



# EFSA in focus **ANIMALS**

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## > Key topics

### Animal cloning risk assessments underline complexity of the issue, finds EFSA

EFSA's assessment of the scientific implications of animal cloning on food safety, animal health and welfare and the environment underlined the complexity of the issue. "EFSA cannot always offer simple answers or reassurances," said Prof Vittorio Silano, chair of EFSA's Scientific Committee. "Complex and evolving science and technology, where data can be limited, do not offer such neat solutions."



While there are a limited number of studies available, consistent findings, based on the growing amount of available data, still emerged. These relate to pigs and cattle, the only animals for which there were adequate data.

EFSA found that there were significant animal health and welfare issues for a proportion of surrogate mothers and clones that can be more frequent and severe than for conventionally bred animals. It also found that the technique assessed to clone animals, Somatic Cell Nucleus Transfer (SCNT), can produce healthy cattle and pig clones, and healthy offspring.

There appeared to be no differences in terms of food safety for meat and milk from healthy clones and their offspring, compared with those from conventionally bred animals. Nor was there any indication that clones or their offspring would pose any new or additional environmental risks, but the data were limited. As a result EFSA recommends that the health and welfare of clones should be studied and

monitored during their production life and natural life span. Risk assessments should also be performed on food animals other than cattle and pig that have also been produced via SCNT, when relevant data become available.

In addition, EFSA recommends that the causes of pathologies and mortality observed in clones during the gestational and postnatal periods, and those observed at a lower frequency in adulthood, should be further investigated. Similarly the susceptibility of clones and their offspring to diseases and transmissible agents in conventional husbandry conditions should be studied.

The opinion follows a request from the European Commission to EFSA for advice on cloning in February 2007 and a public consultation on the draft opinion earlier this year.

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902019540.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902019540.htm)

> Join EFSA's Scientific Committee or Panels ..... p6

## EFSA's role in animal health

Animal health covers not only animal diseases, but also the critical relationship between animal welfare and disease, as well as its relevance to public health. In October EFSA adopted a paper on EFSA's role in improving animal health in Europe. It sets out EFSA's objectives to further reinforce the Authority's integrated approach on animal health in the context of the EU's Animal Health Strategy for 2007-2013.



As a result EFSA has identified six main goals for future work in animal health. These are to:

1. Deliver the best scientific advice at the right time and in the most appropriate manner for risk managers.
2. Decrease the time needed for scientific advice by enabling rapid data exchange between EFSA and relevant partner organisations, including Member States and the European Commission's Food and Veterinary Office and Community Reference Laboratories.
3. Provide scientific support and analysis for EU surveillance programmes for animal diseases, zoonoses and animal welfare.
4. Provide scientific support for EU crisis preparedness.
5. Avoid unnecessary divergence in opinions between EFSA and other relevant organisations such as national authorities.
6. Mobilise and coordinate scientific expertise throughout the EU on issues within the remit of EFSA.

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902168979.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902168979.htm)

## EFSA evaluates TSE risk from small ruminants' milk

EFSA assessed the human and animal exposure to Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathy (TSEs) agents from milk and milk products derived from sheep and goats. EFSA concluded that milk and milk products from flocks affected by classical scrapie, and to a lesser extent from sheep and goats in general (due to the presence of infected animals showing no clinical signs), could expose animals and humans to the causal agents of this TSE. As classical scrapie is an animal disease and has not been found to affect humans, these findings have implications for animal rather than human health.

EFSA's study follows a request of the European Commission to deliver an opinion on a recent scientific article from Konold *et al.*, published on 8 April 2008 in BMC Veterinary Research, which concluded that classical scrapie can be transmitted to genetically susceptible lambs through milk. The Commission also asked EFSA to update, if considered necessary, the current risk assessments on human and animal exposure related to TSEs from milk and milk products derived from sheep and goats.

The opinion updates EFSA's previous statement, which had concluded that milk from small ruminants was unlikely to present a TSE exposure risk, provided it was sourced from clinically healthy animals.

*"These new findings have implications for animal health. With respect to possible human exposure, we should keep in mind that, with the exception of BSE, TSEs in animals have not been found to affect human health,"* said Professor Dan Collins, chair of the EFSA Panel behind the opinion. EFSA has previously addressed in detail whether TSE agents found in sheep and goats could affect humans.

EFSA noted that milk from ewes incubating classical scrapie could contain the causal agents of this TSE, even when the ewes show no symptoms and appear healthy. EFSA pointed out that as both the prevalence of classical scrapie and the production of milk from sheep and goats vary greatly between Member States, so will the potential risk of exposure.

EFSA also analysed data on the exposure risk to atypical scrapie and BSE. EFSA noted that in sheep and goats no information was available on whether or not these TSE agents are present in the milk of infected animals. To date, only one single case of naturally occurring BSE has been identified in goats and none in sheep.

EFSA recommended that more research should be carried out to assess the exposure risk from milk, in particular in the case of atypical scrapie and BSE, and to evaluate what would happen to these TSE agents if, and when, milk from affected sheep flocks or goat herds is processed for consumption as milk or other dairy products.

The French Food Safety Agency, Afssa, also published an opinion on the possible implications for animal and human health of newly available scientific data regarding the transmission of the classical scrapie agent via milk. EFSA and Afssa kept each other informed of their respective work as it progressed and of the conclusions of their independent risk assessments.

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902166533.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902166533.htm)

## Assessing the welfare of farmed fish

The European Commission has asked EFSA to assess how different systems of farming affect the welfare of the main species of farmed fish in the EU. EFSA has already adopted opinions on farmed Atlantic salmon, trout, European eel, sea bream, sea bass and carp.

For each species and for the different life stages, potential risks for welfare were identified. These included environmental conditions, feeding, husbandry practices, genetic make-up of stocks, disease and disease control measures. In its risk assessment, EFSA ranked potential welfare hazards in the various farming systems, which could be used by risk managers to gauge the welfare of the different farming methods.

EFSA identified water quality as essential for fish welfare and recognised several damaging effects of poor water quality on fish health.

Disease and disease control measures are also of great importance for all species. While vaccines have made a significant contribution in controlling serious infectious diseases, the limited availability of veterinary medical products constitutes an important risk.

Regarding feed, trout are almost exclusively fed on commercial feed and problems may occur through changes in formulations or poor storage. For salmon, a diet containing a high proportion of marine fish meal and oil is important to meet their nutritional requirements. Therefore the introduction of novel, non-marine feed can lead to some problems due to the lack of essential nutrients such as amino acids and polyunsaturated fatty acids, although there is evidence that such feed could potentially partly replace high quality fish meal.

