



Contents	Jan#1 2020
IGFA News.....	1
Brexit.....	1
UK Agriculture Bill 2019' / 20'	1
Commodity Price Dashboard.....	2
Avian Flu.....	2
African Swine Fever (ASF).....	2
Coronavirus 2019-nCoV.....	2
RASFF 2019 Over View.....	2
RASFF Jan 1 st -31 st	3
UFAS Updates.....	3
Transport of Feed.....	3
EU Feed Materials Register.....	4
EU Feed Materials Catalogue.....	4
Mycotoxins.....	4
Projects AMR and AMU.....	4
Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR).....	5
Pesticides update.....	5
Processed Animal Proteins (PAP).....	5
Undesirable Substances Directive.....	5

Dates

Feb events	Teagasc events see link
21 st Feb	Director's General College
9-11 th March	Internet of Things 4 Food
10 th March	Fefac Premix & Mineral Committee
11 th March	Fefac Animal Nutrition Committee
3-5th June	Sustainability Congress

Consultations/ Websites

Crop Forecast	DAFM Reg. & App. FBO's
Protein Balance Sheets	ClimateChange Presentations
DAFM FBO Forms	DAFM Brexit
DAFM AMR	DAFM Trader Notices
FSAI AMR	Pig Innovation

General News

IGFA News



Welcome: Maeve Whyte joined IGFA at the start of January and will be working on environment and climate change issues. Maeve was Director of the UK farming unions' office in Brussels for over 10 years and before that worked for the National Farmers' Union (NFU) in London on environment policy. She is from Rush, Co Dublin.

The Annual Feed Dinner took place on 31st January and was another great success. We hope you all enjoyed the event.

Brexit



The UK House of Commons approved the UK/EU withdrawal agreement including a clause preventing the extension of the transition agreement beyond the deadline of 31.12. 2020.

European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen responded by pointing to the need to set priorities quoting the limitations of the WTO Agreements **Most-Favoured-Nation** clause (MFN) that were included in most EU trade deals with Canada, Japan and Vietnam, as highlighted in the EU's presentation at the last EU Council meeting see [link](#). The EU refers to the objective of Tariff and quota free trade in all sectors underpinned by a level playing field and with a fisheries agreement.

The future Customs cooperation will help to facilitate trade while ensuring effective controls, while WTO, TBT and SPS disciplines and voluntary regulatory cooperation will help facilitate trade

However, the EU and UK will form separate markets and distinct legal orders leading to the end of free movement of goods and mutual recognition agreements. This means that customs checks will have to be put in place by the EU & UK. Mrs von der Leyen therefore called on the UK to adhere to existing EU standards to facilitate the future FTA for goods.

The EU negotiator for the FTA with the UK, Michel Barnier proposed to the UK to consider an FTA with a more limited scope, excluding services and transport. He argued that this would, prevent the re-emergence of a "no-deal scenario" cliff at the end of 2020, in case no framework agreement can be ratified before the end of the formal transition period.

On the 3rd February the EU published its recommendations to the Council (see [link](#)) for the future negotiations with the UK. The recommendations are laid out clearly and cover all areas. On SPS (sanitary and phytosanitary) the EU does not seek to impose standards on the UK but proposes that "The envisaged partnership should uphold the application of the precautionary principle in the Union". It remains to be seen what structure and level of transparency the UK will bring to the formal negotiations.

UK Agriculture Bill 2019' / 20'

This is a public bill presented to Parliament by the Government. The Bill was introduced to the House of Commons and given its First Reading on Thursday 16th January 2020. This stage is formal and takes place without any debate.

What happens next?

MPs will next consider the Bill at Second Reading on Monday 3rd February 2020

Commodity Price Dashboard

Agricultural Commodity	EUROPEAN UNION 28			WORLD		
	Monthly average	Annual change	Monthly change	Monthly average	Annual change	Monthly change

Commodity price dashboard provides a monthly summary of commodity price data for the most representative agricultural inputs, agricultural products and consumer food prices, at EU and world level. See [link](#) to No 91 – December 2019 edition

Avian Flu



See [link](#) to DAFM update **03/2020** on the situation with avian influenza in Europe. Situation with HPAI H5N8 since the last update of 08/01/2020:

Polish authorities have confirmed six additional outbreaks of HPAI H5N8, one in a flock of commercial ducks, two in commercial flocks of turkeys, one in a backyard flock of mixed species birds, and two in poultry backyard flocks.

