOQ / 12 between the LOQ and MRL and 0 above the MRL) and Soybean (16 below the LOQ and 1 sample between the LOQ and MRL 0 above the MRL). The highest levels of glyphosate were found in dried lentils. **Overall, this indicates a high level of compliance by farmers for glyphosate use. The report unlike 2016 report does not recommend increased sampling of feed or feed grains.**

Veterinary Medicine Residue Report

2017 report of monitoring data on the presence of residues of veterinary medicines and contaminants in animals and animal-derived food show high rates of compliance with recommended safety levels. Presence of prohibited substances was also low. Samples that exceeded maximum levels was 0.35% for 2017. This figure is within the range of 0.25%-0.37% reported over the previous 10 yrs. Non-compliance for chemical contaminants such as metals was higher than for other groups of substances, with cadmium, lead, mercury and copper most frequently identified. This is the first time that EFSA has collected these data from Member States; in the past the information was submitted to the

European Commission. Harmonised data will allow comparisons to be made across years and enable better analysis of the risks to human and animal health. The data will shortly be available on the [Knowledge Junction](#) a data tool developed by EFSA to support transparent evaluation of data by risk managers.

SCoPAFF Meeting

The Animal Nutrition (AN) Section of the Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed (SCoPAFF) held their last meeting on 24-26 June 2019. The full minutes have not been published yet, therefore we will bring another update in next months Feed issues. The following are some of the topics at discussed at this meeting and some follow up links.

Register of feed additives The EU Commission is working on a draft regulation meant to clean the EU register of feed additives in withdrawing authorisations for those feed additives for which no application for authorization was introduced or an application was introduced but withdrawn at a later stage. The draft reg, which is likely to be voted at Nov. SCoPAFF will also decide on the status of certain grey zone substances, i.e. certain substances authorised as feed additives until now will be declared as not being feed additives (and, therefore, assumed to be eligible to a feed material status), whereas others with a double status will see their feed material status withdrawn. Some of these substances presently listed on EU Catalogue of feed materials will be withdrawn from the catalogue on the occasion of the 4th upgrade of the Catalogue of feed materials, expected to happen by the end of 2020

Dietetic Feed: The EU Commission presented the latest version of the draft regulation on nutritional purposes meant to replace Directive 2008/38/EC. This draft has now been published 8th July see [link](#)

This draft Regulation is open for feedback from the public until 5 August 2019 see [link](#)

Preservatives: DG SANTE reminded that technological and sensory additives are specifically permitted for use in feed (*article 6 of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003*) and, therefore, are not permitted for use in water. As regards salts of organic acids with more than 4 carbon atoms, currently covered by a generic entry in the EU Catalogue of feed materials, their feed material status should be considered on a case by case, depending on whether they contribute significantly or not to the supply of nutrients (macrominerals).

Additives - New Functional Groups of Feed Additives Commission [Regulation \(EU\) 2019/962](#) has been published. (*amending Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003*)

This Regulation introduces two new functional groups of feed additives:

- 'other technological additives' within the category 'technological additives'; and
- 'physiological condition stabilisers' within the category 'zootechnical additives'

Next SCoPAFF meeting 9-11 September 2019

Feed Additives Register

[\(Register 272 edition 6/2019 published 26/06/2019\)](#)

Animal By-Products (ABP)

It may sound an obvious question, but what are animal by-products? The answer is not as straight forward as you may first think as ABP covers a surprisingly large range of business activities. ABPs are categorised according to the level of risk posed to public health. It is important to understand the different categories.

Category 3 ABPs are classed as low risk

They include:

- products or foods of animal origin originally meant for human consumption but withdrawn for commercial reasons, not because it's unfit to eat.
- domestic catering waste
- shells from shellfish with soft tissue
- eggs, egg by-products, hatchery by-products and eggshells
- aquatic animals, aquatic and terrestrial invertebrates
- hides and skins from slaughterhouses
- animal hides, skins, hooves, feathers, wool, horns, and hair that had no signs of infectious disease at death
- carcasses or body parts passed fit for humans to eat, at a slaughterhouse
- processed animal proteins (**PAP**)

PAP are animal proteins processed from any category 3 ABP except: milk, colostrum or products derived from them | eggs and egg products, including eggshells | gelatine | collagen | hydrolysed proteins | dicalcium phosphate and tricalcium phosphate of animal origin | blood products

Category 2 ABPs are classed as high risk

They include:

- animals rejected from abattoirs due to having infectious diseases
- carcasses containing residues from authorised treatments
- unhatched poultry that has died in its shell
- carcasses of animals killed for disease control purposes
- carcasses of dead livestock
- manure
- digestive tract content

Category 1 ABPs are classed as high risk

They include:

- carcasses and all body parts of animals suspected of being infected with TSE (transmissible spongiform encephalopathy)
- carcasses of wild animals suspected of being infected with a disease that humans or animals could contract
- carcasses of animals used in experiments
- parts of animals that are contaminated due to illegal treatments
- [international catering waste](#)
- carcasses and body parts from zoo and circus animals or pets
- specified risk material (body parts that pose a particular disease risk, eg cows' spinal cords)