



EFSA in focus **ANIMALS**

ISSUE 09 - MAY 2011

Contents

Key topics

> Towards a more modern meat inspection system in Europe	1
> EFSA and ECDC review scientific evidence on possible links between TSEs in animals and humans	2
> EFSA assesses welfare risks to animals during transport	4
> EFSA reviews BSE/TSE infectivity in small ruminant tissues	4
> EFSA looks at welfare implications of collecting feathers from live geese	5
> EFSA's outlook for 2011	5
> Ensuring excellence in EFSA's scientific decision making	6

EFSA at work

> How prepared is EFSA for urgent requests for scientific advice?	6
> Risk of <i>Salmonella</i> contamination of chicken carcasses varies across EU	7
> Sensitivity of BSE monitoring under scrutiny	7

Working together

> EFSA and ECDC issue 2009 report on zoonoses and foodborne outbreaks in the EU	8
---	---

Publications

> EFSA's 2011 Work Plan	8
> The challenge of describing food: scientific colloquium report available	8
> A compilation of EFSA scientific outputs from 2010	9

Consultations

> EFSA consults on its guidance for assessing biomass used as animal feed	9
---	---

Mandates accepted

10

Opinions and other outputs adopted

14

> Key topics

Towards a more modern meat inspection system in Europe



EFSA has begun work on providing scientific advice to assist the European Commission in modernising Europe's meat inspection system. Together with the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC), the Authority will help the European Union to introduce a risk-based approach in all relevant stages of the meat production chain.

EFSA identifies and ranks public health hazards in meat. The ranking will cover biological hazards that are targeted by existing inspections, such as those for food-borne diseases (for example tuberculosis and brucellosis), but may be broadened to other hazards. The ranking will not cover Transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (TSEs), which are addressed separately by EFSA.

EFSA will also look at chemical risks including: veterinary drug residues (such as antibacterial substances or sedatives), unauthorised or prohibited anabolic substances (such as growth hormones or meat quality enhancers), and other chemical contaminants.

The Authority may recommend possible improvements or alternative methods for meat inspection at EU level. This may include revising current methods that

>>>

> STOP PRESS

EFSA advice on reduction of *Campylobacter* in chickens

EFSA's BIOHAZ Panel has published a scientific opinion assessing the public health impact of control measures to reduce the occurrence of *Campylobacter* in chickens and chicken meat. The experts also evaluated how reduction targets for the European Union may lead to a fall in the number of human cases of campylobacteriosis associated with the consumption of chicken meat, which accounts for 20-30% of total human cases. EFSA's experts say that measures before slaughter could reduce the risk by up to 50%, although this figure is expected to vary considerably between Member States. Further measures for risk reduction in the meat production chain are likely to reduce the risk by 50-100%, depending on the measure.

For more information.

may not be adequate in detecting risks or disproportionate to the risk involved. EFSA's recommendations must take account of the impact of any changes proposed on animal health and welfare monitoring, and propose possible remedies if required.

In addition, EFSA will put forward epidemiological indicators for specific public health hazards which can be used by risk managers to consider adaptations in meat inspection methods.

This large body of work will draw on the support of a large group of EFSA scientific experts involved in animal health and

welfare, chemical contaminants, biological health hazards including zoonoses (animal diseases transmissible to humans), risk assessment methodologies and data collection. In 2011, the focus will be on domestic pigs, with poultry, cows, sheep, goats and horses to follow. ■

[For more information.](#)

EFSA and ECDC review scientific evidence on possible links between TSEs in animals and humans



Regarding Classical scrapie in goats and sheep, no epidemiological evidence suggests it is zoonotic; whereas for Atypical scrapie in sheep and goats, the scientific data currently available are too limited to conclude whether it has the potential to be zoonotic or not.

For other TSEs, a number of uncertainties make it impossible at present to draw definite

conclusions on possible links between animals and humans. One of the reasons for this is that data on the monitoring of TSEs in animals are too recent to be compared to the respective human data. The opinion therefore recommends that systematic monitoring of TSE diseases be continued in both humans and animals.

In addition to epidemiological data, the scientists also evaluated evidence obtained from experimental transmission of TSEs in laboratory studies. The opinion states that the results of some of these studies suggest there might be a possibility of animal-to-human transfer for other TSEs, in addition to Classical BSE in cattle. In particular, some data indicate that one of the new atypical BSE agents, the L-BSE or BASE agent, may have a similar or higher zoonotic potential than the Classical BSE agent. The opinion however points out that at present it is not possible to define how informative these laboratory studies are for measuring the transfer of TSEs between animals and humans under real exposure conditions.

This joint opinion of EFSA and ECDC provides an overview of the situation in relation to the zoonotic potential of TSEs and may support risk managers in their work on those TSEs which are of major concern for human health. ■

EFSA and the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) published in December 2010 a joint opinion reviewing the latest available scientific information on possible links between Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (TSEs) in animals and humans. Current epidemiological and laboratory tools and methods for the evaluation of possible association of animal and human TSEs were also critically evaluated.

In the opinion, EFSA and ECDC have undertaken the first comprehensive review of epidemiological and laboratory studies on possible links between TSEs in animals and humans at EU level. The opinion builds on previous work carried out by EFSA on the zoonotic potential of single TSE agents, as well as a considerable number of other scientific studies on prion diseases.

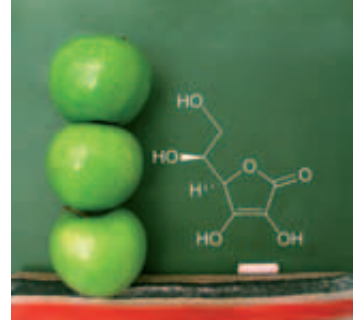
The findings in the opinion confirm that at present the only TSE proven to be zoonotic (i.e. transmissible from animals to humans), remains Classical Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE), known in humans as variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (vCJD).

Epidemiological evidence shows that the most common form of TSE in humans is sporadic Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (sCJD). The cause of sporadic CJD remains uncertain. While scientific research to date has not identified an environmental source of infection, the Panel could not exclude the possibility that a small number of cases could be zoonotic.

