



# NEWS RELEASE

## **Launch of three new consortia by FEFANA, for Acids, Silage Additives and Trace Elements**

**Brussels, 07 April 2008 -- The European Feed Additives and Premixtures Association (FEFANA) has recently established three new consortia in order to support the industry efforts in obtaining EU authorisation for existing additives under the Feed Additives legislation 1831/2003. These new consortia concern acids, silage additives and trace elements. The risk of losing market authorisation is real and co-ordinated efforts of those producing or using these ranges of products were urgently needed to secure their authorisation on the EU market and maintain an appropriate diversity of sources. Towards their clients who are closely watching the re-authorisation process, companies involved in these consortia position themselves as responsible and reliable partners. Informative web pages about the authorisation consortia, describing scope, object and membership, have also been added. A very helpful Questions and Answers document as well as outlines of the terms for the set up of the additives working list for each new established consortium are also available via the website:**

**<http://www.fefana.org/EEIG/Authorisation Consortia.htm>**

The EU Feed Additive Regulation 1831/2003 rules the access to the EU market for feed additives: this is a pre-market approval system applying to all additives in the market. It includes provisions for the feed additives previously authorised, allowing them to stay on the market provided a sequence of conditions and applications are successfully fulfilled (Article 10 of the Regulation). It must now be clear to all feed business operators that only those additives that are actively supported by those placing them on the market (producers or importers), through an authorization dossier, will remain authorized after 2010. Since the authorization of feed additives according to the new Regulation shall be much more precise than the past, including specifications, purity, and manufacturing process elements, the diversity of possible sources of a given additive is at stake. The challenge is not only to develop dossiers for as many additives as possible, but to include in the applications dossiers the necessary elements for covering the diversity of sources. It cannot be expected that a single company will take care of securing the market access of its competitors. In this respect, it is critical that as many operators as possible get involved in the preparation of the dossiers in order to secure the fact that the characteristics of their specific additive is covered by the scope of the final authorization. The feed industry is preparing itself for the coming changes, both regarding the nature of the additives available and the possible sources. The companies involved in these consortia are positioning themselves as responsible and reliable partners for the future. De-selection of irresponsible suppliers is likely to occur progressively in the coming months while an active participation in the established consortia is a strong positive element in this picture.

So far, the feed additive industry (producers, users, traders and EU associations) has managed to keep the vast majority of commonly used feed additives authorised on the EU market. The Register gives transparency to the process: only the additives listed in the Register can be sold and used, for the functions and animal species covered in the authorisation. With the coming stage, i.e. the complete authorisation dossier, a last but major step is ahead. The content of the dossier to table will be defined by a Guideline Regulation which the European Commission has voted and is about to publish. FEFANA has actively been involved with the Commission and EFSA in the preparation of this pivotal document for several years. FEFANA is furthermore

establishing additional tools for helping its members and the consortia to prepare their dossiers in a consistent and coordinated way.

The last three consortia that have just been established are focusing on two technological additives categories: acids and their salts (ACIAC EEIG) (covering both preservative and silage function) and silage additives (enzymes and micro-organisms) (SILAC EEIG), and one nutritional additive category: the trace elements (TREAC EEIG).

The fact that a consortium is established does not mean that it will automatically take care of all the additives pertaining to it. Each grouping has defined objective criteria in order to bring (or not) specific additives under the scope of work of the grouping, based upon the interest and commitment of its members. Consortia are open to non-FEFANA members.

As with the other consortia that were previously established, the working list of these new groups (i.e. the precise list of additives on which it is working) are open for a while in order to adapt to the need of new members. One has however to realize that all the established groups are actively working, and that it shall become increasingly difficult to integrate newcomers as the work progresses.

In order to streamline the process as much as possible, close cooperation has been established with EFSA. Beside access to the vast know-how established within FEFANA over the years, the reduction of individual burden, the sharing of cost, the legal framework it provides for companies to cooperate, the close relationship with EFSA can be seen as an important added value for these new groupings. It is indeed of paramount importance for any applicant to avoid investing time and efforts leading to dead ends.

Through the web pages, you will find more online information about the general structure of each EEIG as well as principles of the consortia and instructions on how to apply for membership. There is also a Questions and Answers Sheet regarding the establishment of consortia for the re-evaluation of feed additives as well as a list of members for each consortium. Contact information is also included.

Application forms to participate in these consortia are available from FEFANA Secretariat.

### **About FEFANA**

FEFANA is the EU Feed Additives and Premixtures Association. It was established on October 13th, 2004 and is the new juridical form of the feed additives producers association that was founded in 1963. With almost 90 members from 28 countries, the association is the interface between the feed additives industry and the European Union authorities, including Member States authorities, in order to promote, safeguard and defend common and general interests of the industry (in several topics like guidelines, register, labelling and definitions, analysis, feed hygiene and food chain safety or non-feed use of additives). FEFANA's chairperson is Dr. Hadden Graham of AB Vista.

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