

2015-2016 AFDO FINAL COMMITTEE REPORT

Laboratory, Science & Technology Committee

***Co-Chair:** Yvonne Salfinger, Denver, CO

Co-Chair: Daniel Rice, FDA Pacific Northwest Regional Laboratory, Bothell, WA

Co-Chair: Dirk Shoemaker, Nebraska Department of Agriculture, Lincoln, NE

Charge 1: Work with AFDO Staff to meet APHL/AFDO/AAFCO Cooperative Agreement deliverables. Work to include expanding the SME registry, finalizing the IFPTI Curriculum Framework, and ensuring networking and community between laboratories seeking/maintaining ISO/IEC 17025 accreditation.

Discussion: This work is progressing. The committees co-chairs are working on many committees/workgroups to ensure the cooperative agreement deliverables are met. Yvonne is a consultant for AFDO and works closely with staff and Ron Klein, the program manager, to ensure that state laboratories have access to available resources to ensure laboratories become accredited.

AFDO staff reached out to SMEs for updates in March 2015, and updated the SMEs again in July 2015. The next update is scheduled for July 2016. The AFDO Subject Matter Expert's Registry (<http://afdo.org/sme>) received 139 unique page views between July 1, 2015 and February 29, 2016. SMEs registered to date (4/22/16) for laboratory related topics:

Animal Feed Testing (9)

Chemistry testing (0)

Epidemiology (7)

Food Laboratory (45)

Laboratory Accreditation (4)

Microbiology Testing (0)

Pesticide Residue and Antibiotic Residue Analysis (1)

Pesticide Residue Testing (0)

Pet Food Testing (6)

Pulsed Field Gel Electrophoresis (0)

Rapid screening testing (molecular biology) (0)

Sampling (6)

Whole Genome Sequencing (0)

Chemistry testing, Microbiology testing, Pulsed Field Gel Electrophoresis, Rapid Response Teams, Rapid screening testing (molecular biology), and Whole Genome Sequencing are categories added this year.

The Governmental Food and Feed Laboratory Curriculum Framework Workgroup met in-person on November 9-13, 2015 in Bothell, WA at the Pacific Northwest FDA Laboratory. The group completed reviewing and editing the level 4 and 5 competencies for the E1 through E18 entry-level foundation courses. A proposal was submitted for funding completion in Year 4 of the Level 2 and 3 competencies for the remainder of the Curriculum Framework. FDA responded that funding would be spread over the next two fiscal years. Based upon the funding decision, it was decided that the workgroup would focus on completing the Level 4 and 5 higher-level competencies for the E1 through E18 entry-level foundation courses in Year 04, so that content could be handed off to guide training development. The next meeting will be held May 16-20, 2016 in Silver Spring, Maryland to work on completing the competencies. Web meetings will supplement the face-to-face meetings as needed-one is scheduled for May 10, 2016. The workgroup has been expanded to include additional state and ORS staff, a representative from USDA FSIS, and Canadian Food Inspection Agency representatives. IFPTI prepared a video explaining the curriculum process and sent a survey in 2015 to the food and feed laboratory community to elicit feedback on the level 2 and 3 competencies. The purpose of the competency (the capability to apply or use a set of related knowledge, skills, and abilities

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required to successfully perform "critical work functions" or tasks in a defined work setting) framework is to serve as the basis for skill standards that specify the level of knowledge, skills, and abilities required for success in the workplace as well as potential measurement criteria for assessing competency attainment.

The Annual Governmental Food and Feed Laboratory Accreditation Meeting was held February 1-4, 2016 in Louisville, KY in association with the 2016 MFRP Alliance Annual Meeting. The meeting included those laboratories awarded funding for food testing accreditation, AFRPS feed testing accreditation, and also at least 12 laboratories (15 were invited) not currently funded through cooperative agreements for accreditation. These unfunded laboratories were funded by AFDO to attend. FDA ORA laboratory quality managers were also in attendance and it is hoped that participation and involvement of FDA ORA laboratory quality staff in this meeting and other federal-state venues will help build a community among state and federal laboratory staff. The next meeting is still pending a funding agreement. The Animal Feed laboratories may have a required meeting along with the AAFCO meeting, which may impact the attendance next year.

