

**Voluntary Report** – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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**Report Name:** Renewed EU Effort for Loosening Animal Feed Ban on Animal Protein

**Country:** European Union

**Post:** Brussels USEU

**Report Category:** Agriculture in the News, Grain and Feed

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**Report Highlights:**

The EU may soon end the ban on processed animal protein (PAP) in poultry and pig feed. A proposal for a regulation to allow poultry PAPs in pig feed and pig PAPs in poultry feed is expected to be on the agenda of the Standing Committee for animal feed for approval by written procedure in the coming months. The EU ban on animal proteins in feed for farm animals was introduced through the 2001 BSE regulation and the only reauthorizations since then was for pig and poultry PAPs in feed for aquaculture in 2013.

In the Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed (SCoPAFF) of [December 15-16, 2020](#), the European Commission presented a [draft Commission Regulation](#) amending Annex IV to Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council (also known as the BSE regulation) that would allow the feeding of processed animal proteins (PAP) from poultry to pigs and pig PAPs to poultry again. As a large majority of Member States received the proposal positively, EU industry experts believe that the proposal has a good chance of gaining approval through written procedure in a SCoPAFF meeting in April or May. While the European Parliament, under the scrutiny procedure, must also vote on the proposal, it is not expected to block this proposal as it will give the EU feed sector access again to an important source of high-quality protein, while at the same time recycling large amounts of animal waste, which fits well with the goals of the EU Farm To Fork Strategy.

### Background

In response to the European BSE crisis the EC adopted [Regulation \(EC\) No 999/2001](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 May 2001, laying down rules for the prevention, control and eradication of certain transmissible spongiform encephalopathies, also known as the BSE regulation. Article 7, as detailed in Annex IV, installed a ban on the use of PAPs and meat and bone meal (MBM) in feed for farmed animals. In the EU, PAP is defined as originating from category 3 material only, while MBM refers to products originating from the more dangerous categories 1 and 2 as defined in the BSE regulation. Already in 1994, at the beginning of the BSE crisis, the EU had introduced a ban on feeding mammalian PAPs and MBM to ruminants.

In 2010, the EC had already published a [TSE roadmap](#) with the aim of gradually loosening the feed ban for aquaculture, poultry and pigs. In 2013, [the feeding of PAPs from pigs and poultry](#) was reauthorized for aquaculture, but despite several attempts the use of PAPs from poultry for pigs and the use of PAPs from pigs for poultry never gained the necessary political support, despite the continued ban on same-species PAPs. The reauthorization of the use of PAPs for feeding to ruminants or the use of PAPs from ruminants is not yet being discussed.

In May 2020, the European Commission (EC) declared a [German petition](#) to maintain the EU wide ban on feeding PAPs to pigs and poultry acceptable. In September 2020 the EC replied: *“The Commission is committed to continue the discussion with the Member States’ experts, with a view to eventually authorize the feeding of non-ruminant farmed animals with insect PAP, and to reauthorize the feeding of poultry with pig PAP and the feeding of pigs with poultry PAP, without jeopardizing animal and public health with regard to BSE, and in compliance with the framework laid out in the European Parliament resolution of 6 July 2011.”*

### Attachments:

No Attachments.