Romanian authorities have confirmed an additional outbreak of HPAI H5N8 in a commercial flock secondary to the outbreak in our last update in the in the Seini locality, Maramures county.

Slovakian authorities have confirmed an additional outbreak of HPAI H5N8 in a single backyard flock with 19 laying hens as well as an outbreak in captive birds. The **Czech Republic** have reported the first outbreak of HPAI H5N8 in hens and ducks.

The **Ukraine** have reported the first outbreak of HPAI H5N8 in poultry in a commercial flock.

Germany have reported a case of HPAI H5N8 in a wild water bird.

DAFM advises poultry owners to take biosecurity measures in the high-risk period

African Swine Fever (ASF)



The future of global pork production, and therefore food security, is under threat from this devastating disease. In this context, a high-level international conference "**The Future of global pork production under the threat of African swine fever**" was organised by the European Commission in Berlin, Germany on 17th January 2020. The

aim of the event was to foster coordinated global actions to reduce the impact of ASF on pork production and international trade.

The conclusions of the conference point in particular to the need for enhanced coordination and cooperation

between all relevant stakeholders to effectively control and prevent the spreading of ASF both in domestic and feral pigs, in particular by applying appropriate biosecurity measures. It also emphasizes the importance of scientific and technical collaboration to further progress research on ASF and to develop a vaccine. It points also to the need for information sharing on ASF between countries including sharing of data and best practices on illegal trade and personal luggage controls and ASF detections to enhance targeted effective controls. See [link](#) for access to presentations and videos

EFSA updated FEFAC concerning their tentative roadmap for the (re-)drafting of their opinion on ASF risk factors (including feed):

1. **First week of Feb 2020:** public consultation on the "data section" of their opinion, focusing on published studies on ASF survival in different matrices
2. Three expert workshops on i) trade characteristics, ii) probability of contamination of the different products and iii) probability of exposure. The first workshop on the trade characteristics will take place on **27-30 April 2020 in Parma**.

Coronavirus 2019-nCoV

The rapid expansion of the outbreak of the novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) and the declaration by WHO that this was a Public Health Emergency of International Concern triggered questions within the feed chain of the potential risk with goods imported from China, including feed additives.

Information is scarce currently as regards the potential risk with food or feed as carrier of the 2019-nCoV virus but the risk assessments performed by reference scientific bodies conclude at this stage to absence of evidence of such a risk.

Of course, the body of knowledge is increasing and we therefore recommend you to check regularly the information provided on the following websites

[European Center for Disease Control](#)

[EFSA](#)

[US Centre of Disease Control and Prevention](#)

[World health Organization](#)

[World Organization for Animal Health](#)

RASFF 2019 Over View (ref. Fefac)

The number of RASFF notifications concerning feed for food producing animals increased by 7% in 2019 vs. 2018, due in particular to a higher number of notifications linked to microbial contamination (including Salmonella). On the other hand, the number of notifications regarding dioxins and dioxin-like PCBs

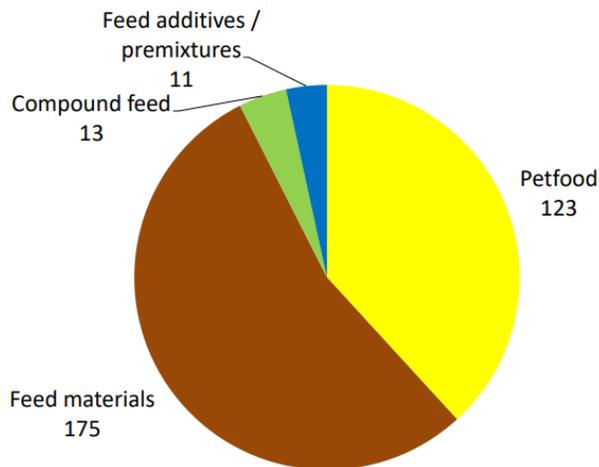
is at its lowest level for the last 10 years and no notification was made on aflatoxin.

Every year FEFAC proceeds to an overview of the feed-related notifications to the RASFF of the past year to identify possible trends and emerging issues. This statistical exercise does not pretend to reflect an evolution of the state of feed safety in the EU but an indicator of where attention should be put.

