

## General News

### DG AGRI - Short-Term Outlook Report Autumn 2021

According to the report, a number of factors, among them the recovery of the EU, US and Chinese economies contributed to the current commodity prices surge. Energy prices, particularly natural gas prices in Europe, are hitting new highs and this is having a huge impact on fertiliser prices, which have almost doubled in a year.

The total 2021/22 EU cereal production is projected at 292.2 million t, a 5.1% increase year-on-year (+4.9%/5-year average), due in particular to the recovery of wheat production estimated at 132 million t (+7.9%/5-year average). While there are some concerns on quality, this good harvest could provide enough wheat supply for feed use. However, high cereal prices together with favourable conditions for pasture in the EU are expected to keep the use of cereals for feed stable at 162.2 million t. EU oilseed production is estimated at 30.4 million t in 2021/22. This 10% annual increase, after the drop in 2020/21, should ease the EU market, although rapeseed supply would remain tight due to low beginning stocks.

The situation on the animal products' markets is mixed: while beef, poultry and dairy prices are relatively good, margins risk being squeezed by rising feed (cereals, oilseeds and oilcakes) costs and input prices. Extensive dairy and beef farms should benefit from the ample availability of grass this year. The pigmeat sector is in a more challenging situation, confronted with falling prices (resulting from increased production, limited domestic demand and reduced export opportunities in China and higher costs). See the full publication, data and highlights [here](#)

### Brexit - Review of Challenges Since January 2020

Brexit means that the UK needed to build and develop an entirely new customs and regulatory border for goods flowing between mainland GB and the EU. Under the Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA), the Irish authorities (and other member states) implemented these formalities and checks on 1 January 2021. This has made importing from the UK more problematic and costly over the past 10 months.

In October DAFM hosted a [webinar](#) to review the challenges faced by industry and the authorities. The huge effort this work involved for all parties was acknowledged. Prior to 2021, DAFM completed approximately 5,000 third country SPS checks at Border Control Points (BCPs). In the first 10 months of 2021, DAFM has executed 53,000 checks. It should be acknowledged that the rejection rate for imports has been extremely low and reflects the immense effort and resilience of both industry and the authorities. The authorities have now digitalised the notification system (INIS) and built a completely new BCP at Rosslare. Importers have registered on TRACES where required, upskilled staff to deal with complex rules of origin declarations and become proficient on export health certificate (EHC) requirements.

In order to support and facilitate imports of feed products of animal origin IGFA has developed with the help of DAFM a guide on importing animal derived products (Cat 3 ABP products) for feed from EU countries. Similarly, a spreadsheet to assist with the import of these products from third countries (UK) is available to members. This spreadsheet has also been shared with AIC, BAFSAM and BETA.

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### RASFF 'S Oct 2021

Total Food & Feed	420
Total Feed	20
Feed Materials	14
Feed Premixtures	0
Feed Additives	1
Compound Feed	0
Pet food	4
Other	1

[read more](#)

### WHAT'S ON

Teagasc Nov events [read more](#)  
 Nov 9 Steam in compound-feed [read more](#)  
 Nov 18 ATF seminar [read more](#)  
 Dec 7 IGFA Feed Committee

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



## Brexit– New GB Measures From January 2022

As highlighted in [IGFA September Feed Issues](#) the UK government timetable for implementing controls for the feed industry starts 1 January 2022. At this point feed exporters to the UK will need to register their movements on IPAFFs (the new UK system to notify enforcement authorities about imports of live animals, animal products and high-risk food and feed not of animal origin into GB) before entering the UK market place. From 1 July 2022 it will be a requirement to carry a Health Certificate or commercial document where relevant, for each product.

The UK has adopted most of the EU SPS border arrangements, this means the commercial documents and health certificate are all similar. As the UK does not have access to TRACES (their decision) they will use the IPAFF system and members are encouraged to become familiar with it as soon as possible. A vital first step for exporting will be to ensure you have the correct CN code for your products, understand the formulation and catalogue number of all the feed material in the product and understand how the Rules of Origin work for your products. IGFA will develop guides based on questions from members.

DEFRA is organising a series of webinars to assist exporter/importers prepare for these deadlines which will cover :

- New requirements from 1 January 2022 and the steps to undertake to continue importing from the EU
- Pre-notification and the information you require to pre-notify using the IPAFFS\_
- A step-by-step demonstration of how to complete a pre-notification
- Updated information on specific policies and commodities

Webinar dates and links – all take place for 1 hr from 10-11 am			
Tuesday 2 November 2021	<a href="#">Click to join</a>	<b>Tuesday 23 November 2021</b>	<a href="#">Click to join</a>
Tuesday 9 November 2021	<a href="#">Click to join</a>	Tuesday 30 November 2021	<a href="#">Click to join</a>
Tuesday 16 November 2021	<a href="#">Click to join</a>	Tuesday 7 December 2021	<a href="#">Click to join</a>

DEFRA has also updated their [microsite](#) to include FAQs from previous webinars and enquiries received directly from businesses. Please look ahead of the webinars to check whether your questions have already been answered.