Systems for grading (sorting) fish by size are an important element in husbandry and should be set up to minimise the time fish are out of the tanks or cages, and to limit stress.

Given the impact that different production systems can have on fish welfare, scientists recommend constant monitoring of those factors that have been found to have an impact on fish welfare. They also recommend further research to be carried out in such areas as feeding, stocking density, and veterinary therapeutics and vaccines. For eels, given the juvenile stock are captured from the wild, research is also recommended regarding completion of the life cycle under artificial conditions.

The opinions also took into account the results of the discussions of a stakeholders' meeting organised by EFSA in March 2008.

**Atlantic salmon:** [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902014109.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902014109.htm)

**European eel:** [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902132140.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902132140.htm)

**Trout:** [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902132105.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902132105.htm)

**Sea bream/sea bass:** [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902193915.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902193915.htm)



## EFSA looks at risks of bluetongue virus vectors

Bluetongue is a disease caused by the non-contagious bluetongue virus that can be transmitted by *Culicoides* midges. To better understand the risks posed by these vector midges, the European Commission asked EFSA to look at the risk of transmitting bluetongue when animals are being moved from or through restricted zones, to study the impact of different control measures in reducing the spread of bluetongue, and to advise on overwintering of the virus.

By looking at such factors as the use of insecticides and repellents, as well as the period during which animals are moved (for instance, periods when the disease vector's activity is limited), EFSA was able to estimate the relative risk of transmitting bluetongue during animal transit. However, with the data currently available it was not possible to precisely estimate the absolute risk posed by moving a single animal.

EFSA assumed that bluetongue can be transmitted by infectious *Culicoides* midges from animals being transported through non-infected zones to susceptible animals in those zones. EFSA confirmed that infection could spread from infected animals being transported to *Culicoides* midges in non-restricted areas. EFSA found that treating animals and vehicles with insecticides or repellents before loading may help to reduce the risk.



*Courtesy of Institute of Animal Health, UK*

The risk of transmission resulting from transit during a period when the general risk of transmission is low (i.e. January-July) was significantly lower compared with other periods (i.e. August-December). The available data also indicates that vaccination may be more effective in reducing the risk than testing animals before transportation.

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With respect to overwintering, EFSA found that although recent data showed that in different geographical areas across Europe some *Culicoides* midges may remain active indoors through winter, the role of these insects in prolonging the transmission period of the virus is still not clear. EFSA therefore recommends that Member States carry out regional in-depth analyses, since the life cycle of these insects may vary depending on location and season.

EFSA found that, although no single mechanism has been found to be responsible for the survival of the bluetongue virus through winter, infected *Culicoides* midges still remain the most likely way. It also concluded that in some geographical areas in Europe there may not be an absolute vector-free period.

Therefore, more information is needed on the daylight and indoor winter activities of the midges, and on their ability to spread the disease.

The opinion also reviewed data on the effectiveness of insecticides as one of the measures to protect animals against attacks from vectors. EFSA said insecticides may be used to limit the population of these midges and their biting rates, thereby reducing the risk of subsequent bluetongue virus transmission; however, they should not be used as a stand-alone measure to protect animals against attacks from *Culicoides* midges. ■

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/KeyTopics/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_Bluetongue.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/KeyTopics/efsa_locale-1178620753812_Bluetongue.htm)

## EFSA considers the implications of revising the age of BSE testing in cattle



EFSA has published two opinions advising on the possible revision of the monitoring of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) in cattle in the first 15 countries to join the European Union (EU 15).

EFSA found that if the age for testing for BSE increases from the present age limit of 30 months to 36 or 48 months for slaughtered cattle, less than one BSE case in cattle could be expected to be missed annually in the whole EU 15. If the age for testing increases to 60, 72 and 84 months of age, then fewer than 2, 4 and 6 BSE cases respectively could be expected to be missed in these Member States.

EFSA also assessed the 'at risk' group of cattle – those found dead or showing signs of diseases - and said, that if the age for testing for BSE in 'at risk' cattle increases from the current 24

months to 30, 36 or 48 months, then less than one case could be expected to be missed annually in the EU 15. If the testing age was extended to 60 months of age, fewer than three cases could be expected to be missed. An age limit of 48 months in 'at risk' cattle would allow the majority of cases to be detected, if BSE were to re-emerge. However, testing for 'at risk' cattle at 24 months would increase sensitivity in detecting a possible re-emergence of BSE and should also allow for an optimised system for early and efficient detection in case a new type of TSE should emerge in cattle.

As for the number of cases that would be missed if the EU 15 stopped testing cattle born after 31/12/2003, which is approximately three years after the "total feed ban" was introduced, EFSA was of the opinion that among those animals born in a given year in the EU 15, fewer than six cases would be expected to be missed.

It is uncertain whether the current BSE surveillance system provides reliable data on the prevalence of atypical BSE, as there are uncertainties surrounding the sensitivity and specificity of current tests in relation to this form of BSE. As no atypical BSE cases have been detected to date in animals younger than 96 months, raising the age for testing from the present 24 or 30 months up to 60 or 84 months would not have a major impact on the detection of atypical BSE.

BSE monitoring which is the subject of this assessment was set up to assist risk managers mainly in monitoring the evolution of BSE in cattle and thus in assessing the effectiveness of the risk management measures in place. For this assessment EFSA evaluated BSE monitoring data which had been collected between 2001 and 2007. ■

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902007644.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902007644.htm)

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902007703.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902007703.htm)

## EFSA advises on the risks of eating young sheep and goats from TSE-affected flocks



The European Commission asked EFSA for advice on the health risks of eating young sheep and goats from flocks affected by transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (TSEs), such as scrapie. In particular, it looked at the possible additional risks if the age limit was raised from the current 3 months to 6 months, and if more organs and body parts were removed.

EFSA concluded that it was not possible to compare the two scenarios, as there are not sufficient data available on the amount

of infectious tissues that would still be present in the carcasses of affected sheep and goats at 3 and 6 months of age. EFSA said that there were some indications that there would be an increase in the level of scrapie infectivity in the lymph nodes of sheep and goats between the age of 3 and 6 months. Some lymph nodes will remain on the carcasses at 6 months.

Classical scrapie, which is the most common form of TSE among sheep and goats, is present in 0.1% of the general sheep population. In scrapie affected flocks, it is estimated that scrapie is present in between 3% and 41% of the animals. Animals infected with scrapie are destroyed. However, animals from TSE-affected flocks under three months of age can presently be sent for human consumption after a test confirms non-presence of BSE in the affected flock. In addition, the spleen and ileum are removed from sheep and goats of all ages before being sent for human consumption.

