

Advice 09-2009 of the Scientific Committee of the FASFC: Evaluation of the 2009 FASFC analysis programme – microbiology chapter – animal health part

This advice concerns the microbiological part of the FASFC analysis programme of the year 2009, related to animals, prions and genotyping. It is asked to the Scientific Committee to evaluate the following points of the analysis programme : i) the relevance of the combinations of matrix and danger and of the number of analysis ; ii) the relevance of the chosen sampling places; iii) the relative intensity of the controls for the programmed analysis in the food chain and iv) the way the experts of DG Control Policy took into account the existing sectorial sampling plans (milk and feed sectors).

In its advice 22-2008, the Scientific Committee already gave recommendations for the analysis programme concerning foodborne zoonotic pathogens.

Globally, the Scientific Committee approves the proposed analysis programme. Nevertheless, it gives recommendations about some combinations of matrix/danger and the number of certain analyses. The most important recommendations are related to:

- the introduction of a monitoring of notifiable honeybee diseases
- the omitting of sampling for *Salmonella pullorum* in chicks and the maintaining of sampling for *Salmonella gallinarum* in production poultry
- the adaptation of the analysis programme for rabies in accordance with the current epidemiological situation and the repartition of the analyses amongst the different animal species at risk
- the establishment of a control on the sampling of animals at purchase
- the exploitation of the results obtained from previous analysis programmes, from other programs (analysis of wild fauna, control of the self-control, etc.), and of information originating from the scientific literature.

The Scientific Committee draws the attention on the importance of the representativeness of the samples. It does not emit recommendations about the chosen sampling places and on the relative intensity of the controls. There is no application for point iv) 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”.