In addition to epidemiological data, the scientists also evaluated evidence obtained from experimental transmission of TSEs in laboratory studies. The opinion states that the results of some of these studies suggest there might be a possibility of animal-to-human transfer for other TSEs, in addition to Classical BSE in cattle. In particular, some data indicate that one of the new atypical BSE agents, the L-BSE or BASE agent, may have a similar or higher zoonotic potential than the Classical BSE agent. The opinion however points out that at present it is not possible to define how informative these laboratory studies are for measuring the transfer of TSEs between animals and humans under real exposure conditions.

This joint opinion of EFSA and ECDC provides an overview of the situation in relation to the zoonotic potential of TSEs and may support risk managers in their work on those TSEs which are of major concern for human health. ■

[For more information.](#)



Sign up and be an EFSA expert

- Want to make a difference to EU food safety?
- Contribute to EU risk assessment?
- Value high profile networking with peers?
- Driven by excellence?

EFSA invites leading scientists to sign up to its new expert database.

EFSA is the European Union's scientific risk assessment body on food and feed safety, nutrition, animal health and welfare, plant health and protection.

EFSA, in cooperation with Member States, has decided to set up a database of external scientific experts able to assist its Scientific Committee, Scientific Panels, EFSA networks

and respective working groups. EFSA will draw on this database to find experts to help deliver high-quality, independent and timely scientific advice.

You can be part of that team of top scientists helping EFSA support Europe's decision makers in ensuring that Europe's food is safe.

How can I apply?

Simply visit the EFSA website and fill in the form at www.efsa.europa.eu

Committed to ensuring that Europe's food is safe.

EFSA assesses welfare risks to animals during transport

In January 2011, scientists on the EFSA's AHAW Panel have made a number of recommendations based upon a thorough review of the most recent scientific literature from 2004 to date, following the framework of the current European legislation on the welfare of animals during transport. The Panel members set out indicators that veterinary inspectors and transport workers could use in assessing the welfare of transported animals. The experts also highlighted the need for further research, for example, on travelling times, space and the levels of temperature during transport.

In 2005, the European Union laid down provisions to protect the welfare of animals during transport. EFSA's opinion will contribute to a report the European Commission is due to present in 2011 to the European Parliament and to the EU Member States on the impact of the 2005 regulation.

The opinion presents risks related to the transport of the following farm species: horses, pigs, sheep, goats, cattle, poultry, and rabbits. It outlines the level of risk related to various aspects of animal transport like the means of transport, transport practices and space requirements. EFSA also gathered new

scientific and technical data at a technical meeting in October 2010 with representatives from 22 organisations, including the transport industry, livestock breeders, and animal welfare non-governmental organisations (NGOs).

This opinion also lists a series of practical indicators and clinical measurements, which can be used by animal industry professionals and inspectors to assess the welfare of animals during transport. For example, if, after inspecting an animal, a professional or an inspector believes it is suffering from high body temperature or making abnormal respiratory sounds, such measurements can be used to justify a decision to declare the animal unfit for transport.

The experts also stress the need for further research on aspects such as: limits and regulation of temperatures during the transport of poultry and rabbits; the effect of ventilation on pigs; the minimum space allowed for rabbits, pigs and newly-hatched chickens; and the duration of the journey which will not harm unweaned horses, pigs and calves. ■

[For more information.](#)



EFSA reviews BSE/TSE infectivity in small ruminant tissues

EFSA has published a scientific opinion on Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathy (TSE) infectivity in the tissues of small ruminants such as goats and sheep. Based on new scientific evidence and taking into account the current situation with respect to the occurrence of TSEs in animals in the EU, EFSA's Biological Hazards (BIOHAZ) panel has reviewed the distribution of TSE infectivity in small ruminant tissues and has provided for the first time a quantification of the impact of current measures in managing TSE-related risks in small ruminants. The removal of Specified Risk Materials (SRM) such as the brain and spinal cord from animals going into the food chain protects consumers from TSE-related risks.

In this opinion, EFSA's Biological Hazards (BIOHAZ) Panel reviews the latest scientific data on the infectivity of different small ruminant tissues for Classical scrapie, Atypical scrapie and BSE and takes into consideration aspects such as the age and genetic makeup of the animals. With the exception of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE), other TSEs in animals such as scrapie have not been found to be transmissible to humans.

The Panel noted that only one single case of naturally occurring BSE has ever been identified in small ruminants worldwide.

Moreover, the opinion provides a set of simulations quantifying for the first time the impact of different SRM options on reducing the risk from the possible presence of BSE in small ruminants. The Panel says that, should a BSE-infected small ruminant ever enter the food chain, the current SRM policy would allow a 10-fold reduction of the infectivity load, that is the level of TSE agent present in an infected animal. Experts also advise that the use of the dressed carcass only (excluding the head and the spinal cord) would allow a greater reduction of the BSE exposure risk than the current SRM measures.

With respect to classical scrapie, the panel concludes that, as for BSE, the current SRM policy allows a 10-fold reduction of the infectivity load. The Panel points out that a modification of the SRM list based only on considerations for BSE will also have an impact on human exposure to Classical and Atypical scrapie agents. In addition, the Panel adds that the infectivity of goat kids below 3 months of age is negligible, even if they come from infected herds.

For Atypical scrapie in sheep and goats, the Panel says that since some infectivity, albeit at low levels, can be found in other tissues than those specified in the SRM list, it cannot be >>>



assumed that the current SRM measures will prevent the entry of the Atypical scrapie agent into the food chain.

The Panel recommends further improving data collection and risk assessment in this area of work. In particular, it recommends updating this opinion when data from ongoing experiments, such as those concerning the development of BSE in goats, become available. The Panel specifies that the development of specific assessment models could provide a more precise estimate of the impact of SRM removal policies on managing risks from TSEs. ■

[For more information.](#)

EFSA looks at welfare implications of collecting feathers from live geese

EFSA's opinion on the welfare implications of collecting feathers from live geese concludes that this practice can be carried out without causing pain, suffering or injury to the birds if done at a time when the birds are moulting and if brushing and combing techniques are used. Experts on the Animal Health and Welfare (AHAW) Panel said however that under current commercial conditions, plucking feathers, a way of collecting feathers which causes pain, is unavoidable. They therefore recommended that a control system should be put in place to ensure that only moulting feathers are gathered from live geese.