As for removal of the head and internal organs from the chest and abdominal cavities, EFSA also said in its opinion that it would also result in incomplete removal of the infectivity load of both 3 and 6 month old animals.

With the exception of BSE, TSEs in animals have not been found to be transferable to humans. ■

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902003719.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902003719.htm)

## Better food hygiene to prevent and control the spread of harmful bacteria will similarly limit antibiotic resistant bacteria, finds EFSA

EFSA's opinion on foodborne antimicrobial resistance as a biological hazard says that the general principles on the prevention and control of the transmission of harmful bacteria to humans through food will also contribute to prevent the transmission of antimicrobial-resistant bacteria by this route. These principles include the sustained practice of improved hygiene at all stages of the food chain.



The opinion looked at the role of food consumption and processing in exposing humans to antimicrobial resistant (AMR) bacteria, an emerging biological hazard caused in part by the use of antimicrobial agents throughout the food chain, from farm to fork.

EFSA had launched a public consultation on this opinion and a call for additional scientific data last April. Comments were received from Member States' food safety authorities, European Community agencies, associations representing sectors of the European food industry, food manufacturers and individuals. The comments helped shape the adopted opinion.

The opinion represents a basis for further risk assessment studies on AMR bacteria in the food chain, as well as a firm input for risk managers in Europe to develop further approaches in dealing with AMR. It will also serve as a source of information for the European Commission in contributing to the work of the Intergovernmental Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance under the joint Food Standards Programme of the World Health Organisation (WHO), and the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO). ■

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902034881.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902034881.htm)

## Call to renew EFSA's Scientific Committee and Panel members now open: Membership has benefits

In terms of food safety, EFSA spans the entire food chain. EFSA brings together leading scientific experts from across Europe to provide the independent risk assessment advice that Europe's risk managers need to protect consumers, workers and the environment.

So, what drives national experts to join EFSA's Scientific Committee or Panels? *"There are many good reasons,"* says Henrik Wegener, Director of the Danish National Food Institute. *"Experts get exposed to topical problems first hand. They become exposed to much broader problems and to the risk assessments, and to some extent the solutions, than if they were at home. That means they become better equipped for those discussions that will also happen at home."*

According to Prof Wegener, by meeting a lot of high ranking experts and by sharing knowledge, experts become sharper, more efficient and faster in accessing up-to-date information. This helps them to quickly conduct risk assessments to give science-based advice to national authorities.

For example, *"Experts in Panels get very in-depth training in the principles and framework of risk assessments."* And according to him, it is EFSA's rigorous risk assessments system that consistently results in scientific advice of the highest standards, based on the latest information available.

### Added value

For national institutes, given the rigorous selection procedure, Prof Wegener also believes becoming an EFSA Panel member lends prestige to the host institution as, of those who apply: *"Only the best experts get to join."* This also has added benefits in terms of starting or being invited to join new research projects. *"It's the same as having people in WHO/FAO expert committees."*

### EFSA Panels explained

Currently, EFSA has a Scientific Committee and ten Scientific Panels covering all areas from field to plate. They range from plant health to plant protection and GMOs; from animal feed, animal health and welfare to biological hazards; from contaminants in the food chain to nutrition and healthy diets; from food additives and flavourings to materials in contact with food.

Recently, EFSA published a call to renew members of its Scientific Committee and eight of its Panels. The Authority seeks independent experts for a three-year term, renewable, to start in the summer of 2009. The call closes on 7 January 2009.

But what is the role of EFSA's Panels? Any time the European Commission, European Parliament or national risk managers asks for advice from EFSA, or when EFSA itself seeks answers to a question, it is allocated to the Scientific Committee or a relevant Panel. The Committee or Panel then forms a working group of independent experts to provide the advice. The exact nature of the question will determine who sits in the group. It consists of members who may be supported by external experts. The working group will then develop a draft opinion. The opinion will be based on the information gathered, the outcome of its scientific risk assessment work, plus any feedback from the consultations that EFSA may hold with stakeholders. It will then submit its draft opinion for adoption by the Scientific Committee or Panel.

And the motivation? In the words of Prof Tony Hardy, Chair of the EFSA Panel on Plant Protection Products and their Residues: *"I wouldn't do it if I didn't think it would make a difference."*

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_JoinEFSAScientificCommitteeorPanels.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_JoinEFSAScientificCommitteeorPanels.htm)

## Join EFSA's Scientific Committee or Panels

- Make a difference to European food safety
- Deliver scientific advice to Europe's risk managers
- Be part of Europe's network of top food safety scientists



### The role of EFSA

EFSA is the European Union's scientific risk assessment body on food and feed safety, nutrition, animal health and welfare, and plant health and protection, tackling issues all along the food chain. Its Scientific Committee and Panels consist of independent scientists from universities, research institutions and national food safety authorities. They deliver high-quality scientific advice for Europe's decision-makers to act on and protect consumers, animals and plants.

EFSA currently seeks independent experts for its Scientific Committee and Panels. Experts are sought for a 3 year term, renewable, starting in the summer of 2009.

### EFSA's Scientific Committee and Panels

- Experts sought to cover plant health and plant protection, GMOs, feedstuffs, animal health and welfare, toxicology, contaminants in the food chain, biological hazards including TSEs, dietetic products, allergies, novel foods and nutrition
- Selected through an open procedure based on proven scientific excellence and independence

Apply online from 23 October to 7 January to join other top scientists: [www.efsa.europa.eu](http://www.efsa.europa.eu)

## EFSA identifies risk factors for *Salmonella* infections in turkey flocks in the EU

EFSA has published an analysis of risk factors related to *Salmonella* in flocks of turkeys within the European Union (EU). The document serves as a scientific basis to assist Member States in defining the best control measures for reaching the new *Salmonella* reduction target set by the European Commission.

The report, entitled "Part B - Factors related to *Salmonella* prevalence in turkey flocks", highlights how in the case of turkeys reared for human consumption, the so-called fattening turkeys, farms with a greater number of birds, are at higher risk of *Salmonella* infection.

Free-range flocks, including organic turkeys are also more likely to become infected with *Salmonella* than flocks reared indoors. The raising of fattening flocks along with flocks kept for breeding purposes also increases the risk of infection. Moreover, infections in fattening flocks are most often observed between October and December, when production peaks in many countries. Vaccination proved to play a role in preventing *Salmonella* infections in the flocks.

Among breeding turkeys, those flocks found to be positive to *Salmonella* were all concentrated in six Member States only; and the patterns of these infections closely reflect the farming characteristics of these Member States.

