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Land Animal Proteins (LAPs):

Using LAPs as ingredients in aquafeed production has been a subject of considerable and ongoing debate, both in the public domain and at a political level.

Currently, LAPs are used in aquafeed production across a number of regions globally. Just like any other ingredient, they have benefits and drawbacks from both an environmental and commercial perspective.

What are LAPs?

- **By-products from animal farming**
- Parts of the animals that are not consumed by humans such as feather meal, blood meal, bone meal, haemoglobin powder
- Derived from animals tested and **declared fit for human consumption**

Why are they used as ingredients in feed?

- They can help meet the **growing demand for responsible feed** by increasing the range of ingredients available
- They contribute to the circular bioeconomy in which renewable biological resources are converted to value-added products
- They contain **high-quality proteins and essential nutrients**, including amino acids, minerals and vitamins, that support health, growth performance and feed efficiency in farmed species
- They produce **less particulate waste** than plant meals
- They are often **readily available to feed mills from local production**

The use of LAPs in aquafeed that come from manufacturers that haven't undergone thorough due diligence poses a reputational risk for retailers.

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Position on the use of LAPs in ASC-conforming feed

- We recognise that LAPs used in aquafeed can play a key role in meeting the growing demand for responsibly farmed fish by broadening the ingredients available
    - This highlights the importance of taking a holistic approach to risk assessment of **all ingredients** used in aquafeed
- LAPs are permitted under the ASC Feed Standard, provided:
    - The ingredient manufacturer has signed the feed mill's **Supplier Code of Conduct**
    - Due diligence (DD) is carried out on the **ingredient manufacturer**, and it demonstrates low legal (violations of laws and regulation), social (discrimination, forced and child labour) and environmental (water use, waste handling etc.) risks
- Requirements (aligned with Principle 1) ensure the ingredient manufacturer operates legally, and in a socially and environmentally responsible manner
    - This provides **visibility** and **transparency** to help understand risks associated with the industry
- The ASC GHG Calculator helps feed mills, and their ingredient suppliers estimate, track and report emissions, including scope 3 emissions from using LAPs as an ingredient
- This level of risk assessment is the same as for other 'alternative' (i.e. not marine or plant based) ingredients, including algae oil and insect meal
- Use of whole fish and fish meal marine proteins from the same species and family as the species being farmed is **prohibited** (e.g. no use of salmon proteins to feed salmon), therefore no sanitarian risk of prion disease

References:

- https://efpra.eu/rendered-products/processed-animal-proteins-paps/
- https://nutrinews.com/en/processed-animal-proteins-raw-materials/

Any Questions?

Contact: feed@asc-aqua.org

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