

Advice 10-2009 of the Scientific Committee of the FASFC on the evaluation of the 2009 FASFC analysis programme partim microbiology and GMO's in food and feed

Summary

This advice concerns the evaluation of the FASFC analysis program 2009 concerning microbiological parameters and GGO in food and feed. The Scientific Committee is asked to evaluate : i) the relevance of the selected combinations of matrix and hazard (parameter), and the programmed number of analysis ; ii) the relevance of the sampling places; iii) the relative intensity of the controls for the programmed analysis in the food chain and iv) the approach that was applied by the experts of DG Control Policy for taking the existing sectoral sampling plans into account.

The Scientific Committee has evaluated, from a food safety point of view, the microbiological and GGO-analysis programmed for food and feed. The Committee agrees in general with the choice of the matrix/parameter combinations and makes a number of specific remarks that are presented in the advice. It is also recommended to foresee a rotation (multi-annual control plan) for certain matrices belonging to one food category.

The Scientific Committee appreciates the structured approach used for the determination of the number of analysis. The statistical based methodology (procedure PB00-P14-REV1-2006-23) is applied consequently in most of the cases. The advice contains however a number of recommendations for a more uniform application of the methodology, for example in regard to the repartition of the number of analysis over multiple years and the reconsideration of the aimed population.

The Scientific Committee agrees in general with the choice of sampling places and with the relative distribution of the number of analysis (microbiological and GGO in food and feed). The advice contains a number of specific remarks.

The question related to the evaluation of the approach applied for the consideration of existing sectoral sampling plans is not applicable for the microbiological analysis treated in this advice.

The full text is available on this website in dutch and in french, respectively under the section "Wetenschappelijk Comité/Adviezen" and "Comité scientifique/Avis".