Also, the general distribution of *Salmonella* types in turkey flocks show different patterns to *Salmonella* cases in humans. This may imply that the role of turkeys as a source of *Salmonella* infections in humans is more limited than that of other poultry, such as laying hens for egg production and broiler chickens. However, EFSA stressed that there is proven infectivity of some *Salmonella* types affecting turkeys and that the risk for humans should not be overlooked.



Finally, EFSA concluded that some risk factors vary considerably between countries, and recommended that Member States carry out detailed risk factor analysis nationally to identify the specific factors that put their turkey flocks at risk of *Salmonella* infections.

The report follows Part A on *Salmonella* prevalence in turkey flocks, which last May provided the European Commission with the necessary data to set new target levels of *Salmonella* in turkey flocks in the Member States.

Part A: [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1178706574172.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1178706574172.htm)

Part B: [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902151685.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902151685.htm)

## > Meeting reports

### EFSA attends the Prion 2008 conference

7-10 October 2008 - Madrid, Spain



About 800 experts from all over the world interested in transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (TSEs) attended the Prion 2008 event in Madrid from 7-10 October 2008.

This annual conference is an important event where all the latest scientific research findings in the field of TSEs are presented from around the world. It provided EFSA with the opportunity to network with experts and to learn about the latest research which it needs to consider in its risk assessments. It also gave EFSA the chance to present its own work on TSEs and its role in the European food safety system, through posters and its exhibition stand. At the same time, it proved a good opportunity to promote the EFSA call for experts and for the renewal of members of its Scientific Committee and Panels.

<http://www.prion2008.com/>

## Article 36 calls for proposals

Article 36 of EFSA's Founding Regulation allows the Authority to financially support projects and activities that contribute to EFSA's mission. This financial support is exclusively given to a list of competent organisations capable of assisting EFSA in its work. The list was drawn up on the basis of nominations made by Member States in an EFSA Management Board decision.

Some of the calls below may have closed. The intention is to provide an idea of the type of support EFSA seeks.

For the most recent list of Article 36 calls, please visit:

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/1178622332239/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_call\\_for\\_proposals.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/1178622332239/efsa_locale-1178620753812_call_for_proposals.htm)

### Call to survey the use of veterinary medicinal products in third countries



EFSA launched a call for proposals to survey the use of veterinary medicinal products in third countries, currently linked to a proposed European Union (EU) regulation, to help it carry out risk assessments of residues of these products.

The main objective is to conduct a thorough review of available data to provide a detailed overview of pharmacologically active substances of veterinary medicinal products authorised for therapeutic and/or prophylactic use in food producing animals, including farmed fish and shellfish in third countries, but not authorised for use in the EU.

The data should provide information on 1) animal products including farmed fish and shellfish, which are imported into the EU; 2) which third countries export these products into the EU; 3) details on the veterinary medicinal products authorised for use in these third countries but which are not authorised in the EU; and 4) established Maximum Residue Levels and provisions for use and dosing type for the veterinary medicinal products and the withdrawal period for the respective animal species.

**The call closed on 22 October 2008.**

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902075367.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902075367.htm)

### Call for a project to develop animal welfare risk assessment guidelines

The EFSA Scientific Colloquium on "Principles of Risk Assessment of Food Producing Animals: Current and future approaches" concluded that "no specific standardised methodology exists in the field of the animal welfare risk assessment", although different approaches exist for the risk assessment related to food microbiological (Codex Alimentarius) and animal health issues World Organisation for Animal Health, OIE.

A self mandate was then launched in September 2007 to develop the Risk Assessment Guidelines for Animal Welfare, where four main animal welfare issues have been identified, namely: stunning and killing, transport, and housing and management. Under the framework of the EFSA self-mandate a first project on

the development of risk assessment guidelines about the animal welfare of stunning and killing was granted in 2007 and the final report is expected by the end of 2008. In relation to the call for the development of the transport part of the animal welfare risk assessment guidelines, the grant agreement was signed with the Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale dell Abruzzo e del Molise "G. Caporale" on 23 September, and the kick-off meeting with the project participants was held on 9 October.

The final report of the project is expected to be delivered to EFSA by June 2009. The call for proposals for the development of the third part of the guidelines, namely on housing and management, is scheduled for January 2009.

### Call for a scientific review of tuberculosis in EU wildlife



Tuberculosis (TB) is a serious disease of domestic livestock, but has a wide range of other mammalian hosts in the wild. Despite the widespread success of cattle herd tests and slaughter programmes, infection has persisted in some parts of the world where it has often been linked to a reservoir of infection in wild mammals.

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This call aims to provide an updated scientific review of tuberculosis in wildlife in the European Union (EU) and to reflect on the potential role of various wildlife species in the epidemiology of TB in cattle and small ruminants. The review is also expected to deliver useful information for disease prevention and control. The review shall be based on peer-reviewed scientific papers, published documents and official reports. When not available,

other sources of data may also be used and annexed following appropriate justification. Gaps of knowledge should also be identified. ■

**The call closed on 10 October 2008.**

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902058069.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902058069.htm)

## European bee mortality and bee surveillance

Since 2003 there have been reports in Europe and America of serious losses of bees from beehives. This phenomenon has been called Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD). CCD is characterised by the rapid loss from a colony of its adult bee population.

In order to assess the current situation with regard to bee surveillance programmes in Europe a short questionnaire was distributed to Member States through the EFSA Focal Point network. The questionnaire requested information on monitoring of chemical residues in honey, surveillance programmes monitoring collapse, weakening and mortality in bees, and data on honey production and bee populations. The information from the questionnaires was collated in the report *Bee Mortality and Bee Surveillance in Europe*, published in August 2008.

To follow on from the survey and expand on the findings, EFSA launched a call for proposals for an EU-wide collective study in the area of CCD. This requires an EU-wide review of literature on the topic, a description of active surveillance programmes and a collation of historical epidemiological data to facilitate an objective assessment of all possible causes of CCD. The resulting work from the study will prepare the grounds and orientate research towards identified gaps in scientific knowledge. ■

**The call closed on 10 October 2008.**

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902044762.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902044762.htm)

## Call for scientific information on mycotoxins and natural plant toxicants

Undesirable substances such as mycotoxins and natural toxicants can be present in plants and their derived products, presenting a potential risk for human and/or animal health. EFSA launched a call for data to receive background information on mycotoxins and natural plant toxicants for future working groups conducting risk assessments on these substances.

The aim is to collect and compile scientific information on the natural plant toxicant morphine in poppy seeds and the selected mycotoxins: alternaria toxins, moniliformin, diacetoxyscirpenol, sterigmatocystin and phomopsins in food and feed, ergot alkaloids in food only, and nivalenol in feed only.