In the opinion, published in November 2010, the Panel points out that brushing or combing live geese to collect moulting feathers causes no tissue damage, whereas plucking feathers (that is pulling them out) will result in pain and other forms of suffering, such as bleeding and skin damage. However, as different parts of the body moult at different times, some feathers may be unavoidably plucked when brushing and combing techniques are used. Furthermore, not all the birds in a flock moult at the same time, so those which are not at the appropriate stage in the moulting process may also have their feathers plucked.

EFSA experts recommended that only feathers at the appropriate moulting phase should be gathered and that a control system be put in place to ensure this is carried out in practice, such as by checking for the presence of skin tears or for any blood or tissue on the feathers. Operators should be familiar with the difference

between feathers that are ripe for collection and those that are not.

The Panel also concluded that suffering should be avoided or minimised when catching and handling the geese and that operators should be aware of good animal handling methods. The presence of bloody feathers, skin injuries, posture changes (e.g. hanging wings), and broken or dislocated bones can be used to assess the welfare of geese submitted for feather collection. They also suggested that further animal-based indicators should be developed and that future research in the field should be carried out to establish methods to evaluate the maturity of feathers.

The opinion follows a request from the European Commission to assess the welfare of live geese from which feathers are collected for down production. In order to collect the best available data, the Panel looked at all relevant scientific studies and consulted stakeholders from Member States and beyond. A technical meeting attended by representatives from industry and animal welfare organisations was held in May 2010. In addition, a public consultation of the draft opinion took place in August 2010. ■



EFSA's outlook for 2011

EFSA expects 2011 to be another busy and productive year supporting Europe's risk managers with high quality scientific advice, according to the Authority's 2011 Management Plan.

The Authority plans to deliver some 750 scientific outputs and around 100 supporting publications in 2011. Two-thirds of these now concern applications where EFSA evaluates regulated substances and products, such as pesticides, feed additives, GMOs and enzymes, as well as the assessment of health claims. EFSA will also continue to elaborate its Science Strategy which will pull together the various strands of the Authority's scientific planning into a coherent, overarching document.

EFSA has reviewed its organisational structure and working processes to become even more efficient. This will optimise



strategic planning and budgeting, establish a fully integrated performance management system, and offer a higher quality and more efficient service to applicants.

To help the Authority tackle its increasing workload, EFSA will help pool Europe's risk assessment resources more effectively >>>

by better involving Member States in its activities. For example, EFSA will outsource € 8.3m of activities to dedicated Member State organisations to assist in data collection or other such preparatory work. The Authority will also keep Member States better informed of its medium-term plans. In addition, EFSA will continue to strengthen its relationships with the European Commission, European Parliament and Council and will consult partners and stakeholders in developing its new policy on independence and scientific decision-making processes.

Active dialogue with stakeholders, including applicants, will continue to be vital to EFSA through, for example, technical meetings and EFSA's Stakeholder Consultative Platform. Globally, the Authority will also continue to build bridges with international partners, in line with its 2009 international strategy

and in liaison with the European Commission. This will help EFSA better position itself in relation to its work on emerging risks as well as grant it greater access to data and the shared development of risk assessment approaches.

The Authority will measure the effectiveness of its Strategic Plan 2009-2013 to see whether the planned actions are on track. EFSA will also be evaluated externally for the second time in 2011. The Authority will begin to use EFSA's newly-developed corporate impact indicators to gauge the extent to which its work is having an impact on Europe's legislative processes. In addition, EFSA will begin implementing a thematic approach to its communications as outlined in its Communications Strategy 2010-2013. ■

[For more information.](#)

Ensuring excellence in EFSA's scientific decision making



Scientific excellence and independence are two closely linked core values of EFSA. The *Policy on Declaration of Interests* (DOIs) is one of the central

pillars of the multifaceted system that EFSA has put in place to safeguard its independence which incorporates organisational governance, quality review, selection of experts, collegial decision-making, rules of procedure, consultation policies and transparency in risk assessment.

The *Policy on DOIs* was first adopted by EFSA's Management Board in 2007 and, as stipulated in the policy document itself, is scheduled for review this year. In light of recent questions on EFSA's independence and, more generally, global controversies related to the science underpinning public policies, it is an opportune time for reflection.

Unlike many of its international counterparts, EFSA relies heavily on external expertise, mainly drawn from academia, research organisations and national food safety agencies, for its scientific advice; for example, more than half of its scientific panel members come from the national food safety agencies. And as the European research funding model increasingly relies on public-private partnerships, it is essential that EFSA has a robust system in place to proactively identify and manage any professional or personal conflicts of interest that might influence the objectivity of its scientific advice.

To assess the effectiveness of its independence systems, EFSA commissioned two independent reviews in 2010. The **first of**

these assessed the Authority's efficiency in implementing the policy. An external consultancy analysed a sample of more than 180 DOI screenings of the 5000 that EFSA completes annually and concluded that the Authority is generally effective in implementing the policy with only minor compliance issues. EFSA also commissioned an **independent report** benchmarking its policies, structures and practices with ten peer international organisations. It found that EFSA has one of the most advanced and robust systems in place for ensuring the independence of its scientific advice.

The outcomes and recommendations of these two external reviews, together with the practical experience gained from implementing the policy and the feedback of partners and stakeholders, have helped EFSA formulate a **reflection paper** on the review of the *Policy on DOIs* which was shared with EFSA's Management Board in mid-March and later with the Scientific Committee, Advisory Forum and Stakeholder Consultative Platform. Their input will be reflected in a draft *Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision Making* which is submitted to the Management Board in June. The draft policy will integrate the existing elements of the policies, implementing procedures and systems that the Authority uses to protect its independence and will be subject to an online public consultation on EFSA's website.

The *Policy on Independence and Scientific Decision Making* will contribute to strengthening the confidence of consumers in Europe's food safety system, a key element of EFSA's mission. ■

[For more information.](#)

> EFSA at work

How prepared is EFSA for urgent requests for scientific advice?

In January EFSA published its annual report on how prepared it was in 2009 for crises. The report looks at three elements of the Authority's crisis preparedness: the Emergency Manual, the emergency training activities that it carried out in 2009 and its emergency response assessment. The report also describes how EFSA responded to requests for urgent advice in 2009.

EFSA needs to be able to respond quickly and efficiently to provide scientific and technical support to inform Europe's risk managers and consumers on "hot issues" and to communicate about its findings. For this, EFSA aims to be fully prepared for requests for urgent advice.