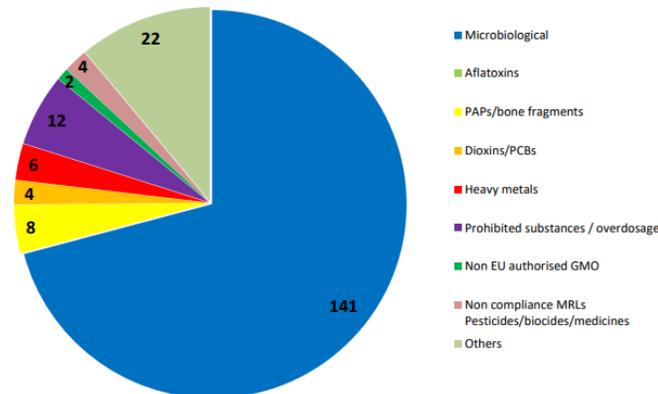
2010-2019 Feed RASFF (includes Pet Food)

Number of notifications	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Feed + petfood	189	361	324	272	309	205	210	239	313	322
Food	3,107	3,355	3,107	2,863	2,787	2,611	2,715	3,525	3,313	3,678
Total	3,296	3,716	3,431	3,135	3,096	2,816	2,925	3,764	3,626	4,000
Proportion Feed+ petfood	6.4%	5.7%	9.7%	9.4%	8.7%	10.0%	7.3%	7.2%	8.6%	8.0%

Breakdown by Feed Category 2019



Breakdown by Contaminant 2019 (exc. Pet Food)



RASFF Jan 1st-31st

Total	267	Feed Premixtures	0
		Feed additives	0
Food	40	Feed material	17
		Fats and Oils	0
Food contact materials	7	Compound Feed	1
		Herbs & Spices	0
Feed Total	20	Pet food	2
		Nuts, nut products & seeds	

UFAS Updates

1. All UFAS participants that handle, store, transport or manufacture feed (i.e. excluding Invoice Only Merchants) will now receive an additional Short Notice Audit once every three years.
2. Each year 10% of Invoice Only Merchants will be subject to an additional desktop traceability audit.
3. The rate of Unannounced Audits will increase from 5% of Compound Feed sites to 10% of all UFAS participants.

Short Notice Audits

A participant will be informed of the Short Notice Audit one working day in advance. The audit will focus on the feed activities taking place on the day, so there will be no need for specialist technical staff (HACCP team leader etc.) or external consultants to be present. The audit will be expected to last half a day. Unlike other schemes, it has been decided not to establish a formal system of "black out days" where a short notice audit would not be accepted. Participants are instead encouraged to inform the certification body if there are any dates where a short notice audit could not be accommodated, including the reasons. Acceptable reasons may include:

- Plant shutdown
- Planned audits with other bodies (e.g. Organic, customers etc.)

Absence of key staff will not be accepted as a legitimate reason.

Unannounced Audits

These audits will be arranged at the discretion of the Certification Body, and may be used to follow up on complaints and industry intelligence, or sites may be selected at random. **The auditor will arrive with no prior warning on the site.**

UFAS Audit Fees

To cover the cost of the additional audits, an increase in fees has been announced, and these are detailed on the UFAS pages of the [AIC website](#). The AIC UFAS Registration fees remain unchanged.

Transport of Feed



Transport is a critical part of the feed supply chain; therefore, associated risks need to be considered. **IDTF** (International Database Transport (for) Feed), is a database created by the ICRT (International Committee Road Transport) association, grouping together the following organizations: Qualimat, Ovocom, GMP+ International, QS, EFISC-GTP, AIC and AMA. Aiming at assuring of feed safety as regards bulk transport by road, intended for animal feed see [link](#)

Technical News

EU Feed Materials Register

Article 23(6) of Regulation (EC) No 767/2009 provides that “The person who, for the first time, places on the market a feed material that is not listed in the Catalogue shall immediately notify its use to the representatives of the European feed business sectors referred to in Article 26(1). The representatives of the European feed business sectors shall publish a Feed Materials Register of such notifications on the Internet and update it on a regular basis.