For each substance a scientific report will be produced. This report shall outline the key findings from seven areas, including a full reference list according to the EFSA citation standards. The areas are: chemical and biosynthesis, analytical methods used

for monitoring, occurrence data, factors influencing levels in plant products used for food and feed, transfer from feed to food producing animals, toxicology, and epidemiological data in humans. ■

**The call closed on 10 October 2008.**

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902047149.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902047149.htm)



## Call for background information on selected trace and ultratrace elements used in animal feed

Since 2003, the risk assessment of feed additives in the EU has been carried out by EFSA. Feed additives are products used in animal nutrition for improving the quality of feed, the quality of food from animal origin, or to improve animals' performance and health. One category of feed additives is nutritional additives, which are used to satisfy the nutritional needs of animals. Within this category, an important group is the trace and ultratrace elements. Therefore, and with the aim

of gathering scientific and regulatory up-to-date information on 27 trace and ultratrace elements a call for proposals was launched.

The 27 elements which are the subject of this call are: aluminium, arsenic, cadmium, cereum, chromium, cobalt, copper, boron, bromine, fluoride, iodine, iron, lanthanum, lead,

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lithium, manganese, mercury, molybdenum, nickel, rubidium, selenium, silicon, silver, strontium, tin, vanadium and zinc. The final report will contain information on the biological role of these substances, their background content in feed, their requirements, allowances and use levels in animal nutrition,

and on the levels animals tolerate without adverse effects. ■

**The call closed on 12 September 2008.**

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1178712787738.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1178712787738.htm)

## Call for scientific reviews on Crimean-Congo Haemorrhagic Fever and Epizootic Haemorrhagic Disease

EFSA launched a call for proposals for scientific reviews on Crimean-Congo Haemorrhagic Fever and Epizootic Haemorrhagic Disease, to enable it to reply swiftly and accurately on potential future mandates on these diseases.

The topics for this call were selected considering recent occurrences of vector-borne animal diseases and/or zoonoses in the European Union. ■

**The call closed on 10 October 2008.**

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902058132.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902058132.htm)

The objective is to provide updated scientific reviews on these diseases. The reviews are expected to include data that may be useful for disease prevention and control. The reviews will be based on peer-reviewed scientific papers, published documents and official reports.

### Article 36 calls awarded

CFP/EFSA/FEEDAP/2007/01

#### Post-market monitoring of feed additives

Istituto Superiore di Sanità, Italy

**For all calls awarded see:**

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_call\\_for\\_proposals.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_call_for_proposals.htm)

## Calls for data

EFSA is an organisation committed to openness, transparency and dialogue. As a result EFSA regularly publishes calls for data on a number of scientific subjects specific to its remit where interested parties are asked to submit relevant information and data. This information is then reviewed and can feed into EFSA's work and outputs such as guidance documents and opinions.

## Call for scientific data on *Salmonella* in poultry

EFSA launched a call for scientific data from official food control authorities, the meat industry, associations and universities, which could be useful for gathering information on the possible link between *Salmonella* contamination of chicken broiler carcasses in the slaughterhouse and fresh broiler meat products in the processing plant.

EFSA is looking for data covering the occurrence (prevalence) of *Salmonella* on broiler carcasses after chilling but before further processing. It also seeks data on the occurrence (prevalence) of *Salmonella* on fresh broiler meat at the end of processing i.e. after cutting and/or deboning but before placing on the market. Data should cover all tested pooled samples/carcasses/batches in the slaughterhouse which are identifiable and traceable at the fresh meat level in the processing plant.

Peer-reviewed data are preferred. However, non-peer-reviewed data like annual reports, internal quality control reports, etc would also be considered. ■



**The call closed on 30 September 2008.**

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902027904.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902027904.htm)

## Mandates received per unit: June-October 2008

Information on all other on-going requests is available in EFSA's register of questions:

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/ScientificOpinionPublicationReport/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_RequestsAndMandates.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/ScientificOpinionPublicationReport/efsa_locale-1178620753812_RequestsAndMandates.htm)

### Animal Health and Welfare (AHAW)

#### Request for a scientific opinion on *Brucella suis*

Requestor: European Commission  
Reception date: 08 Aug 2008  
Deadline: 30 Jun 2009  
Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-628

#### Stunning & killing of tuna

Requestor: European Commission  
Reception date: 17 Jun 2008  
Deadline: 31 Mar 2009  
Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-443

#### Stunning & killing of turbot

Requestor: European Commission  
Reception date: 17 Jun 2008  
Deadline: 31 Mar 2009  
Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-442

#### Stunning & killing of sea bass/bream

Requestor: European Commission  
Reception date: 17 Jun 2008  
Deadline: 31 Mar 2009  
Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-441

#### Stunning & killing of eel

Requestor: EFSA  
Reception date: 17 Jun 2008  
Deadline: 31 Mar 2009  
Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-440

#### Stunning & killing of carp

Requestor: European Commission  
Reception date: 17 Jun 2008  
Deadline: 31 Mar 2009  
Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-439

#### Stunning & killing of trout

Requestor: European Commission  
Reception date: 17 Jun 2008  
Deadline: 31 Mar 2009  
Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-438

#### Stunning & killing of salmon

Requestor: European Commission  
Reception date: 17 Jun 2008  
Deadline: 31 Mar 2009  
Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-437

### Biological Hazards (BIOHAZ)

#### Project to study alternatives to carcass destruction systems using the bunker system

Requestor: Spain  
Reception date: 16 Oct 2008  
Deadline: 22 Apr 2009  
Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-711

#### Risk for human and animal health related to the revision of the BSE monitoring regime in some Member States

Requestor: European Commission  
Reception date: 10 Oct 2008  
Deadline: 22 Apr 2009  
Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-710

## Contaminants in the food chain (CONTAM)

### Melamine in infant milk and other milk products in China

Requestor: **European Commission**  
 Reception date: **19 Sep 2008**  
 Deadline: **24 Sep 2008**  
 Question number: **EFSA-Q-2008-695**

### Arsenic in food

Requestor: **European Commission**  
 Reception date: **17 Jun 2008**  
 Deadline: **30 Sep 2008**  
 Question number: **EFSA-Q-2008-425**

## Feed Additives (FEEDAP)

### AviPlus (citric acid, sorbic acid and thymol) for weaned piglets

Authorisation of additives for use in animal nutrition in accordance with Art. 4(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003.  
 Category: Zootechnical additives

Requestor: **European Commission**  
 Reception date: **24 Sep 2008**  
 Deadline: **Under consideration**  
 Question number: **EFSA-Q-2008-701**

### Sodium carbonate for all animals

Authorisation of additives for use in animal nutrition in accordance with Art. 4(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003.  
 Category: Technological additives

