February 1, 2019

BAP GUIDANCE CONCERNING THE PROHIBITION AGAINST REFEEDING OF INGREDIENTS FROM LIKE ORGANISMS

Assuming all other requirements of the BAP standard for Feed Mills and all government regulations have been satisfied, BAP certification may be issued by the Certification Body based on this Guidance concerning the BAP prohibition against feeding of like organisms as described in Sections 3 and 6 of the BAP Feed Mill Standard Issue 2.1, and the related Sections in the BAP Farm and Hatchery/Nursery Standards.

The BAP prohibition against use of products from like organisms is intended to prevent the possible transmission of prion diseases resembling the bovine disease BSE. As such, feed mills are required to assess food safety risks arising from, among other things:

“Biological hazards arising from the use of feed ingredients derived from certain non-processed and/or processed aquaculture products, and from contamination by restricted-use protein”

Clause 6.14 in the BAP Feed Mill Standard Issue 2.1 specifies:

“The applicant shall respect prohibitions of the refeeding of ingredients from like aquaculture organisms to prevent transmission of disease.”

The biological hazard related to prions is specifically associated with the proteinaceous component of rendered meals. The oil fraction, if sufficiently separated and cleansed of residues from the protein fraction, can be considered safe as a feed ingredient, even when derived from “like” organisms, assuming other normal quality specifications related to oils are met. This assessment is confirmed by the published UK government position, wherein they allow unrestricted use of low-risk animal by-products (ABP’s) such as animal fats and fish oils. See the following link for additional details:


This Guidance is being issued to confirm that BAP-certified aquaculture feed mills may use in aquaculture feed formulations, oil made from “like organisms”, i.e., salmonid oils for use in salmonid feeds, catfish oils for use in catfish feeds, shrimp oils for use in shrimp feeds, etc. Feed mills are responsible to document that suppliers have effective precautions in place to remove proteinaceous residues in the supplied oil. Copies of such documentation must be maintained onsite and be available for third party auditors to review during a feed mill’s annual BAP certification audit.
BAP may at its sole discretion cancel this Guidance if evidence is found that feed millers have not put effective controls in place to ensure the safety of oils made from “like organisms”, or in case new scientific evidence comes to light that raises concerns about the safety of utilizing oils derived from “like organisms” in aquaculture feeds.

Please contact BAP with any questions related to this policy.