

European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) - activities related to VTEC

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CRL E.coli

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European Food Safety Authority



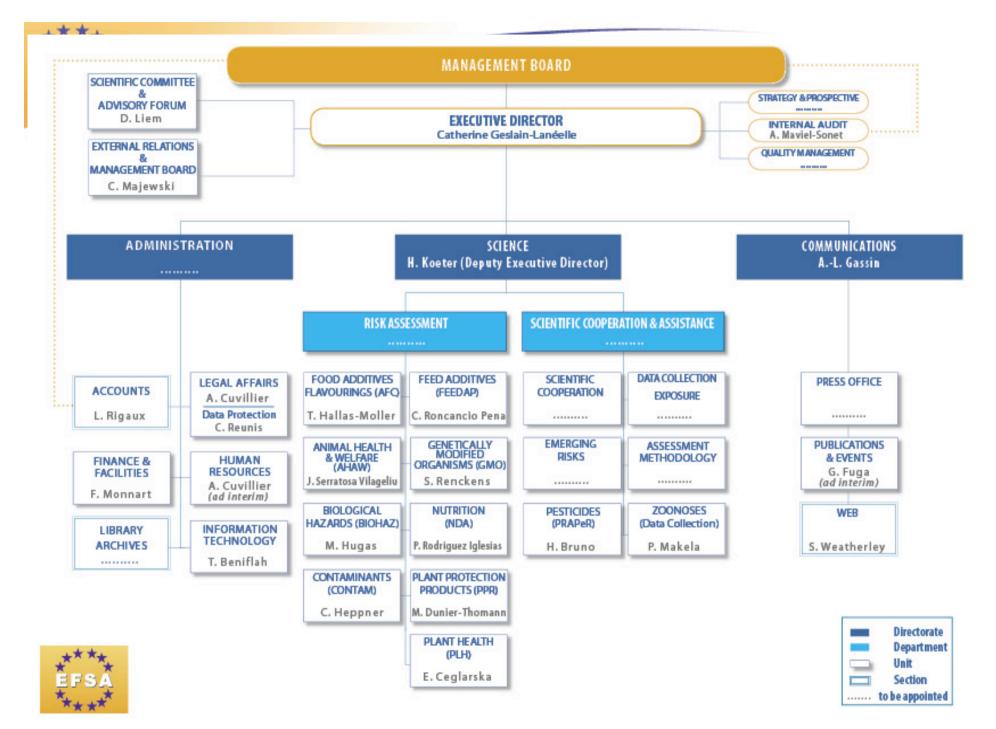
EFSA's mission

- Provision of scientific advice and scientific opinions
- Scientific and technical support
 in all fields with impact on food and feed
 safety
- Provision of independent information within these fields
- Risk communication related to food and feed safety



The 9 EFSA Panels

- Panel on contaminants in the food chain
- Panel on food additives, flavorings, processing aids and materials in contact with food
- ✓ Panel on dietetic products, nutrition and allergies
- Panel on biological hazards
- Panel on additives and products or substances used in animal feed
- Panel on genetically modified organisms
- X Panel on animal health and welfare
- >> Panel on plant protection products and their residues
- Panel on plant health





The Unit of Zoonoses (data collection)

- Under "Science" and "Scientific Cooperation and Assistance"
- Two main tasks:
 - Annual data collection and reporting on zoonoses in EU
 - Analyses of Community-wide baseline surveys on zoonotic agents



New Zoonoses legislation

- ❖ Directive on the monitoring of zoonoses and zoonotic agents (2003/99/EC) gives EFSA the task to examine the data collected from the Member States and to publish an annual Community summary report
- Member States have an obligation to report each year
- EFSA took over the task in 2005



The Zoonoses Directive

- Data collected on
 - zoonoses and zoonotic agents in foodstuffs, feed and animals
 - Foodborne outbreaks
 - Antimicrobial resistance
 - Animal populations