In October 2019, the EU Feed Chain Task Force launched a new Feed [Materials register website](#). The most important changes concern the notification of new feed materials with several check steps to encourage notifying companies to verify against different parameters whether their notification is suitable and needed. The general principle remains however the same: the notifications are made upon the entire responsibility of the notifying company and the presence of a product on the feed materials register cannot be considered as an assurance of its feed material status. National authorities (eg. DAFM) have now access to the name of the notifying company and can therefore directly contact and investigate with the operator in case of doubts on the legal status of the product. The EU Feed Chain task Force can also ask the SCoPAFF for confirmation in case they would conclude after a first screening that a notification is illegal.

Table provides more details on the access rights

Access levels	1. Public	2. Authorities	3. EU FCTF	4. Admin
ID number and date	R	R	R	R
Name of FM / English name	R	R	R	R&W
Description of FM	R	R	R	R&W
Outcome of the check of status via FEFANA classification tool		R	R	R
Other uploaded information		R	R	R&W
Name and address of the Feed Business Operator placing on the market		R	R	R&W
Name of the notifying company		R	R	R&W
Quality check (except EU FCTF “free comment” area)			R	R&W
Quality check EU FCTF comment area			R&W	R&W
Name, phone number, email of the person notifying				R&W

R: read / W: write

A quality check is ongoing for the 2018 and 2019 notifications, with the support of the FEFAC Task Force on Feed Materials. In addition, whenever the SCoPAFF concludes that a product is not a feed material, then the related notification(s) is (are) removed from the register (with still a one-month delay to allow members of the EU Feed Chain Task Force to challenge a SCoPAFF decision).

The lawfulness of the notification of “Fermentation product with ashbya gossypii was again discussed at the SCoPAFF meeting of 17-19 December 2019, with still split positions expressed by Member States (“pro feed additives” Member States led by France vs. “pro feed materials” Member States led by Germany). So far, the informal EU Commission position remains to consider this biomass rich in vitamin B2 as a feed additive by function but, in absence of consensus, they asked the EU feed Chain Task Force to maintain the notification in the register and leave it to Member States to decide on the status of the product until a final EU decision is taken.

EU Feed Materials Catalogue

The update of the catalogue is still ongoing. Discussions will continue at next meeting on 10-12 February 2020

Mycotoxins



Mycotoxins are low-molecular-weight, secondary metabolites of fungi which are **toxic to animals and humans** even in low concentrations. Their occurrence in various food crops is of major concern since it has significant implications for food and feed safety, food security and international trade.

The project MyToolBox funded by the European Commission aims at reducing the mycotoxin contamination throughout the food and feed chain by integrating different disciplines and research into an ICT tool that assists stakeholders in decision making. The main output of this project, was presented at a webinar on 10 December 2019 ([video link](#)). Further webinar is scheduled on [25th February](#)

Projects AMR and AMU

Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) and Antimicrobial Use (AMU) on-going projects

PathSurvPigs: Investigation of respiratory disease on Irish pig farms, risk factors, and the relationship with performance, welfare and AMU. DAFM 14/S/832. 2015-2019

Giltlife: Strategies to optimise gilt lifetime performance Teagasc. 2016-2019

PLFPigsCarc: Optimising feedback of computerised meat inspection findings and Precision Livestock Farming monitors on farm to improve pig health, welfare and carcass quality. Teagasc. 2017-2020

Tripartite 1: Application of next generation sequencing for the identification of DNA based biomarkers in regulatory regions of the genome for susceptibility to bovine respiratory disease complex. US-Ireland-Tri-partite grant. 2018-2020

