Annex 1

Cleaning Procedure – CFIA Position on Eliminating Ractopamine from Feed Production Facilities

Although ractopamine is approved for use in specific livestock feeds manufactured in Canada, some trading partners are requesting foods of animal origin exported from Canada be certified as originating from animals that have never been treated with ractopamine.

With respect to the certification of pork products as per the CRFPCP, two types of feed production facilities are envisioned:

A. Facilities that do not handle ractopamine and/or manufacture feeds containing ractopamine (ractopamine-free facilities); and

B. Facilities that manufacture feeds containing ractopamine and feeds that have been manufactured using a system of preventive controls (including sequencing and flushing) for the prevention of cross contamination with ractopamine.

The CFIA recognizes that some feed production facilities that have, in the past, manufactured feeds that contain ractopamine may wish to implement cleaning protocols that would allow them to be considered ractopamine-free facilities. In order for these production facilities to meet the requirements for ractopamine-free facilities under the CRFPCP and to certify to clients that their products do not contain ractopamine, production facilities will need to provide assurances:

- that the ractopamine has been removed from their system; and
- that the premise and equipment have been cleaned in a manner acceptable to the CFIA.

The objective of the clean-up is to ensure the premises, bins, equipment and conveyances are free from ractopamine or feed containing ractopamine.

The following protocol outlines the CFIA's considerations regarding the manner in which this can be acceptably accomplished. The use of other methodology to achieve similar outcomes will be considered. Any such proposals shall be submitted to the CFIA for endorsement prior to their being undertaken.

Approved protocols may also be applied in premises where ractopamine is accidentally or otherwise re-introduced into feed production facilities that had been considered ractopamine-free. In these cases, naturally, other actions are required in such cases (e.g., immediate notification of producers, investigation, and plan for corrective and preventive actions).

Verification

To maintain uniformity across all feed production facilities, the feed production facility must fully document clean-up. These documents shall be signed and dated by the Production Supervisor or designate.

Changeover to Ractopamine-free facility status

Prior to being recognized as Ractopamine-free, the feed production facility must demonstrate that all inventory has been cleared from the facility and an appropriate flush of the production system completed.

This shall include documentation that neither Ractopamine nor medicated feeds containing Ractopamine have been stored or used in the facility for a minimum of 10 days of full operation (must include at least one complete fill and empty for each of piece equipment in the production facility other than storage bins, compartments and conveyances). Additionally, the feed production facility must have documented records to demonstrate that all storage bins, compartments and conveyances have been emptied of all materials containing Ractopamine and cleaned according to the following cleaning protocol.

Approved Cleaning Protocol

Feed Production System Flush

Documentation shall demonstrate that there has been no storage or handling of Ractopamine and/or medicated feeds containing Ractopamine in the facility for a minimum of 10 days of full operation (must include at least one complete fill and empty for each of piece equipment in the production facility other than storage bins, compartments and conveyances). Such documentation must identify all feeds and feed ingredients that have been processed through the system subsequent to the last use of Ractopamine maintained by the facility for a minimum of two years and made available for review on request.

Clean-up of Storage Bins, Compartments and Conveyances

Visual Inspection

A visual inspection of each storage bin, compartment and conveyance will identify if there is accumulation of material that may contain residues of Ractopamine:

Procedure

1. If during the inspection a bin, compartment or conveyance is found to be in an unacceptable condition (e.g., hung up or bridged material or build-up on walls is present), the bin, compartment or conveyance must be thoroughly cleaned before being refilled.

2. Personnel, using shovels, brooms, scrapers, air pressure, vibration, etc. and in accordance with confined space safe work procedures, will thoroughly clean the designated bin, compartment or conveyance. Clean-up procedures will be documented

when completed. These documents shall be signed and dated by the Production Supervisor or designate.

3. Documentation of clean-up inspections of storage bins, compartments and conveyances will be maintained by the facility for a minimum of two years and made available for review on request.

Where the documented evidence demonstrates that the above conditions have been met, the system will be deemed to have achieved adequate flush out of Ractopamine. No additional validation step is considered necessary by the CFIA.

To maintain uniformity across all feed production facilities, the CFIA anticipates operators would employ the cleaning protocol detailed above. The use of other methodology that achieves similar outcomes will be considered. The feed production facility shall submit such proposals to the CFIA for endorsement prior to their being undertaken.