

## General News

### IGFA Annual Dinner 2024

The IGFA Annual Dinner will be held on Thursday 25 January 2024 at the Crowne Plaza Dublin Airport Hotel, Santry, Dublin 9. We look forward to seeing you there. You can download the booking form [here](#) and guidance document [here](#).

### European Commission Work Programme 2024

The European Commission adopts a work programme each year and the 2024 programme was published in mid-October. The term of the current Commission ends in November 2024 so much of the programme is focused on pushing ahead with proposals already in the system including New Genomic Techniques (NGTs) and the Sustainable Use of Pesticides Regulation (SUR).

The headlines however have focused on what is not included in the work programme as high level agrifood files on Animal Welfare and Sustainable Food Systems are absent. Four proposals on animal welfare were expected before the end of this Commission's term but only one of them, on the protection of animals during transport, is now going to be published before the end of 2023. A new proposal on sustainable food systems, which is a key element of the Farm to Fork Strategy, is also missing. Not surprisingly, the proposal for a revision of the Feed Additives Regulation is not mentioned either.

Many groups have hit out at the Commission knowing that these initiatives will now face an uncertain future with European Parliament elections in June 2024 and a change in Commission in November 2024.

### European Protein Strategy

Currently only 29% of the high-protein feedstock needed to balance animal feed in the EU originates from the Member States. This makes the EU heavily dependent on imports of high-protein plant content from third countries. In mid-October the European Parliament passed a [resolution](#) that aims to address this critical issue of protein supply, emphasizing the need to boost EU-based plant protein production. FEFAC and others contributed to the resolution.

The adoption of the resolution aligns with the EU's commitment to improve food security, by reducing dependence on third country protein suppliers and encouraging local production and innovation. It recognizes the importance of not only addressing immediate needs, but also building a more secure and self-sufficient future for the EU.

The resolution will feed into DG Agri plans to revise and update the 2018 Protein Report. This is scheduled for the first quarter of 2024. DG Agri has clarified that it is not aiming to achieve self-sufficiency but identify incremental steps to address current challenges.

### Short-Term Outlook Report Published

The European Commission's [Short-term Outlook](#) report is published three times per year and the latest version was released in October.

In the summer of 2023, Europe experienced challenging conditions marked by hot and dry weather, coupled with sporadic rainfall surplus. This led to reduced yields of some crops, delayed harvests, pests and diseases, and diminished product quality. However, despite this, the EU agricultural sector saw some positive signs in the market.

#### TABLE OF CONTENTS

<a href="#">IGFA Annual Dinner 2024</a>	1
<a href="#">European Commission Work Programme 2024</a>	1
<a href="#">European Protein Strategy</a>	1
<a href="#">Short-Term Outlook Report Published</a>	1
<a href="#">Webinar on exports of Irish/EU agri-food goods to GB</a>	2
<a href="#">Environmental Labelling Code of Practice</a>	2
<a href="#">A Few Facts About Livestock and Land Use</a>	2
<a href="#">Pesticide Legislation</a>	3
<a href="#">AVEC Sustainability Charter</a>	3
<a href="#">Changes to the GFLI Database</a>	3
<a href="#">EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR)</a>	3
<a href="#">Medicated Feed update</a>	4
<a href="#">Undesirable Directive 2002/32/EC</a>	4

#### RASFF 'S OCTOBER 2023

<a href="#">Total Food &amp; Feed</a>	453
<a href="#">Total Feed</a>	18
<a href="#">Feed Materials</a>	12
<a href="#">Pet Food</a>	1
<a href="#">Feed Premixture</a>	-
<a href="#">Feed Additives</a>	3
<a href="#">Animal by products</a>	2
<a href="#">Miscellaneous</a>	-
<a href="#">read more</a>	

Read the latest Teagasc Signpost newsletter [here](#)

Read Lyons Systems Research Notes [here](#)



For more information or useful links visit [www.igfa.ie](http://www.igfa.ie)

The cost of energy, fertilizers, and feed continued to decline, providing some relief to farmers. Specifically, the report notes that the EU prices of feed wheat, barley, and maize have shown significant declines compared to the same month in 2022. Food inflation has begun to decline since July and EU exports of agri-food products stayed competitive, reaffirming the position as the world's leading exporter.

The report suggests that improved grassland conditions resulting from wetter weather have provided some relief to livestock producers and likely reduced the reliance on supplemental animal feed. EU use of cereals is expected to be stable, with a marginal increase in their use for animal feed. The use of cereals for biofuel production is projected to continue growing, with a significant portion of cereals (around 12 million tonnes) expected to be used for biofuel production in 2023/24. This growth is attributed to the drop in cereal prices from their peak in 2022, which has improved margins for biofuel producers. EU oilseed production is expected to increase, driven by higher soya bean and sunflower production while protein crop production is expected to remain stable.