Requestor: **European Commission**  
 Reception date: **08 Sep 2008**  
 Deadline: **Under consideration**  
 Question number: **EFSA-Q-2008-694**

### Formi LHS (potassium diformate) for sows

Re-evaluation of additives for use in animal nutrition in accordance with Art. 10(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003.  
 Category: Zootechnical additives

Requestor: **European Commission**  
 Reception date: **08 Sep 2008**  
 Deadline: **Under consideration**  
 Question number: **EFSA-Q-2008-693**

### Natuphos (3-phytase) for pigs for fattening

Authorisation of additives for use in animal nutrition in accordance with Art. 13(3) of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003.  
 Category: Zootechnical additives (enzymes)

Requestor: **European Commission**  
 Reception date: **08 Sep 2008**  
 Deadline: **Under consideration**  
 Question number: **EFSA-Q-2008-692**

### Application for authorisation of genetically modified PL73 *Escherichia coli* (LM) for feed use

(dried killed bacterial biomass) (EFSA-GMO-FR-2008-61) Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003

Requestor: **Member State - France**  
 Reception date: **07 Aug 2008**  
 Deadline: **02 Apr 2009**  
 Question number: **EFSA-Q-2008-669**

### Maxiban 160G (Narasin/Nicarbazin) for chickens for fattening

Re-evaluation of additives for use in animal nutrition in accordance with Art. 10(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003.  
 Category: Coccidiostats and Histomonostats

Requestor: **European Commission**  
 Reception date: **29 Jul 2008**  
 Deadline: **Additional data requested**  
 Question number: **EFSA-Q-2008-474**

**Bacillus subtilis PB6 (*Bacillus subtilis*) for chickens for fattening**

Authorisation of additives for use in animal nutrition in accordance with Art. 4(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003.  
Category: Zootechnical additives (micro-organisms)

Requestor: **European Commission**  
Reception date: **29 Jul 2008**  
Deadline: **Under consideration**  
Question number: **EFSA-Q-2008-473**

**Levucell SC 20/SC10ME (*Saccharomyces cerevisiae*) for leisure horses**

Authorisation of additives for use in animal nutrition linked to Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003.  
Category: Zootechnical additives (micro-organisms)

Requestor: **European Commission**  
Reception date: **29 Jul 2008**  
Deadline: **31 Mar 2009**  
Question number: **EFSA-Q-2008-472**

**Biomim IMB 52 (*Enterococcus faecium*) for piglets**

Authorisation of additives for use in animal nutrition in accordance with Art. 4(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003.  
Category: Zootechnical additives (micro-organisms)

Requestor: **European Commission**  
Reception date: **29 Jul 2008**  
Deadline: **Under consideration**  
Question number: **EFSA-Q-2008-471**

**Technical guidance: Microbial studies**

Self-task conducted in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 178/2002

Requestor: **EFSA**  
Reception date: **12 Jun 2008**  
Adoption date: **21 Oct 2008**  
Question number: **EFSA-Q-2008-461**

**Ractopamine**

Scientific assessment conducted in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 178/2002

Requestor: **European Commission**  
Reception date: **04 Jul 2008**  
Deadline: **30 Apr 2009**  
Question number: **EFSA-Q-2008-433**

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

(Enzymes. Application for authorisation under Regulation (EC) N° 1831/2003 on additives for use in animal nutrition)

Requestor: **European Commission**  
Reception date: **04 Jul 2008**  
Deadline: **Under consideration**  
Question number: **EFSA-Q-2008-432**

**Ronozyme ProAct (serine protease) for chickens for fattening**

Authorisation of additives for use in animal nutrition in accordance with Art. 4(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003.  
Category: Zootechnical additives (enzymes)

Requestor: **European Commission**  
Reception date: **04 Jul 2008**  
Deadline: **Under consideration**  
Question number: **EFSA-Q-2008-431**

**Ronozyme NP (6-phytase) for poultry, piglets (weaned) and pigs for fattening**

Authorisation of additives for use in animal nutrition in accordance with Art. 4(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003.  
Category: Zootechnical additives (enzymes)

Requestor: **European Commission**  
Reception date: **04 Jul 2008**  
Deadline: **Under consideration**  
Question number: **EFSA-Q-2008-430**

**Mintrex®Zn (Zinc chelate of hydroxy analogue of methionine) for chickens for fattening**

Authorisation of additives for use in animal nutrition linked to Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003. Category: Nutritional additives

Requestor: **European Commission**  
Reception date: **26 Jun 2008**  
Deadline: **Under consideration**  
Question number: **EFSA-Q-2008-424**

### 035 (*Bacillus subtilis*) for chickens for fattening

Authorisation of additives for use in animal nutrition in accordance with Art. 13(3) of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003.  
Category: Zootechnical additives (micro-organisms)

Requestor: **European Commission**  
Reception date: **26 Jun 2008**  
Adoption date: **22 Oct 2008**  
Question number: **EFSA-Q-2008-423**

### Cylactin®/Cernivet® (*Enterococcus faecium*) for chickens for fattening

Re-evaluation of additives for use in animal nutrition in accordance with Art. 10(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003.  
Category: Zootechnical additives (micro-organisms)

Requestor: **European Commission**  
Reception date: **23 Jun 2008**  
Deadline: **27 Apr 2009**  
Question number: **EFSA-Q-2008-422**

### Bactocell PA 10/ Fermaid PA 10 (*Pediococcus acidilactici*) for shrimps

Authorisation of additives for use in animal nutrition in accordance with Art. 4(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003.  
Category: Zootechnical additives (micro-organisms)

Requestor: **European Commission**  
Reception date: **23 Jun 2008**  
Deadline: **05 Feb 2009**  
Question number: **EFSA-Q-2008-421**

### L-Arginine for all species

Authorisation of additives for use in animal nutrition in accordance with Art. 4(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003.  
Category: Nutritional additives

Requestor: **European Commission**  
Reception date: **23 Jun 2008**  
Deadline: **Under consideration**  
Question number: **EFSA-Q-2008-420**

### Ronozyme® WX (Endo-1,4-β-ylanase) for poultry, piglets (weaned) and pigs for fattening

Authorisation and re-evaluation of additives for use in animal nutrition in accordance with Art. 4(1) and Art. 10(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003. Category: Zootechnical additives (enzymes)

Requestor: **European Commission**  
Reception date: **26 Jun 2008**  
Deadline: **Additional data requested**  
Question number: **EFSA-Q-2008-419**

### Natugrain Wheat TS (Endo-1,4-β-xylanase) for chickens for fattening and ducks

Authorisation and re-evaluation of additives for use in animal nutrition in accordance with Art. 4(1) and Art. 10(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003. Category: Zootechnical additives (enzymes)