In 2009, EFSA further developed its in-house procedures >>>

for use within the Authority and by its staff in case of an urgent request for scientific advice. It introduced two additional activity levels for responding to urgent requests for advice, explaining in detail the response teams' roles and responsibilities. EFSA also established additional tools that will help respond to urgent requests for scientific advice, such as a functional mailbox for storing all relevant incoming and outgoing emails.

Also in 2009, EFSA conducted one in-house training and one crisis simulation exercise with Member States and the Commission. The exercises demonstrated that EFSA has a mature understanding of urgent advice planning and preparedness, and is well prepared for grasping the scientific problem at hand and for dealing with it in a systematic way. It was also evident from the exercises that EFSA has a good and trusting working relationship with the Commission, the Advisory Forum, where

Member States are represented, and its Advisory Forum's Communications Working Group, and the respective roles are clearly understood. However, the exercises also revealed that improvement would be beneficial in internal information management and record keeping during the response to requests for urgent scientific advice by further developing the procedures and training EFSA staff on these issues.

Last but not least, during 2009, EFSA received two urgent requests for scientific advice, one concerning the presence of packaging ink in breakfast cereals and another one on nicotine in wild mushrooms. In both cases, the Authority was able to turn the advice around quickly, achieve consistent news coverage of its messages and avoid the generation of undue public concern. ■

[For more information](#)

Risk of *Salmonella* contamination of chicken carcasses varies across EU



In January, EFSA published an evaluation of factors associated with *Salmonella* contamination of chicken carcasses. The report, based on data from an EU-wide baseline survey, shows that the risk for contamination depends

on slaughter processes and varies significantly across countries and between slaughterhouses within a country, even when other associated factors are accounted for.

In the *Salmonella* survey 10,035 carcasses were sampled from 561 slaughterhouses in 26 European Union Member States as well as Norway and Switzerland.

Analysis of the survey results showed that the risk for *Salmonella*-contaminated carcasses was higher with bigger slaughter capacity of the slaughterhouse and with processing at a later time of the day.

The *Salmonella* serovar distribution varied among Member States. The most commonly reported serovars were *S. Infantis*, *S. Enteritidis* and *S. Typhimurium*. No specific serovar was predominant in all countries surveyed. Many of the reported serovars seem to have become well-established in the production of chicken carcasses. ■

[For more information.](#)

Sensitivity of BSE monitoring under scrutiny

The number of Classical BSE cases detected in cattle in the European Union has constantly declined in recent years. As a consequence, the BSE monitoring regime implemented in EU Member States is regularly evaluated, with a view to possible relaxation of related measures. Currently, BSE testing in the EU is mandatory for healthy slaughtered cattle above the age of 30 months, and for animals from particular risk groups from 24 months of age. For a group of 17 Member States, fulfilling certain criteria and following advice from EFSA, derogation has been granted for testing only cattle aged above 48 months.

In this context, EFSA's Panel on Biological Hazards (BIOHAZ) has recently published an updated assessment of risks related to the revision of the BSE monitoring regime in some EU Member States. This follows previous opinions issued by the Panel in 2008 and 2009. The current update extends the assessment to all 25 Member States that joined the EU by 2004 and have therefore implemented EU legislation related to BSE for at least 6 years, making them eligible for a revision of their BSE monitoring programmes according to criteria from the European Commission.

The opinion evaluates both the age of animals detected with BSE in each year up to 2009 and the number of BSE cases in animal cohorts born in different years. In order to forecast the effects of easing the criteria for BSE testing in cattle, the BIOHAZ Panel assessed through modellisation how many Classical BSE

cases could be expected to be missed under a "worst case" and a "more realistic" scenario. The results of the model show that the likelihood of detecting new cases is very low, but a small probability of detecting cases of Classical BSE remains in some age groups. This conclusion about the epidemiological situation is valid for 22 of the 25 Member States assessed, which means that a similar testing regime could be applied to all of them, apart from the Czech Republic, Poland and Slovakia. For these 3 countries, the preliminary analyses of the data showed inconclusive results and the model could not be applied. The European Commission has already asked EFSA to update its assessment for these countries based on additional BSE surveillance data. This update has been produced in the first half of 2011.

In general, the BIOHAZ Panel recommended to comprehensively reassess the sensitivity of the present or intended new EU surveillance system for detecting the re-emergence of Classical BSE, the prevalence of Atypical BSE or the emergence of a novel TSE in cattle. If BSE testing of healthy slaughtered cattle was to be reduced or stopped, the Panel further recommended that attention should be paid to making sure that animals belonging to increased BSE risk groups do not enter the non-tested animal populations. ■

[For more information.](#)

EFSA and ECDC issue 2009 report on zoonoses and foodborne outbreaks in the EU

In March, EFSA and the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) have published their Annual Report on Zoonoses and Food-borne outbreaks for 2009, which gives an overview of zoonotic infections, shared in nature by humans and animals, and disease outbreaks caused by consuming contaminated food. The report shows that the number of human cases of *Salmonella*, one of the most reported zoonotic infections was 17% lower in 2009 than in 2008 (108,614 cases compared to 131,468 cases), reflecting a decreasing trend in the EU over the past five years. The report says that the reduction targets set by the European Commission to reduce the spread of *Salmonella* in poultry, eggs and chicken meat are likely to be the main reasons for the reduction in the number of human cases. However, *Campylobacter* and *Listeria* registered increases (up 4% to 198,252 cases and up 19% to 1,645 cases respectively). The report, which covers 14 zoonotic infections,

also provides data on other zoonoses, such as brucellosis, bovine tuberculosis and rabies, and trichinellosis and echinococcosis, two parasitic zoonoses.

The report also gives an overview of food-borne outbreaks in 2009: 5,550 were recorded, affecting nearly 49,000 people and causing 46 deaths. Most of the outbreaks were caused by *Salmonella* (31%) followed by viruses (18%) and bacterial toxins (10%). The most frequent food sources of these outbreaks were eggs and egg products, mixed and buffet meals, and pork and derived products.

The full version with data per country and annexes is available on EFSA's and ECDC's websites.

