



AGENDA ITEM A.5: Discussion on a guidance level for T-2 and HT-2 toxin for cat feed

A) BACKGROUND

- (1) T-2 toxin and HT-2 toxin are mycotoxins produced by various *Fusarium* species. T-2 toxin is rapidly metabolised to a large number of products, HT-2 toxin being a major metabolite.
- (2) The Scientific Panel on Contaminants in the Food Chain (CONTAM panel) of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) adopted an opinion on a request from the Commission related on the risks for animal and public health related to the presence of T-2 and HT-2 toxin in food and feed¹.
- (3) As regards the animal health risk, the CONTAM Panel concluded that for ruminants, rabbits and fish, the current estimated exposure to T-2 and HT-2 toxin is considered unlikely to be a health concern. For pigs, poultry, horses and dogs, the estimates of exposure to T-2 and HT-2 toxin indicate that the risk of adverse health effects is low. Cats are amongst the most sensitive animal species. Due to the limited data and the severe adverse health effects at low dose levels, no NOAEL or LOAEL could be established. .
- (4) Taking into account the conclusions of the scientific opinion, investigations have to be undertaken in order to collect information on the factors resulting in relative high levels of T2 and HT-2 toxin in cereals and cereal products and on the effects of feed and food processing. Therefore, Commission Recommendation 2013/165/EU of 27 March 2013 on the presence of T-2 and HT-2 toxin in cereals and cereal products² .
- (5) Given the toxicity of T-2 and HT-2 toxin for cats it is appropriate to establish a guidance value for the sum of T-2 and HT-2 toxin in cat feed to be applied for judging the acceptability of cat feed as regards the presence of T-2 and HT-2 toxin. Commission Recommendation 2006/576/EC of 17 August 2006 on the presence of deoxynivalenol, zearalenone, ochratoxin A, T-2 and HT-2 and fumonisins in products intended for animal feeding³ should therefore be amended.

¹ EFSA Panel on Contaminants in the Food Chain (CONTAM); Scientific Opinion on risks for animal and public health related to the presence of T-2 and HT-2 toxin in food and feed. EFSA Journal 2011; 9(12):2481. [187 pp.] doi:10.2903/j.efsa.2011.2481. Available online: www.efsa.europa.eu/efsajournal

² OJ L 91, 3.4.2013, p. 12

³ OJ L 229, 23.8.2006, p. 7

B) PROVISION

In the Annex the following entry is added after the entry on Fumonisin B1+B2:

"

Mycotoxin	Products intended for animal feed	Guidance value in mg/kg (ppm) relative to a feedingstuff with a moisture content of 12%
T-2 + HT-2 toxin	Compound feed for cats	0.05

"