SWAB: Surveillance welfare and biosecurity of farmed animals. DAFM 17/S/230. 2018-2020
SAFEFOOD AM: Use of antimicrobials in animal health on the island of Ireland: knowledge, attitudes and behaviour. Safefood. 2019-2020
AMURAP: Antimicrobial use and resistance in animal production. DAFM 15/S/676. 2016-2020
MastiSTAPH: The impact of bovine-specific <i>S. aureus</i> genetic variability on mastitis control and milk processing and the effect of selective dry cow antibiotic therapy on udder health. MS Curie Action-IRC co-funded CAROLINE fellowship. 2018-2020
AREST: Antimicrobial Resistance and the Environment — Sources, persistence, Transmission and risk management. EPA Ireland. 2018 — 2021
SowWeanWel: The implications of chronic stress in gestating sows for sow performance and welfare and for the resilience of her piglets to stress and disease Teagasc. 2018-2021
WelfareDairy: Welfare of dairy cows in pasture-based systems. Teagasc. 2017-2022
OviData: Increasing sheep genetic gain in Ireland through commercial data capture. Teagasc. 2018-2022
Tripartite 2: Characterization of the respiratory microbiome and virome associated with Bovine Respiratory Disease Complex. US-Ireland-Tripartite grant. 2019-2022
ZincO: Effects of therapeutic ZnO on the microbiome, resistome and immune system of pigs and strategies to face ZnO withdrawal. Teagasc. 2018-2022
Novel nutritional and management strategies to reduce antimicrobial reliance and antimicrobial resistance on Irish Pig Farms. UCD. 2019-2022

Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)

Please find here a [link](#) to a recently published observational study which examines the relationships between lifetime AMU in 83 finisher batches of pigs from Danish farms and the AMR gene abundances of seven antimicrobial classes in their gut microbiomes were quantified. The study determined the relationships between AMU and AMR at pig-farm level in finisher batches close to slaughter and used this to establish a predictive model for how different changes in AMU at class level would influence AMR gene abundance at national level.

Pesticides update



Representatives from member states on the EU Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed (SCoPAFF) voted to ban the controversial pesticides **chlorpyrifos and chlorpyrifos-methyl** from the EU market on **Friday 6th December**. The ban on the use of chlorpyrifos and chlorpyrifos methyl was in the OJEC on 13th January 2020 with a grace period for farmers to use stocks of the products not exceeding 16th April 2020. The next step is the reduction of MRLs down to the LOD (0.01 ppm), which will be proposed for vote at the SCoPAFF meeting – section pesticide residues on 17-18 February 2020. If there is a positive vote, the Regulation amending the MRL could be published early July 2020 with a short transition period (3 months) due to public health concerns. This means an entry into application of the new MRLs from mid-October 2020.

We are aware that the risk of finding residues of these substances above 0.01 ppm after mid-October 2020 is high, especially in maize co-products, fatty acids and citrus pellets. **The food and feed chain intend, to ask for maintaining transitory MRLs/Import Tolerances ahead of the SCoPAFF meeting.**

On **Monday 13th January** the European Commission decided not to renew the approval of the neonicotinoid pesticide **thiacloprid**, following scientific advice by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) that the substance presents health and environmental concerns. The insecticide, produced by the pharmaceutical and life sciences company Bayer, has therefore been effectively banned in the EU. Neonicotinoids, or 'neonics', are a controversial group of pesticides, in use since the 1990s. They are the most commonly used insecticides for many food and feed crops. Critics blame them for the detrimental impacts they have on bees and pollinators in general. In **April 2018**, the EU agreed to fully ban the outdoor use of three other neonicotinoids, **imidacloprid, clothianidin and thiamethoxam**. However, several EU member states notified emergency exemptions regarding their use on their territory.

Processed Animal Proteins (PAP)

Currently the feeding of livestock PAP (pigs and poultry) to livestock (pigs and poultry) continues to be prohibited. There have been discussions at EU Commission level, and there would appear to be a willingness to allow such practices to happen, so long as there is robust technology in place to identify what species the PAP was derived from. IGFA understands that the SCoPAFF meeting on 25th February 2020 will include a discussion on the reauthorisation of PAP and insects for feeding to pigs and poultry. A technical tolerance to allow for false positives due to the sensitivity of the PCR testing. It is not clear if the technical tolerance will include a tolerance for ruminant DNA. One way of avoiding false positive for ruminant DNA would be to restrict the testing regime to feed materials. It is now expected that the regulation could be presented and voted on before the summer 2020 break. IGFA will monitor the situation closely as the latest information from DAFM TSE section is not in line with this latest information from the Commission. IGFA will meet the TSE section this week.

Undesirable Substances Directive

Annex I of Undesirable Substances Directive 2002/32/EC was amended on 7th November 2019, [\(EU\) 2019/1869](#).

This regulation amends levels of arsenic, mercury, lead and fluorine to a number of feeds, and amends MRLs for dioxins, sum of dioxins and dioxin-like PCBs, and non-dioxin-like PCBs in some groups of feed additives.