

To: Lead Feed Officers
Cc: TSI, CoSLA, SFELC

25 June 2015

FSS/ENFTS/15/003

Dear Colleague,

Update on formaldehyde authorisation as a feed additive

As you are now aware, the use of formaldehyde as a preservative in animal feed fell under the Biocidal Products Directive (98/8/EC) until September 2013 when the Directive was replaced by the EU Biocidal Products Regulation 528/2012 and no longer applied to the use of formaldehyde in animal feed.

A transition period was specifically established at EU level so that formaldehyde may be authorised as a microbiological decontaminant under the EC Regulation for Additives in Use in Animal Nutrition (No 1831/2003). The transition period will formally expire on 1 July 2015, however, the authorisation process under Regulation 1831/2003 will not be agreed at EU level until later in 2015.

The UK has established that the use of formaldehyde as a preservative in animal feed may continue after 1 July 2015 under current permitted use, until a decision is made at EU level on the authorisation of formaldehyde as a feed additive. Once that decision is made, the stipulated conditions within the new legislation referred to above will take precedence.

It should be noted that there are other biocidal uses of formaldehyde in other applications which are currently covered by the EU Biocidal Products Regulation 528/2012, and these are currently being assessed through a review programme to determine if their continued use is acceptable.

The authorisation is still under discussion at EU level and it is likely that formaldehyde will be authorised under highly-restrictive use; most notably, limited for use on animal feed following positive identification of contaminating *Salmonella* (amongst other criteria). Future updates on the progress of the authorisation status will be posted either within the routine monthly stakeholder SCoPAFF meeting summaries, or as a separate web-release, as appropriate on:

<http://www.food.gov.uk/enforcement/regulation/europeleg/euupdates>

If you would like any further information on formaldehyde and related animal feed legislation, please do not hesitate to contact me (Jacqueline.angus@fss.scot, 01224 285175 or Claire Moni, Claire.moni@fss.scot, 01224 285158).

For further information on other uses of formaldehyde under the Biocidal Products Regulation, please contact biocidesenquiries@hse.gsi.gov.uk

Yours faithfully



Jacqui Angus
Food Standards Scotland