[For more information.](#)

> Publications

EFSA's 2011 Work Plan

EFSA has published its 2011 Work Plan outlining its activities over the year. It predicts that 2011 will again be a busy and productive year, resulting in some 900 scientific outputs and supporting publications. Two-thirds of these will involve the evaluation of regulated substances, an area to which EFSA is devoting more and more of its resources.

In 2011, EFSA will review its organisational structure and working processes. This will enable it to: optimise strategic planning and budgeting; establish a fully integrated performance management system; and offer higher quality and more efficient service to applicants.

EFSA will help pool Europe's risk assessment resources more effectively by better involving Member States. It will continue

to strengthen its relationships with the European Commission, European Parliament and Council and further engage in active dialogue with stakeholders.

In addition, EFSA will develop its science strategy and implement the actions resulting from its Communications Strategy 2010-2013. The overarching approach will be more thematic, demonstrating and illustrating the impact of EFSA's work.

[For more information.](#)



The challenge of describing food: scientific colloquium report available



The latest in EFSA's series of scientific colloquium reports has been published. It reports on discussions held among European and international experts on key issues related to the development of a harmonised food description and classification system.

EFSA scientists organised the colloquium to have an open scientific debate on the requirements of such a food description and classification system and to build on experiences gained from the development of existing systems. Consideration was given to different

approaches to classify foods and the diversity of needs for the various areas of food safety.

EFSA has a role in promoting and co-ordinating the development of harmonised risk assessment methodologies. Exposure assessment is a crucial and integral part of risk assessment and the quality of available data both on food consumption and on occurrence levels may have a major impact on the outcome of risk assessment.

Implementation of a common food description and classification system would improve the consistency and reliability of exposure assessment carried out by EFSA and its various panels and by other experts in Europe.

[For more information.](#)

A compilation of EFSA scientific outputs from 2010

EFSA has compiled the scientific outputs from its Scientific Committee, Panels and units from 2010 into one easy-to-use portable DVD.

Users can quickly and simply browse the DVD contents to find the documents they want. These can be opinions, guidance, statements, pesticide conclusions or reasoned opinions, or scientific and technical reports of EFSA. The outputs are also divided by Scientific Committee, Panel or unit for ease of use. ■



[For more information.](#)

> Consultations

EFSA consults on its guidance for assessing biomass used as animal feed

EFSA's Feed Additives Panel launched a public consultation on its draft guidance for applicants needing to submit dossiers to EFSA for assessing biomass used in animal feed in November 2010.

Organic matter produced by microorganisms, known as biomass, is used in animal feed as a protein source. Under EU law today, only biomass that has been produced by genetically modified organisms needs to be authorised before being placed on the market. However, while applicants can consult recent guidance for the genetic modification of microorganisms, the guidance for applicants covering the assessment of the product itself is over 25 years old and not in line with today's assessment practices.

Therefore, the panel drafted up-to-date guidance focusing on the nutritional value of the product. The guidance was then



published on the EFSA website. The consultation has since closed.

[For more information.](#)

> Scientific contracts and grants

External reports published

Animal welfare risk assessment guidelines on housing and management (EFSA Housing Risk)

<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/supporting/pub/87e.htm>

Pre-assessment of environmental impact of zinc and copper used in animal nutrition

<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/supporting/pub/74e.htm>

Bibliographic review on the potential of micro-organisms, microbial products and enzymes to induce respiratory sensitisation

<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/supporting/pub/75e.htm>

Development of harmonised survey methods for food-borne pathogens in foodstuffs in the European Union

<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/supporting/pub/83e.htm>

Inventory of data sources for the identification of fish diseases

<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/supporting/pub/90e.htm>

Defining Environmental Risk Assessment Criteria for Genetically Modified Mammals and Birds to be placed on the EU Market

<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/supporting/pub/107e.htm>

A quantitative microbiological risk assessment of *Campylobacter* in the broiler meat chain

<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/supporting/pub/132e.htm>

Mandates accepted: January-April 2011

Information on all other on-going requests is available in EFSA's [register of questions](#).

Animal Health & Welfare (AHAW)

Request for a scientific opinion concerning hatchery waste as animal by-products

Deadline: 31-Jul-11 Mandate number: M-2010-0524

Request for a scientific opinion concerning the use of animal –based measures to assess the welfare of pigs

Deadline: 31-Dec-11 Mandate number: M-2011-0131

Request for an update of the scientific opinions concerning the welfare of cattle kept for beef production and the welfare of intensive calf farming systems

Deadline: 30-Jun-12 Mandate number: M-2011-0135

Internal Mandate: procurement on preparatory work for the future development of a scientific opinion on the welfare of calf and beef cattle

Deadline: 31-Jul-11 Mandate number: M-2011-0153

Assessment Methodology (AMU)

Request for a scientific opinion and technical assistance on the public health hazards to be covered by inspection of meat-SWINE

Deadline: 30-Apr-11 Mandate number: M-2010-0232

The use of raw moments compared to Monte Carlo simulation approach in a QMRA model on *Campylobacter* in broiler meat

Deadline: 10-Mar-11 Mandate number: M-2008-0452

Support to NDA opinion on dietary reference values for protein intake

Deadline: 31-Mar-12 Mandate number: M-2005-0015

Internal Mandate proposed by EFSA to the AMU Unit for an Article 36 on “Feasibility study on the use of farmer/producer associations/federations to form sentinel surveillance networks for adverse events in primary production”

Deadline: 31-Jan-13 Mandate number: M-2011-0130

Biological Hazards (BIOHAZ)

Scientific Opinion on a summary of scientific studies undertaken by the UK Food Standards Agency to support a proposed production method for smoked ‘skin-on’ sheep meat

Deadline: 30-Apr-11 Mandate number: M-2010-0413

Internal Mandate proposed by EFSA to the BIOHAZ and CEF Units for the preparation of an EFSA statement summarising the conclusions and recommendations from the two opinions on irradiation of food adopted by the BIOHAZ and CEF Panels

Deadline: 31-Mar-11 Mandate number: M-2011-0005

Request for a scientific opinion concerning hatchery waste as animal by-products

Deadline: 31-Jul-11 Mandate number: M-2010-0524

Self-tasking mandate for a scientific opinion on the maintenance of the list of QPS recommended biological agents intentionally added to food or feed as notified to EFSA (2011 update)

Deadline: 31-Dec-11 Mandate number: M-2011-0030

Assessment of epidemiological data in relation to the health hazards with regard to the presence of parasites in wild caught fish from certain fishing grounds in the Baltic Sea

Deadline: 31-Jul-11 Mandate number: M-2011-0003

EFSA approaches to risk assessment in the area of antimicrobial resistance, with an emphasis in commensal microorganisms

Deadline:	30-Jun-11	Mandate number:	M-2011-0032
-----------	-----------	-----------------	-------------

Evaluation of the efficacy of lactic acid for the removal of microbial surface contamination of beef carcasses, cuts and trimmings

Deadline:	31-Jul-11	Mandate number:	M-2011-0010
-----------	-----------	-----------------	-------------

Request to reassess the BSE epidemiological situation as regards to Czech Republic, Slovakia and Poland. Opinion on a second update on the risk for human and animal health related to the revision of the BSE monitoring regime in some Member States.