Requestor: **European Commission**  
Reception date: **26 Jun 2008**  
Deadline: **Additional data requested**  
Question number: **EFSA-Q-2008-418**

### L-valine for all species

Authorisation of additives for use in animal nutrition linked to Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003. Category: Nutritional additives

Requestor: **European Commission**  
Reception date: **23 Jun 2008**  
Deadline: **18 Nov 2008**  
Question number: **EFSA-Q-2008-413**

### Application for authorisation of genetically modified PT73 *Escherichia coli* (TM) for feed use

(dried killed bacterial biomass) (EFSA-GMO-FR-2008-59) - Regulation (EC) No. 1829/2003

Requestor: **France**  
Reception date: **05 Jun 2008**  
Deadline: **Additional data requested**  
Question number: **EFSA-Q-2008-412**

**Guidance for the re-evaluation of certain additives already authorised under Directive 70/524/EEC**

Self-task conducted in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 178/2002

Requestor: EFSA  
 Reception date: 12 Jun 2008  
 Adoption date: 17 Jul 2008  
 Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-410

**Technical guidance: Extrapolation of data from major species to minor species**

Self-task conducted in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 178/2002

Requestor: EFSA  
 Reception date: 12 Jun 2008  
 Adoption date: 17 Sep 2008  
 Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-409

**Technical guidance: Environmental risk assessment**

Self-task conducted in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 178/2002

Requestor: EFSA  
 Reception date: 12 Jun 2008  
 Adoption date: 22 Oct 2008  
 Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-408

**Technical guidance: User safety**

Self-task conducted in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 178/2002

Requestor: EFSA  
 Reception date: 12 Jun 2008  
 Adoption date: 17 Oct 2008  
 Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-407

**Technical guidance: Consumer safety**

Self-task conducted in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 178/2002

Requestor: EFSA  
 Reception date: 12 Jun 2008  
 Adoption date: 16 Jul 2008  
 Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-406

**Technical guidance: Tolerance and efficacy studies in target animals**

Self-task conducted in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 178/2002

Requestor: EFSA  
 Reception date: 12 Jun 2008  
 Adoption date: 17 Jul 2008  
 Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-405

**Technical guidance: Additives already authorised for use in food**

Self-task conducted in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 178/2002

Requestor: EFSA  
 Reception date: 12 Jun 2008  
 Adoption date: 16 Jul 2008  
 Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-404

**Guidance for the preparation of dossiers by categories of feed additives**

Self-task conducted in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 178/2002

Requestor: EFSA  
 Reception date: 12 Jun 2008  
 Adoption date: 17 Jul 2008 and 16 Sep 2008  
 Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-403

**Selenium enriched yeast (*Saccharomyces cerevisiae*) for all species**

Authorisation of additives for use in animal nutrition in accordance with Art. 4(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003.  
 Category: Nutritional additives

Requestor: European Commission  
 Reception date: 04 Jun 2008  
 Deadline: 18 Mar 2009  
 Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-381

## List of adopted opinions and other documents per Unit: June-October 2008

Disclaimer: This is not the full list of all EFSA opinions but only those considered relevant to this newsletter. For the full list please visit:  
[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/ScientificOpinionPublicationReport/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_ScientificOpinions.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/ScientificOpinionPublicationReport/efsa_locale-1178620753812_ScientificOpinions.htm)

### Animal Health and Welfare (AHAW)

#### Animal welfare aspects of husbandry systems for farmed fish - carp

Question number: EFSA-Q-2006-148  
Adopted on: 22 Oct 2008

#### Animal welfare aspects of husbandry systems for farmed fish - sea bass and gilthead seabream

Question number: EFSA-Q-2006-149  
Adopted on: 22 Oct 2008  
[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902193915.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902193915.htm)

#### Scientific opinion on risk of bluetongue transmission during transit

Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-436  
Adopted on: 11 Sep 2008  
[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902182343.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902182343.htm)

#### Aquatic species susceptible to diseases listed in Directive 2006/88/EC

Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-074  
Adopted on: 11 Sep 2008  
[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902178477.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902178477.htm)

#### Animal welfare aspects of husbandry systems for farmed fish - European eel

Question number: EFSA-Q-2006-150  
Adopted on: 11 Sep 2008  
[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902132140.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902132140.htm)

#### Animal welfare aspects of husbandry systems for farmed fish - trout

Question number: EFSA-Q-2006-033  
Adopted on: 11 Sep 2008  
[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902132105.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902132105.htm)

#### Animal welfare aspects of husbandry systems for farmed fish - Atlantic salmon

Question number: EFSA-Q-2006-033  
Adopted on: 19 Jun 2008  
[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902014109.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902014109.htm)

#### Request for a scientific opinion on the bluetongue virus

Question number: EFSA-Q-2007-201  
Adopted on: 19 Jun 2008  
[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902008725.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902008725.htm)

#### Animal health and welfare aspects of avian influenza and the risk of its introduction into the EU poultry holdings

Question number: EFSA-Q-2007-179  
Adopted on: 07 May 2008  
[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1178713016506.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1178713016506.htm)

### Biological hazards (BIOHAZ)

#### Further consideration of age-related parameters on the risk for human and animal health related to the revision of the BSE monitoring regime in some Member States

Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-266  
Adopted on: 10 Jul 2008  
[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902007703.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902007703.htm)

#### Risk for human and animal health related to the revision of the BSE monitoring regime in some Member States

Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-007  
Adopted on: 10 Jul 2008  
[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902007644.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902007644.htm)

**Overview of methods for source attribution for human cases of foodborne microbiological hazards**

Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-005  
 Adopted on: 09 Jul 2008

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902012958.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902012958.htm)

**Foodborne antimicrobial resistance as a biological hazard**

Question number: EFSA-Q-2007-089  
 Adopted on: 09 Jul 2008

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902034881.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902034881.htm)

**Request for an assessment on the risk related to Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (TSEs) from carcasses of ovine and caprine animals below six months of age intended for human consumption**

Question number: EFSA-Q-2007-202  
 Adopted on: 05 Jun 2008

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902003719.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902003719.htm)

**Microbiological risk assessment in feeding stuffs for food producing animals**

Question number: EFSA-Q-2007-045  
 Adopted on: 05 Jun 2008

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902004131.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902004131.htm)

**Contaminants in the food chain (CONTAM)****Statement of EFSA on risks for public health due to the presences of melamine in infant milk and other milk products in China**

Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-695  
 Adopted on: 24 Sep 2008

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902098495.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902098495.htm)

**Ricin (from *Ricinus communis*) as undesirable substances in animal feed**

Question number: EFSA-Q-2003-062  
 Adopted on: 10 Jun 2008

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902083375.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902083375.htm)