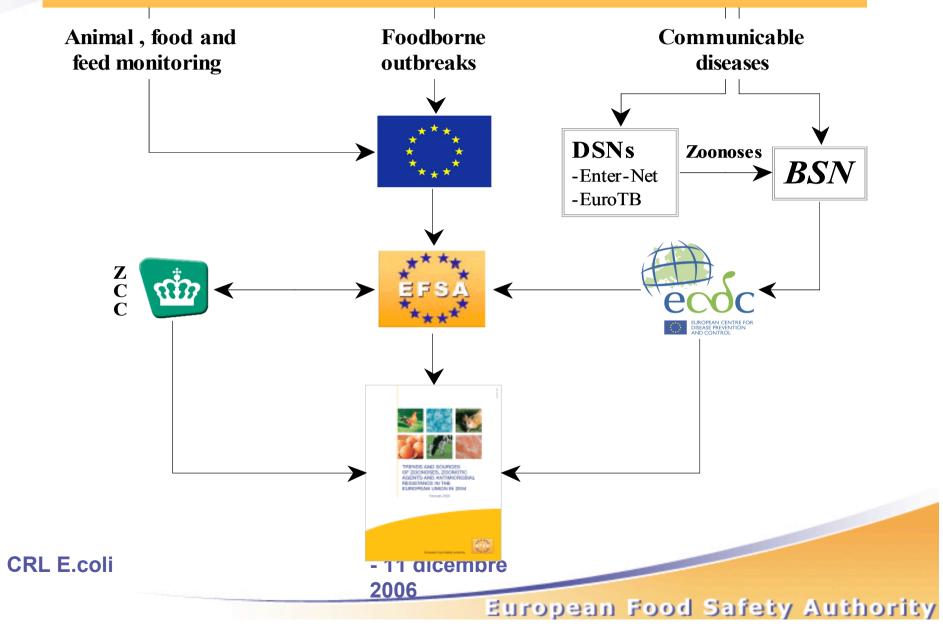


Zoonoses Directive

- Data collection mandatory for 8 zoonoses:
 - Salmonella
 - Campylobacter
 - Listeria monocytogenes
 - Brucella
 - Tuberculosis due to Mycobacterium bovis
 - Verotoxigenic Escherichia coli
 - Trichinella
 - Echinococcus



Member States





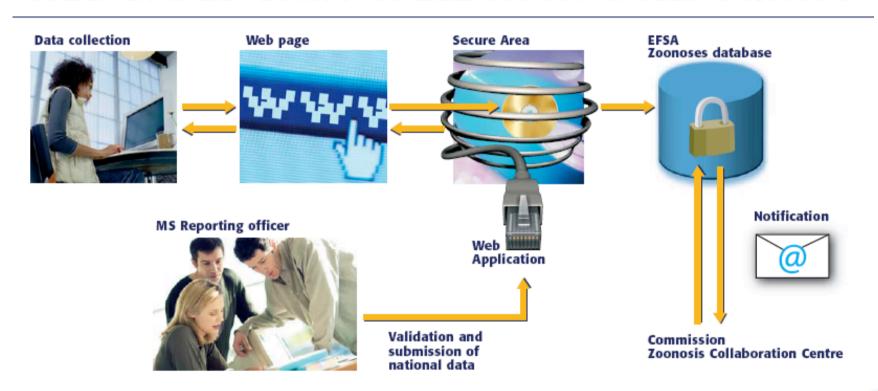
Task Force on Zoonoses Data Collection

- 33 members: all Member States, Norway, the Commission, ECDC and ZCC
- 5 observers (WHO, OIE, Switzerland, Romania and Bulgaria)
- Assists and advises EFSA in all matters related to zoonoses data collection





EU zoonoses monitoring data WEB-BASED DATA COLLECTION & REPORTING





Reporting guidelines

- Reporting Manual
- Recommendations for
 - animal/food/agent species to be covered
 - Analytical/diagnostic methods to be used
 - Interesting information to be reported
- Under revision CRLs will be consulted for the methods



Analyses of the Zoonoses Data

- Analyses of <u>trends</u> over the years (in MS/ EU)
- Identification of <u>sources</u> of human infections (which foodstuffs/ animal species)
- Geographical distributions
- large amount of data each year → Summary of the main findings



EFSA's 1. report from 2004 data





VTEC in food and animals

- Reporting mandatory for the first time regarding the 2005 data
- 21 MS provided data
- MS reported findings of VTEC (in general) and also specific serotypes (O157, 091, ...) when the information was available



Analytical methods used by MS for VTEC

- ISO 16654 most frequently mentioned
- ISO 10273
- ISO 6579
- NMKL 164
- PCR
- IMS



Difficulties with the VTEC data

- Different analytical methods used, some of them only looking for O157
- Lack of information on isolated serotypes from food and animals
- It is not possible to properly assess the relevance of different foods and animal species as sources of human infections
- a need for more detailed information on the serotypes and other virulence factors related to human diseases



EFSA's intention

- to ask for an scientific opinion from BIOHAZ panel regarding
 - Identification of the human pathogenic VTEC strains
 - Optimal monitoring and analyses methods to be used in food and animals



Analyses of the Community-wide baseline surveys



Baseline surveys

- Fully harmonised by Commission Decisions
- MS to report to COM, EFSA analyses the results
- COM Regulation on Reduction Target
- MS to set up a control programme to meet the Target
- EFSA will follow if the targets are met



Current and foreseen baseline surveys

- Salmonella in laying hens: 2004-05; 2006
- Salmonella in broiler flocks: 2005-06; 2007
- Salmonella in fattening pigs: 2006-07; 2008
- Salmonella in turkey flocks: 2006-07; 2008
- Salmonella in breeding pigs:2007-08; 2009
- Salmonella and Campylobacter in broiler meat: 2007-08?; 2009?
- Campylobacter in live broilers:2008-09?; 2010?





Thank you for your attention!