Mandate number:	M-2011-0055
-----------------	-------------

Feed Additives (FEEDAP)**Taurine for all animal species**

Deadline:	Additional data request	Mandate number:	M-2010-0479
-----------	-------------------------	-----------------	-------------

Botanically defined flavourings from Botanical Group 06 - Laurales, Magnoliales, Piperales for all animal species and categories

Deadline:	Additional data request	Mandate number:	M-2010-0476
-----------	-------------------------	-----------------	-------------

Botanically defined flavourings from Botanical Group 09 - Zingiberales for all animal species and categories

Deadline:	Additional data request	Mandate number:	M-2010-0473
-----------	-------------------------	-----------------	-------------

L-threonine for all animal species

Deadline:	Additional data request	Mandate number:	M-2010-0333
-----------	-------------------------	-----------------	-------------

L-tryptophan for all animal species

Deadline:	Additional data request	Mandate number:	M-2010-0325
-----------	-------------------------	-----------------	-------------

Botanically defined flavourings from Botanical Group 01 - Lamiales for all animal species and categories

Deadline:	Additional data request	Mandate number:	M-2010-0487
-----------	-------------------------	-----------------	-------------

L-cystine for all animal species

Deadline:	Additional data request	Mandate number:	M-2010-0493
-----------	-------------------------	-----------------	-------------

L-tyrosine (L-tyrosine - food grade) for all animal species

Deadline:	Additional data request	Mandate number:	M-2010-0492
-----------	-------------------------	-----------------	-------------

Melissa officinalis dry extract (Nor-Balm®) for all animal species

Deadline:	07-Jul-11	Mandate number:	M-2010-0491
-----------	-----------	-----------------	-------------

Natugrain® TS/L (endo-1,4-beta-xylanase, endo-1,4-beta-glucanase) for chickens reared for laying, turkeys for breeding purposes, turkeys reared for breeding, minor avian species others than ducks and ornamental birds

Deadline:	02-Aug-11	Mandate number:	M-2010-0259
-----------	-----------	-----------------	-------------

AveMix® 02 CS and L (endo-1,3(4)-beta-glucanase, endo-1,4-beta-xylanase and pectinase) for piglets (weaned)

Deadline:	15-May-11	Mandate number:	M-2011-0013
-----------	-----------	-----------------	-------------

Vitamin B6 (pyridoxine hydrochloride) for all animal species

Deadline:	04-Aug-11	Mandate number:	M-2010-0536
-----------	-----------	-----------------	-------------

Amylofeed® (Endo-1,3(4)-beta-glucanase, endo-1,4-beta-xylanase and alpha-amylase) for piglets (weaned) and young minor porcine species

Deadline:	Additional data request	Mandate number:	M-2010-0543
-----------	-------------------------	-----------------	-------------

Potassium sorbate for all animal species

Deadline:	11-Aug-11	Mandate number:	M-2010-0425
-----------	-----------	-----------------	-------------

Cygro® 10G (Maduramicin ammonium) for turkeys

Deadline: Additional data request Mandate number: M-2011-0019

Botanically defined flavourings from Botanical Group 20 for cats and dogs

Deadline: Additional data request Mandate number: M-2010-0534

FINASE® EC (6-phytase) for sows

Deadline: 31-Mar-11 Mandate number: M-2011-0040

ROVABIO® EXCEL (endo-1,3(4)-beta-glucanase and endo-1,4-beta-xylanase) for chickens for fattening, laying hens, turkeys for fattening, piglets (weaned), pigs for fattening, ducks, guinea fowls, quails, geese, pheasants, pigeons

Deadline: Additional data request Mandate number: M-2010-0469

Lactobacillus plantarum E-98 NCIMB 30236 for all animal species

Deadline: 02-Oct-11 Mandate number: M-2011-0022

Acetic acid, calcium acetate and sodium diacetate for all animal species

Deadline: Additional data request Mandate number: M-2010-0560

Ethyl ester of beta-apo-8'-carotenoic acid for poultry for fattening and poultry for laying

Deadline: Additional data request Mandate number: M-2010-0480

Origanum heracleoticum L. for suckling piglets, weaned piglets, pigs for fattening, sows for reproduction, sows for benefits in piglets, chickens for fattening, chickens reared for laying, laying hens, turkeys for fattening and breeding and reared for breeding, calves for rearing, veal production, cattle for fattening, dairy cows for milk production, cows for reproduction, lambs for rearing, lambs for fattening, dairy sheep for milk production, ewes for reproduction, kids for rearing, kids for fattening, dairy goats for milk production, goats for reproduction, fin fish, shrimps

Deadline: 15-Sep-11 Mandate number: M-2010-0471

SUILECTIN™ (Lectins isolated from kidney bean - Phaseolus vulgaris) for piglets (suckling)

Deadline: 16-Sep-11 Mandate number: M-2010-0343

Tetra-basic zinc chloride for all animal species

Deadline: Additional data request Mandate number: M-2011-0047

Sodium benzoate, propionic acid and sodium propionate for pigs, bovines, poultry, sheep, goats, rabbits and horses

Deadline: 25-Sep-11 Mandate number: M-2010-0555

KEMZYME Plus Dry (endo-1,3(4)-beta-glucanase, endo-1,4-beta-glucanase, alpha-amylase, bacillolysin and endo-1,4-beta-xylanase) for chickens for fattening, chickens reared for laying, laying hens, turkeys for fattening, turkeys reared for breeding, ducks for fattening/laying, turkeys for laying, quails, pheasants, partridges, guinea fowl, geese for fattening/laying, pigeons, ostriches, peacocks, flamingos, ornamental birds, piglets (weaned)