**Request for a scientific opinion on polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in food**

Question number: EFSA-Q-2007-136  
 Adopted on: 09 Jun 2008

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902034842.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902034842.htm)

**Azaspiracids group toxins in shellfish**

Question number: EFSA-Q-2006-065B  
 Adopted on: 09 Jun 2008

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902121673.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902121673.htm)

**Theobromine as an undesirable substance in animal feed**

Question number: EFSA-Q-2005-223  
 Adopted on: 10 Jun 2008

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902079993.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902079993.htm)

**Risk assessment on nitrate in vegetables**

Question number: EFSA-Q-2006-071  
 Adopted on: 10 Apr 2008

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1178712852460.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1178712852460.htm)

**Tropane alkaloids (from *Datura* sp.) as undesirable substances in animal feed**

Question number: EFSA-Q-2003-063  
 Adopted on: 09 Apr 2008

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902036472.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902036472.htm)

### Perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS), perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and their salts

Question number: EFSA-Q-2004-163

Adopted on: 21 Feb 2008

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902012410.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902012410.htm)

## Feed Additives (Feedap)

### Compatibility of the microbial product 035 (*Bacillus subtilis*) with decoquinatate and narasin/nicarbazin

Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-423

Adopted on: 22 Oct 2008

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902174767.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902174767.htm)

### Technical guidance for assessing the safety of feed additives for the environment

Question Number: EFSA-Q-2008-408

Adopted on: 22 Oct 2008

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902153679.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902153679.htm)

### Compatibility of the microbial product BioPlus 2B (*Bacillus licheniformis* and *Bacillus subtilis*) with lasalocid sodium

Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-332

Adopted on: 22 Oct 2008

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902174599.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902174599.htm)

### Advastat® (Acarbose 10%) for cattle for fattening and dairy cows for milk production

Question number: EFSA-Q-2007-172

Adopted on: 22 Oct 2008

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902172778.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902172778.htm)

### Safety and efficacy of Biosaf Sc47 (*Saccharomyces cerevisiae*) as feed additive for dairy buffaloes

Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-010

Adopted on: 21 Oct 2008

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902159456.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902159456.htm)

### Technical guidance on microbial studies

Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-461

Adopted on: 21 Oct 2008

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902139277.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902139277.htm)

### Technical guidance: Extrapolation of data from major species to minor species regarding the assessment of additives for use in animal nutrition

Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-409

Adopted on: 17 Sep 2008

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902094101.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902094101.htm)

### Technical guidance studies concerning the safety of use of the additive for users/workers

Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-407

Adopted date: 17 Sep 2008

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902094089.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902094089.htm)

### Technical guidance for establishing the safety of additives for the consumer

Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-406

Adopted on: 16 Sep 2008

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902094077.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902094077.htm)

### Guidance for the preparation of dossiers for additives already authorised for use in food

Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-404

Adopted on: 16 Sep 2008

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902094113.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902094113.htm)

**Guidance for the preparation of dossiers for sensory additives**

Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-403  
 Adopted on: 16 Sep 2008

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902094248.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902094248.htm)

**Proposal for MRLs and withdrawal period for Cycostat®66G for chickens and turkeys for fattening**

Question number: EFSA-Q-2007-180  
 Adopted on: 16 Sep 2008

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902116568.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902116568.htm)

**Administrative guidance to applicants on the preparation and presentation of applications for authorisation of additives for use in animal nutrition .**

Last updated: September 2008

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1178625242905.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1178625242905.htm)

**Guidance for the preparation of dossiers for the re-evaluation of certain additives already authorised under Directive 70/524/EEC**

Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-410  
 Adopted on: 17 Jul 2008

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902094053.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902094053.htm)

**Technical guidance tolerance and efficacy studies in target animals**

Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-405  
 Adopted on: 17 Jul 2008

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902094065.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902094065.htm)

**Guidance for the preparation of dossiers for zootechnical additives**

Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-403  
 Adopted on: 16 Jul 2008

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902094224.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902094224.htm)

**Guidance for the preparation of dossiers for coccidiostats and histomonostats**

Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-403  
 Adopted on: 16 Jul 2008

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902094236.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902094236.htm)

**Guidance for the preparation of dossiers for technological additives**

Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-403  
 Adopted on: 16 Jul 2008

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902093949.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902093949.htm)

**Guidance for the preparation of dossiers for nutritional additives**

Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-403  
 Adopted on: 16 Jul 2008

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902094212.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902094212.htm)

**Safety and efficacy of Ecobiol® (*Bacillus amyloliquefaciens*) as feed additive for chickens for fattening**

Question number: EFSA-Q-2007-190  
 Adopted on: 16 Jul 2008

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902039267.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902039267.htm)

**Safety and efficacy of Levucell SC20/Levucell SC10ME, a preparation of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, as a feed additive for lambs for fattening**

Question number: EFSA-Q-2007-139  
 Adopted on: 16 Jul 2008

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902039050.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902039050.htm)

**Safety and efficacy of the product Sorbiflore, a preparation of *Lactobacillus rhamnosus* and *L. farciminis*, as a feed additive for piglets**

Question number: EFSA-Q-2006-062

Adopted on: 15 Jul 2008

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902038873.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902038873.htm)

**Technical guidance - Update of the criteria used in the assessment of bacterial resistance to antibiotics of human or veterinary importance**

Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-004

Adopted on: 18 Jun 2008

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902003635.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902003635.htm)

**Withdrawal period for Coxidin® for chickens and turkeys for fattening and re-examination of the provisional Maximum Residue Limit**

Question number: EFSA-Q-2007-192

Adopted on: 18 Jun 2008

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1178718510835.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1178718510835.htm)

**Withdrawal period for Elancoban® for chickens for fattening, chickens reared for laying and turkeys for fattening**

Question number: EFSA-Q-2007-140

Adopted on: 18 Jun 2008

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1178718516466.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1178718516466.htm)

**Scientific Committee (SC)**

**Implications of animal cloning (SCNT) on food safety, animal health and welfare and the environment.**

Question number: EFSA-Q-2007-092

Adopted on: 15 Jul 2008

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902019540.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902019540.htm)

**Safety assessment of botanicals and botanical preparations intended for use as food supplements.**

Question number: EFSA-Q-2005-233

Adopted on: 22 Apr 2008

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1178717026833.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1178717026833.htm)

**Zoonoses (Data Collection)**

**Update of the proposed technical specifications for a coordinated monitoring programme for *Salmonella* and *Campylobacter* in broiler meat in the EU.**

Question number: EFSA-Q-2008-414

Adopted on: 29 Aug 2008

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa\\_locale-1178620753812\\_1211902068912.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902068912.htm)

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