Meat consumption has declined further mainly due to high prices (decrease by 1.5% in 2023). Meat production, except poultry, is expected to remain below average. Milk deliveries remained stable, but high costs and declining prices pose challenges for EU farmers.

## Webinar on exports of Irish/EU agri-food goods to Great Britain (GB)



DAFM hosted a webinar on Wednesday 11 October 2023 on exports of Irish/EU agri-food goods to Great Britain (GB) from 31 January 2024. The objective of the webinar was to outline changes to the UK import regime and highlight the key steps food businesses exporting to GB should take to prepare for these significant changes. The webinar is available [here](#) and on <https://igfa.ie/training/> where you can also view other training resources.

Defra has also posted all of their Border Target Operating Model webinars, recordings and events online. See [BTOM YouTube page](#).

## Environment News

### Environmental Labelling Code of Practice



IGFA attended the most recent meeting of the FEFAC Task Force on Green Labelling on 24 October where the latest version of Code of Good Labelling Practices (which includes provisions on green labelling) was discussed and endorsed. It has now been circulated to some IGFA members for comment.

The next step will be final editing and then submission to the European Commission on 20 November 2023 for approval. When this has been completed, IGFA will issue the document to all members.

### A Few Facts About Livestock and Land Use

[European Livestock Voice](#) is an organisation set up by partners in the livestock chain with the aim of bringing balance to the discussions around livestock production and its role in society. The organisation recently published an interesting video on livestock and land use. It highlights that livestock farming is often perceived as simply exploiting our soils and using more and more land to grow feed for animals that could be better used for crop cultivation for people. In fact, 86% of animal feed is composed mainly of plant materials rich in cellulose, which cannot be directly used as food by humans, such as grass, hay, crop residues and the co-products of crop processing. It says that ruminants are also great up cyclers thanks to their complex, specialised digestive system: converting non-edible fibrous plant materials indigestible to humans into animal proteins of high nutritional quality with all essential amino acids.

In essence, products that otherwise would not be used and therefore disposed of as waste, with an additional environmental impact, are transformed into nutritional meat, milk and eggs. See this video for more info **the value of biomass: "Livestock is a win-win-win" situation**

## Pesticide Legislation - Update on EU Developments

The Sustainable Use of Pesticides Regulation (SUR) and the renewal of the authorisation of glyphosate were significant topics for discussion in October in Brussels.

The SUR was discussed in various European Parliament committees in October. The Environment Committee, which is leading on the file, voted to adopt a position calling for a reduction in the use of chemical pesticides by at least 50% by 2030. The report also includes additional measures for reducing pesticide use in sensitive areas. Although the final committee vote was in favour of the report, there was strong opposition from a number of the MEPs on its contents. They argued that it would have detrimental impacts on EU food production and security, increase food costs for consumers and would result in huge pressure on farmers as they will be left with few alternatives for crop protection. If this position is endorsed by the whole European Parliament at a vote in late November, it will then be used as the negotiating position for discussions with the Commission. The Commission is planning for a final agreement on the SUR to be achieved before the European Parliament elections in June 2024.

In September the European Commission proposed that Glyphosate be reauthorised for use in the EU for another 10 years. However, when this proposal was put to member states in mid-October a qualified majority in favour of the decision was not achieved (19 member states in favour, 3 against and 6 abstentions). A vote at the Appeal Committee is planned in November but the same voting pattern is expected. This means that the EU Commission will be left to decide whether to adopt the regulation before the current licence for Glyphosate expires on 15 December 2023.

## AVEC Sustainability Charter



On 20 October 2023, FEAC organized a workshop on the AVEC (EU Poultry Meat) Sustainability Charter. The Charter, which took inspiration from the FEAC Feed Sustainability Charter, contains five thematic areas: Environmental impact, Animal welfare, Feed sustainability, Breeding and Economy. As key objectives, the AVEC Charter looks at tackling AMR, reducing packaging waste, optimization of animal welfare and lowering environmental impact.

The environmental impact of poultry meat production is highly related to the feed-sourcing stage (over 50%) and the Charter lists 4 actions on reducing the environmental impact of feed - use of protein from non-deforested areas, support for carbon farming practices for feed production, support for an EU protein plan and support for projects to increase feed digestibility. A recording of the workshop is available [here](#).

## Changes to the GFLI Database for Environment Footprinting of Feed

The GFLI database is a leading reference for information about the environmental performance of feed ingredients and is used widely by the EU feed industry to calculate the environmental footprint of feed. The database was previously freely available to those who wanted to access the information. However, we have been informed that the GFLI is shifting from a free licensing model to a paid access system. It seems this is due to changes to the licensing requirements and costs for the background data used in the GFLI datasets.

IGFA has organised a meeting at the end of November with the aim of clarifying the details on accessing the database in future and the costs involved. We will keep members informed.



## EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR) – Soy Compliance

On 24 October 2023, the Collaborative Soy Initiative (CSI) released the first version of a guidance document for companies on understanding the EUDR.