Deadline: Additional data request Mandate number: M-2010-0477

KEMZYME Plus Liquid (endo-1,3(4)-beta-glucanase, endo-1,4-beta-glucanase, alpha-amylase and endo-1,4-beta-xylanase) for chickens for fattening, chickens reared for laying, laying hens, turkeys for fattening, turkeys reared for breeding, ducks for fattening/laying, turkeys for laying, quails, pheasants, partridges, guinea fowl, geese for fattening/laying, pigeons, ostriches, peacocks, flamingos, ornamental birds, piglets (weaned)

Deadline: Additional data request Mandate number: M-2010-0475

CAROPHYLL® Red (canthaxanthin) for turkeys for breeding and other poultry for breeding

Deadline: Additional data request Mandate number: M-2011-0035

Bixin (norbixin potassium) for all animal species

Deadline: 06-Oct-11 Mandate number: M-2010-0545

Botanically defined flavourings from Botanical Group 19 - Equisetales, Fucales for all animal species and categories

Deadline: 07-Oct-11 Mandate number: M-2011-0072

Propionic acid, sodium propionate, calcium propionate and ammonium propionate for all animal species

Deadline: Additional data request Mandate number: M-2010-0482

Amoklor (ammonium chloride) for lambs for fattening

Deadline: 08-Oct-11 Mandate number: M-2010-0392

Titanium dioxide (anatase and rutile structure) for all animal species

Deadline: 13-Oct-11 Mandate number: M-2010-0546

Iron oxide red, black and yellow for all animal species

Deadline: 14-Oct-11 Mandate number: M-2010-0456

L-cysteine hydrochloride monohydrate for all pet animals

Deadline: 18-Oct-11 Mandate number: M-2010-0466

Pantothenic acid and related compounds // Pantothenic acid (calcium D-pantothenate and D-panthenol) for all animal species

Deadline: 20-Oct-11 Mandate number: M-2011-0120

Vitamin B1 and related compounds // Vitamin B1 (thiamine hydrochloride and thiamine mononitrate) for all animal species

Deadline: 20-Oct-11 Mandate number: M-2011-0119

L-carnitine and related compounds // L-carnitine and L-carnitine L-tartrate for all animal species

Deadline: Additional data request Mandate number: M-2011-0118

Vitamin C and related compounds // Vitamin C (L-ascorbic acid, sodium L-ascorbate, calcium L-ascorbate, 6-palmitoyl L-ascorbic acid, ascorbyl monophosphate calcium sodium salt) for all animal species

Deadline: Additional data request Mandate number: M-2011-0117

Biotin and related compounds // D-(+)-biotin for all animal species

Deadline: 20-Oct-11 Mandate number: M-2011-0116

Bonvital (Enterococcus faecium DSM 7134) for chickens for rearing and minor avian species

Deadline: Additional data request Mandate number: M-2011-0092

Vitamin A (retinol acetate, retinol palmitate, retinol propionate) for all animal species

Deadline: Additional data request Mandate number: M-2010-0474

Bentonite for all animal species

Deadline: 29-Oct-11 Mandate number: M-2010-0562

Scientific Committee & Advisory Forum (SC&AF)**Public consultation on: Guidance on risk assessment concerning potential risks arising from applications of nanoscience and nanotechnologies to food and feed**

Deadline: 06-Apr-11 Mandate number: M-2009-0316

Zoonoses (Data collection)**Assistance to AHAW panel on Arthropod vector distribution data collections**

Deadline: 30-Jun-11 Mandate number: M-2009-0124

Revision of zoonoses web reporting application for 2011 and 2012 and running the zoonoses support helpdesk

Mandate number: M-2011-0043

Request for scientific assistance on data validation and analysis related to the EU coordinated monitoring programme on the prevalence of *Listeria monocytogenes* in certain ready-to-eat foods - report A

Deadline: 31-Jan-13 Mandate number: M-2011-0054

Request for scientific assistance on data validation and analysis related to the EU coordinated monitoring programme on the prevalence of *Listeria monocytogenes* in certain ready-to-eat foods - report B

Deadline:	31-Dec-13	Mandate number:	M-2011-0054
-----------	-----------	-----------------	-------------

Revision of the manuals to guide the reporting of zoonoses, zoonotic agents, antimicrobial resistance and food-borne outbreaks in the EU for the data from the year 2010

Deadline:	30-Apr-11	Mandate number:	M-2011-0064
-----------	-----------	-----------------	-------------

Working Group on use of XML and Excel files for the provision of aggregated and sample-based data to the Zoonoses system

Deadline:	31-Jan-12	Mandate number:	M-2011-0067
-----------	-----------	-----------------	-------------

Bluetongue monitoring and surveillance – advising on expected prevalence and geographical unit for different epidemiological situations

Deadline:	31-May-11	Mandate number:	M-2010-0432
-----------	-----------	-----------------	-------------

Internal mandate proposed by EFSA to the Unit on Zoonoses Data Collection for issuing a European Union Summary Report on antimicrobial resistance in zoonotic agents in 2010

Deadline:	28-Feb-12	Mandate number:	M-2011-0148
-----------	-----------	-----------------	-------------

Opinions and other outputs adopted: January-April 2011

Disclaimer: This is not the full list of all EFSA opinions but only those considered relevant to this newsletter.

