enforcement "vigorous" at the same time FDA appears to be de-emphasizing FPLA activity.

Recently, the agency abolished the FPLA Branch and distributed the Branch positions among two existing Branches in the Division of Regulatory Guidance in the Bureau of Foods (See FOOD CHEMICAL NEWS, Feb. 12, Page 2).

The agency's report listed the following FPLA enforcement activities:

> Food and cosmetic product seizures--114 (some were also for FD&C Act violations); establishment inspections--1,424; follow-up field investigations--1,315 hours; wharf examination--6,131; domestic sample checks --555; import sample checks--1,491; detentions of imported food and cosmetics--683; and warning letters on label violations--65.

During FY 1972, about 25,000,000 people were reached through FPLA speeches, workshops, radio and television programs, according to the agency's report.

The report noted that over 5,000 possibly non-complying products were submitted by State officials for review. State and local investigations were made of the misbranded products, the FDA report said.

The agency still thinks that nonfunctional slack-fill regulations are needed, but they are apparently a long way off since FDA is only at the stage of development of a "field program to collect the final data necessary" to issue the regulations.

FDA let contracts to seven state regulatory agencies in fiscal year 1972 for comprehensive label examinations at the manufacturer, repacker and distributor levels, the report said.

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ANIMAL FEED USERS AND SUPPLIERS ASK FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF PCB TOLERANCES

The Food and Drug Administration and industry need further consideration of the temporary tolerances of 2 p.p.m. for polychlorinated biphenyls in animal feed components according to comments filed with the agency (See FOOD CHEMICAL NEWS, Feb. 12, Page 16).

The Virginia Poultry Federation told FDA that residue tolerances should be established at the source because feed mills have no control over the raw materials they use.

Requests for further discussion of the tolerance levels were submitted by the Virginia Poultry Federation; National Fish Meal & Oil Association; Canderson Farms, Inc.; and Showell Poultry, Inc.

Associations and firms asked FDA to publish the PCB tolerances in the Federal Register with time allowed for filing comment.

The American Feed Manufacturers Association's comments filed earlier (See FOOD CHEMICAL NEWS, Feb. 5, Page 24), which noted that the tolerance reduction caught industry by surprise, were endorsed by the National Food Ingredients Association; the Jim Dandy Company; Honeggers & Co.

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BVM SURVEYS INCLUDE PESTICIDE, PCB CONTAMINATION OF FEEDS

The Food and Drug Administration's Bureau of Veterinary Medicine asked the field last year to conduct 100 surveys of processed feeds, field crops and by-products used for feed ingredients to determine the extent of pesticide and polychlorinated biphenyl contamination.

The program on pesticides and PCBs was one of a half dozen compliance programs issued by BVM in calendar 1972. Others dealt with:

(1) Follow-up on the Department of Agriculture's residue sampling program.

(2) Surveillance of illegally marketed penicillin and/or streptomycin combinations, which had not been certified by FDA.

(3) Removal from the market of veterinary diethystilbestrol injectables and other dosage forms of DES not covered by approved New Animal Drug Applications.

(4) Surveillance of all marketed sulfonamide-containing drugs to make sure withdrawal periods are being followed, and the products are properly labeled.

(5) Monitoring the use of secondhand bags for packaging of animal feed and feed ingredients, which FDA considers a potential source of feed adulteration.

The pesticide-PCB program directed District Offices to check processed feeds for chicken broilers, chicken layers, swine, dairy animals and beef cattle. Crops earmarked for surveillance included wheat, corn, oats, sorghum and sugar beets. Among the by-products listed were: sugar beet pulp, soybean oil meal, tallow, cottonseed oil meal, peanut oil meal, linseed oil meal, animal meal, fishmeal and poultry meal.

BVM instructed the field to give attention to imports on a selective sampling basis guided by previous District experience.

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BVM directed sampling from shipping points, including country elevators and terminal warehouses, and processors, such as feed mills or integrated feeder operations.

Commenting on previous surveys, the Bureau noted that excessive residues were found in about 5% of 1,293 feed and feed ingredient samples analyzed for pesticides in the first eight months of fiscal year 1972, and commented:

> "Misuse of pesticides and the recycling of pesticides through animal feed use of meat, fish and poultry are suspected to be prime factors contributing to pesticide levels in human food. Reduction . . . would be very effective in lowering the human dietary intake of pesticide chemicals."

The Bureau also noted that a previous survey of PCB's in animal feeds, completed in 1971, revealed that 5% of samples contained PCBs, with the highest level at 0.6 p.p.m.

Proxmire Hits FDA for Failing to Investigate French DES Studies

Meanwhile, Sen. Proxmire (D-Wis.) scored FDA for "failing to adequately investigate the results of two French studies showing that DES-implanted beef has an adverse impact on the reproductive cycle."

Noting that FDA still permits DES implants, Proxmire said he had reported results of two French studies, published in October of 1971 and January, 1972, that indicated that "the distribution over a five-week period of a ration containing 20% of the flesh of calves implanted with DES to adult female rats renders them sterile."

He said he asked FDA if the agency had plans to verify the work, but the FDA response indicated there was no interest in doing the same work, although the Canadians were doing the work after having banned implant use.

"The FDA reply indicated that the French tests were not relevant to implant use sanctioned in the United States because the restrictions are more stringent in this country," the Senator continued. "Instead of adapting the French approach to American standards and attempting to verify the results of the French study the FDA has, in their own words, 'not elected to conduct any studies.'"

Proxmire complained that "if present testing techniques discover no residues of DES in implanted slaughtered animals, implants will continue to be used," adding: "No effort will be made to determine whether or not the flesh of these animals interferes with the ability to bear children."

Calling FDA's response the "latest attempt to whitewash the use of a highly potent drug," Proxmire said, "The history of DES use is characterized by constant heel-dragging on the part of the FDA."