- Products of Animal Origin
- Composite Products (including the Composite Decision Tree)
- Animal by-Products
- Import of Products, Animals, Food and Feed System (IPAFFS)

## UFAS Working Group highlights

The UFAS working group met on 14 October 2021. Some highlights are below but the official minutes will arrive soon. Please let us know if you would like a copy of the minutes.

**Tesco code of practice** - AIC saw a draft of new Tesco code of practice and noted the only changes are around sustainability and corporate stance.

**Webinars** - were hosted by AIC in September at these links - [General UFAS Requirements](#) and [Salmonella and Medicated Feeds](#). They are 1 hour long. The Webinar format will continue in future as there seems little enthusiasm to travel.

**Salmonella management** - The plan is to have a wider rethink around managing isolations, sampling frequencies, etc. A group is being set up focusing on salmonella in feed and are due to meet in 6 months' time. **There is a space for industry rep. on that group if anyone interested.** The Campden BRI project is progressing. The main aim is to try and find a microbiological surrogate which can be used to validate if the kill step has worked. Campden found internal funding for the project so there is no cost to the feed industry.

**PAP – EU amended rules** – UK PAP legislation is not planned to change. The AIC position statement follows science and must be accepted by customers and retailers. Changes will have an impact on sensitive and exclusion lists. EU member states must amend their legislation to implement this change and none have to date. Conversations on this topic will be on-going.

**Medicated feed reworks** - the difficulty using up medicated reworks and the possibility of using anaerobic digestion was raised. Incineration is expensive and not environmentally friendly. Limitations exist using AD and the AD plants require a permit to take waste. AIC have raised this issue with VMD and have not received a response yet. AIC is hesitant to talk to the Environment Agency until VMD respond.

**UFAS Tender update:** Transfer from Lloyds Register to KIWA will take place 1 March 2022.

# Sustainability

## Webinar on Tackling GHG Emissions in the Feed Industry



FEFAC, in partnership with the American Feed Industry Association (AFIA), hosted a webinar on the 19 October 2021 that discussed the feed industry's contributions to help animal production reach zero-net GHG emission targets. It emphasised the newly available Life Cycle Analysis (LCA) based tools reflecting the latest scientific progress in environmental footprinting. Information on database development (GFLI) and how it will enable and accelerate the transition of the livestock economy toward a zero-net emission sector was also discussed. The full seminar can be viewed [here](#).

## Commission legislation on deforestation free supply chains

The EU Commission is planning to publish a legislative proposal on the protection of world forests and deforestation-free supply chains in November 2021. There is concern within industry that the proposal will aim to legally impose physically segregated deforestation-free supply chains for commodities such as soy. The industry view is that this would not only drive-up costs but given that there is no detection method to determine the compliance of a commodity that is part of a segregated deforestation-free supply chain, there is significant risk of fraud. FEFAC and partners are therefore requesting that the legislative proposal endorses the existing chain of custody solutions, including the Mass-Balance approach. They emphasise that Mass Balance provides assurances that an equivalent volume of the commodity (soy, palm or other) that arrives in Europe is produced in compliance with a no deforestation policy. Mass balance can be effectively documented and also ensures the most efficient logistics and use of transport.

### Reminder – there are 3 ways of sourcing sustainable soy

- **Book and claim (B&C):** Using the system of book and claim, the end consumer purchases a quantity of certificates/credits that matches the quantity of the sustainable crop the farmer wants to use.
- **Area Mass balance:** Using the system of area mass balance, it is allowed to mix verified soy with the same species of an unverified soy. However, the quantity of that verified crop is monitored throughout the chain. This means that at any point in the chain the output of the verified crop can never exceed the input of the same verified crop.
- **Segregation:** Using the system of segregation a verified crop is handled separately from an unverified crop.

## Commission Report Says More Work Needed on Nitrates

The European Commission published a [report](#) in October on the implementation of the Nitrates Directive. It says that the nitrates directive has been an important tool to reduce nitrate pollution in water but that more needs to be done to address the problem. Nitrate levels in groundwater are a particular concern across the EU and “more far-reaching measures,” are needed. The report highlights that Belgium (Flanders region), the Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Finland, Hungary, Latvia, Luxemburg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland and Spain continue to record bad water quality all around their territory and that there remains “a systemic problem to manage nutrient losses from agriculture”. It emphasises that even if new initiatives to address nutrient pollution are being considered and funding is available, the first necessary action to prevent nutrient pollution from agriculture is to ensure a higher level of compliance.