The document highlights the key compliance points in the EUDR and some remaining questions.



It can be downloaded [here](#) and a webinar explaining the detail is available [here](#).

# Technical News

## Medicated Feed – Outcome of the Expert Group Animal Nutrition Meeting on 4 October

Before the meeting IGFA updated medicated feed members on the draft delegated act “establishing specific maximum levels of cross-contamination of antimicrobial active substances in non-target feed” and subsequently issued an industry position to DAFM, see [IGFA September Feed Issues](#).



At the meeting on the 4 October, Industry stakeholders including FEFAC stressed that the approach of the Commission outlined in the draft regulation was smart on paper but very demanding in reality and likely to discourage a number of currently approved medicated feed producers from continuing to produce. FEFAC stressed that as well as the extra-manufacturing costs, the additional complexity on production sequencing and a legitimate reluctance to reuse flushing materials in non-target feed were additional disincentives for feed manufacturers. However, politically and from an Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) perspective, it appears that the figure of 1% carryover looks to be non-negotiable. The Commission understands that this will leave the industry dealing with a lot of potential flush type material but doesn't see any other option when considering the need for AMR reduction.

In terms of next steps ;

- A slightly updated version will be drafted and shared with the Expert Group for information and notified to the WTO for a 2-month consultation and then
- A 1-month public consultation (IGFA can raise our concerns again here).
- It will then be adopted by the Commission and transmitted to the European Parliament for scrutiny.

This could lead to the publication of the regulation in Spring 2024 if everything goes smoothly. The hope is that at least a 6-month transition period will be included in the regulation which means that implementation of the 1% carryover for the 24 antimicrobials outlined in the medicated feed regulation could be required by the end of 2024. See (EU) 2019/4 pg. 18.

However, it is worth noting that there may be opposition from the European Parliament on the grounds that the EU Commission is not following the EFSA opinion recommending setting maximum levels far below a 1% carry-over threshold (i.e., levels of parts per billion).

## Undesirable Directive 2002/32/EC - Expert Group Animal Nutrition Meeting 4 Oct

As outlined in [IGFA September Feed Issues](#), the last update to the Undesirable Directive was in November 2019.

Discussions on proposals for changes had slowed due to Covid 19 and the Ukraine war. However, 1t the last Expert Group Animal Nutrition meeting on 4 October a number of things were discussed. These included the modification of certain limits for undesirable substances in particular for arsenic, cadmium, lead, rye ergot and dioxins, technical adjustments for persistent organic pollutants and coccidiostats and the introduction of new limits for nickel, THC and p-phenetidine. FEFAC reminded the Commission that it had reservations on the establishment of maximum limits for p-phenetidine, which would set a dangerous precedent.

The Eu Commission assured that it was not their intention to set maximum limits for any substance that could be present as impurity or residue in feed additives but only in case of substances classified as carcinogenic.

We should see the amended annex to the undesirable directive in Spring 2024. IGFA will follow this closely and keep you posted as soon as any amendment is made.

Official Journal	No.	Date	Description
Commission Directive 2001/57/EC	18	19.2.2001	of 17 June 2001
Commission Directive 2001/86/EC	14	13.12.2001	of 10 October 2001
Commission Directive 2001/87/EC	27	28.12.2001	of 27 October 2001
Commission Directive 2001/88/EC	16	8.12.2001	of 8 December 2001
Commission Directive 2001/89/EC	19	8.12.2001	of 8 December 2001
Commission Directive 2001/91/EC	44	8.12.2001	of 8 December 2001
Commission Directive 2001/92/EC	13	30.9.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/93/EC	17	26.7.2001	of 20 July 2001
Commission Directive 2001/94/EC	18	13.12.2001	of 10 October 2001
Regulation (EC) No 124/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council	47	10.1.2001	of 12 March 2001
Commission Directive 2001/101/EC	100	26.9.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/102/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/103/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/104/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/105/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/106/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/107/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/108/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/109/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/110/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/111/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/112/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/113/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/114/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/115/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/116/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/117/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/118/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/119/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/120/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/121/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/122/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/123/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/124/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/125/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/126/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/127/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/128/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/129/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/130/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/131/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/132/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/133/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/134/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/135/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/136/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/137/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/138/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/139/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/140/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/141/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/142/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/143/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/144/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/145/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/146/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/147/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/148/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/149/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/150/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/151/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/152/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/153/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/154/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/155/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/156/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/157/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/158/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/159/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/160/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/161/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/162/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/163/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/164/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/165/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/166/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/167/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/168/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/169/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/170/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/171/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/172/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/173/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/174/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/175/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/176/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/177/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/178/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/179/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/180/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/181/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/182/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/183/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/184/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/185/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/186/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/187/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/188/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/189/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/190/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/191/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/192/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/193/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/194/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/195/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/196/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/197/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/198/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/199/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001
Commission Directive 2001/200/EC	100	24.11.2001	of 20 September 2001