Animal Health & Welfare (AHAW)

Scientific opinion on the monitoring for emergence of possible new pandemic strains

Adopted on:	24-Feb-11	Question number:	EFSA-Q-2009-00983
-------------	-----------	------------------	-------------------

Biological Hazards (BIOHAZ)

Request for an opinion on the capacity of oleochemical processes to inactivate possible risks linked to transmissible spongiform encephalopathies in animal by-products not intended for human consumption

Adopted on:	20-Jan-11	Question number:	EFSA-Q-2010-00969
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/1976.htm			

Review of the BSE-related risk in bovine intestines

Adopted on:	10-Mar-11	Question number:	EFSA-Q-2010-01094
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/2104.htm			

***Campylobacter* in broiler meat production: control options and performance objectives and/or targets at different stages of the food chain**

Adopted on:	10-Mar-11	Question number:	EFSA-Q-2009-00233
-------------	-----------	------------------	-------------------

Quantitative estimation of the public health impact of setting a new target for the reduction of *Salmonella* in broilers

Adopted on:	10-Mar-11	Question number:	EFSA-Q-2008-293
-------------	-----------	------------------	-----------------

Internal Mandate proposed by EFSA to the BIOHAZ and CEF Units for the preparation of an EFSA statement summarising the conclusions and recommendations from the two opinions on irradiation of food adopted by the BIOHAZ and CEF Panels

Adopted on:	29-Mar-11	Question number:	EFSA-Q-2011-00015
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/2107.htm			

Request to reassess the BSE epidemiological situation as regards to Czech Republic, Slovakia and Poland. Opinion on a second update on the risk for human and animal health related to the revision of the BSE monitoring regime in some Members States

Adopted on:	13-Apr-11	Question number:	EFSA-Q-2011-00138
-------------	-----------	------------------	-------------------

Feed Additives (FEEDAP)

Technical Guidance document for the assessment of additives intended to be used in pets and other non food-producing animals

Adopted on: 01-Feb-11 Question number: EFSA-Q-2010-01226
<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/2012.htm>

Protural (sodium benzoate) for piglets

Adopted on: 01-Feb-11 Question number: EFSA-Q-2009-00446
<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/2005.htm>

DANISCO XYLANASE G and L (endo-1,4-beta-xylanase) for weaned piglets and pigs for fattening

Adopted on: 01-Feb-11 Question number: EFSA-Q-2009-00802
<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/2008.htm>

Coxidin® (monensin sodium) for chickens for fattening and turkeys

Adopted on: 01-Feb-11 Question number: EFSA-Q-2009-00915
<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/2009.htm>

Bentonite (dioctahedral montmorillonite) (Mycofix® Secure) for all animal species

Adopted on: 02-Feb-11 Question number: EFSA-Q-2010-00770
<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/2007.htm>

AveMix® 02 CS and L (endo-1,3-beta-glucanase, endo-1,4-beta-xylanase and pectinase) for piglets (weaned)

Adopted on: 02-Feb-11 Question number: EFSA-Q-2011-00035
<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/2010.htm>

Evaluation of the safety of Hemp as animal feed

Adopted on: 03-Feb-11 Question number: EFSA-Q-2010-00016
<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/2011.htm>

Cycostat® 66G (robenidine hydrochloride) for rabbits for breeding and fattening purposes

Adopted on: 07-Mar-11 Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-752
<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/2102.htm>

FINASE® EC (6-phytase) for sows

Adopted on: 15-Mar-11 Question number: EFSA-Q-2011-00112
<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/2111.htm>

GalliPro® (*Bacillus subtilis*) for chickens for fattening

Adopted on: 15-Mar-11 Question number: EFSA-Q-2010-01151
<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/2112.htm>

***Lactobacillus plantarum* DSM 21762 for all animal species**

Adopted on: 15-Mar-11 Question number: EFSA-Q-2010-01164
<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/2113.htm>

***Bacillus subtilis* PB6 (*Bacillus subtilis* ATCC PTA-6737) for chickens reared for laying, ducks for fattening, quails, pheasants, partridges, guinea fowls, pigeons, geese for fattening and ostriches**

Adopted on: 15-Mar-11 Question number: EFSA-Q-2010-01150
<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/2114.htm>

SEL-PLEX (Organic form of selenium produced by *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* CNCM I-3060) for all animal species

Adopted on: 15-Mar-11 Question number: EFSA-Q-2009-00752
<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/2110.htm>

Guidance for the assessment of biomasses for use in animal nutrition

Adopted on: **16-Mar-11** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2010-00939**
<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/2117.htm>

Fecinor® and Fecinor® Plus (Enterococcus faecium CECT 4515) for chickens for fattening

Adopted on: **16-Mar-11** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2009-00969**
<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/2118.htm>

CLINACOX® 0.5% (diclazuril) for turkeys for fattening

Adopted on: **16-Mar-11** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2010-00174**
<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/2115.htm>

Avatec® 150 G (lasalocid A sodium) for pheasants, partridges, quails and guinea-fowl

Adopted on: **16-Mar-11** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2008-080**
<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/2116.htm>

Lactobacillus buchneri DSM 22963 for all animal species

Adopted on: **07-Apr-11** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2010-01276**
<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/2138.htm>

FRESTA® F (carvone) for weaned piglets

Adopted on: **07-Apr-11** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2009-00939**
<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/2139.htm>

Scientific Committee & Advisory Forum (SC&AF)

Guidance on risk assessment concerning potential risks arising from applications of nanoscience and nanotechnologies to food, feed, and pesticides

Adopted on: **06-Apr-11** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2009-00942**
<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/2140.htm>

Zoonoses (Data collection)

Scientific report on the analysis of the baseline survey on the prevalence of *Campylobacter* in broiler batches and of *Campylobacter* and *Salmonella* on broiler carcasses, in the EU. Part B: analysis of factors associated with *Salmonella* contamination of broiler carcasses

Adopted on: **14-Feb-11** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2010-00687**
<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/2017.htm>

The European Union summary report on zoonoses and food-borne outbreaks in the European Union in 2009

Adopted on: **23-Feb-11** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2010-00766**
<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/2090.htm>

Scientific report on the updated technical specifications for the harmonised reporting of food-borne outbreaks through the Community reporting system in accordance with Directive 2003/99/EC

Adopted on: **03-Mar-11** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2009-00696**
<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/2101.htm>

European Union summary report on antimicrobial resistance in zoonotic and indicator bacteria from animals and food in the European Union in 2009

Adopted on: **29-Apr-11** Question number: **EFSA-Q-2010-00113**



Photo credits: Istock.

To subscribe or unsubscribe, simply visit www.efsa.europa.eu

Reproduction of articles is authorised, except for commercial purposes, provided that the source is acknowledged.

The views or positions expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily represent in legal terms the official position of the European Food Safety Authority. All the links are up to date at the time of publication.

Largo N. Palli 5/A
43121 Parma
ITALY

Tel. +39 0521 036 111
Fax +39 0521 036 110

www.efsa.europa.eu