## FEFAC Environment Footprinting Factsheets

FEFAC has developed two factsheets to help feed manufacturers understand the [PEFCR Feed for Food-Producing Animals](#). This publication is the rulebook for how to measure and calculate the environmental footprint of animal feed production.

The factsheet “[Key elements in data collection for PEFCR Feed](#)” aims to highlight the areas where feed manufacturers need to collect company-based information if they want to perform environmental footprinting in line with the PEFCR Feed. It also shows what they can use secondary (default) data for, such as the environmental impacts of the sourced feed ingredients used in a feed formulation. For this purpose, companies can make use of the GFLI Database.

The factsheet “[Step-wise engagement plan for feed manufacturers on environmental footprinting](#)” aims to present feed manufacturers with an indication of where to start when it comes to environmental footprinting and set out a work plan in line with their company level of ambition.

# Technical News

## Ethylene Oxide (ETO)

As discussed in previous IGFA Feed issues there have been numerous food recalls in Ireland and across Europe due to the presence of unauthorised pesticide ETO. The EU Commission acknowledged in October that there are good reasons to differentiate the incident management measures between the presence of residues of ETO in food versus feed. Given that there is no evidence of transfer of ETO residues from feed to food of animal origin and therefore no direct risk for the health of food producing animals. The risk management measures may involve a withdrawal of consignments of compound feed shown to contain ETO levels above 0.02 mg/kg (default MRL for composite products). At earlier meetings in June/July 2021, the agreed approach was to order the recall of any food or feed product containing part of a consignment of contaminated locust bean gum (additive E410), even if the ETO was not detectable in the product (i.e. recall ordered on traceability basis). **This revised approach for feed is an important milestone.**

## Feed Additives Regulation

[Regulation \(EC\) No 1831/2003](#) sets out the rules for authorising, marketing and labelling of feed additives. Over the last couple of years the European Commission has been carrying out an evaluation of this Regulation. The aim is to assess if the legislation has performed as expected, whether it still meets the needs of citizens, businesses and public authorities and also to identify possible burdens it may have created as well as any inconsistencies or gaps in the legislation. The process, which is coming to an end, started in 2017 with publication of a roadmap outlining the purpose, content and scope of the evaluation.

DG SANTE is now asking for volunteers to answer a targeted questionnaire to collect data on the production, trade and use of feed additives to support the Impact Assessment that will accompany the draft proposal for a recasting of the feed additives legislation in spring 2022. IGFA will participate and we invite our members to do so too before the deadline of 23:59hrs (CET) on 15 November 2021. Please contact [cornelia.oconnell@eorna.ie](mailto:cornelia.oconnell@eorna.ie) for more info. The [latest version](#) was published on 21 September 2021 and is the 6<sup>th</sup> edition this year.



# Animal Health

## Medicated Feed

Medicated feed contains a premix of veterinary medicines and requires veterinary prescription. The new medicated feed [Regulation \(EU\) 2019/4](#) shall apply from 28 January 2022. On the request of IGFA, DAFM gave a presentation to medicated feed members last month on one of the aspects of the new regulation - the National Veterinary Prescription System. **A Q&A from the presentations is available [here](#).** DAFM plan to have training videos up on their NVPS website in January. IGFA will keep members informed.

## Use of Zinc Oxide (ZnO) As a Veterinary Medicinal Product

A reminder to medicated feed mill that this practice is banned in the European Union (EU) starting June 2022. The EU ban was put into motion because of concerns about heavy metal accumulation in the environment and the potential for antimicrobial resistance. More and more countries around the globe are concerned about the negative impact of ZnO on the environment. However, zinc is an essential part of swine diets, especially in the first few weeks after weaning to help control post-weaning diarrhoea and improve gut performance. Several nutritional approaches, that do not include the use of ZnO, can help reduce the incidence of post-weaning diarrhoea and pig feed formulators have been revising feed formulations across Europe to cater for this change in legislation.

## Avian Influenza (Bird flu)

October onwards, represents the beginning of the higher risk period for Avian Influenza in Ireland as wild birds, the natural hosts of many avian influenza viruses, start to arrive in large numbers to overwinter here. All poultry owners, no matter how large or small, should ensure that strict biosecurity measures are in place to prevent infection of their flocks. Measures should be taken to deter susceptible wild birds from all poultry holdings, and to prevent poultry from having access to wild birds or areas where wild birds (particularly waterfowl, gulls and birds of prey) have been. The latest DAFM update was published on 6 October 2021 see [here](#).

## African Swine Fever (ASF)

Ireland is free of African swine fever and it is in all of our interests to keep it that way as an outbreak of the disease would have a huge impact on the Irish pig industry here. The last DAFM report was published 3 August 2021 see [here](#)