Recommendations: Continue with this charge. Ideas for utilization, and population of the new categories, of the SME registry should be developed.

Executive Committee Action:

Approval



Disapproval



Date

6/24/16

Charge 2 Provide a committee structure environment and encourage involvement from laboratory managers to assist in technical guidance solutions and in sharing best practices.

Discussion: Laboratory Manager Steering Committee Meetings were held in this reporting period in September 2015, November 2015, January 2016, February 2016 (in-person), March 2016, and April 1 2016. Meetings were changed from twice a month to monthly to accommodate committee member workload. Members were afforded the opportunity to provide updates into the planning for the 2015 and 2016 Governmental Food and Feed Laboratory Accreditation meeting and have been provided updates on activities such as the Food and Feed Laboratory Curriculum Development Workgroup, PFP Laboratory Science Workgroup, Data Acceptance Workgroup, *GOODSamples*, Food and Feed Subcommittee, NASDA Produce Safety Project, and MFRP Standard 10, Laboratory Support review process and recommendations. Ensuring ISO sustainability is a topic that was specifically discussed on the March and April 2016 calls. The calls worked to further identify and start putting into action steps that will meet the information requirements to support future funding decisions. Topics included metrics, developing a survey to obtain targeted information needs, and collecting stories which provide a picture of the value received from the cooperative agreements and how cooperative agreements contribute to a robust support for an IFSS.

- The MFRPA Board designated the Laboratory Managers Steering Committee as the entity which will develop recommendations for changes to Standard 10 (Laboratory Standard) of the MFRPS.

Recommendations: Continue to develop concrete activities for the coming year specifically around sustainability of accreditation. Include sustainability as a focus of Charge #2 for 2016-2017. Also, the committee will be working on a resolution regarding the need for laboratories to achieve and maintain accreditation and continued funding for this initiative.

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Executive Committee Action:

Approval Disapproval Date 6/24/16

Charge 3: Develop a structured process to implement changes to the ISO accreditation standards and Program Standard10 (MFRPS).

Discussion: As described in Charge 2, Maria Ishida (NY Ag) is the appointed non-voting laboratory member to the MFRPA Board. She is also a member of the Laboratory Managers Steering Committee, which is the lead for changes to this activity.

Recommendations: Continue this activity.

Executive Committee Action:

Approval Disapproval Date 6/24/16

Charge 4: Serve as AFDO liaison with APHL and provide AFDO's Board of Directors with a list of relevant activities of mutual interest.

Discussion: The AFDO co-chairs are on many APHL committees. Ron Klein is the appointed liaison with APHL. Relevant activities include the many related to the Association's Cooperative Agreement. A Steering Committee made up of liaisons from each Association guides the work and assesses the progress of the cooperative agreement. Dan Rice with FDA ORA/ORS participates in the APHL/AFDO/AAFCO executive steering committee meetings.

Recommendations: Continue this activity.

Executive Committee Action:

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Charge 5: Collaborate with the Seafood Committee to develop a statement for inclusion in the revision of the AFDO Cured, Salted, Smoked Fish Establishments Good Manufacturing Practices *including *Listeria monocytogenes* Control Manual that addresses the validation process for a chemical manufacturer to verify that their product will have the effect they say it does, if used according to their instructions, to eliminate or reduce LM by a pre-determined log reduction. This will also apply to the upcoming Wholesale Sushi Guidance Document.

Discussion: This topic seems to be finished in the Seafood Committee.

Recommendations: Discontinue this topic as a specific charge. If the Seafood Committee, or any other committee has a need, the LST Committee is available and willing to assist.

Executive Committee Action:

Approval Disapproval Date 6/24/16

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