

Opinion 16-2022 of the Scientific Committee established at the FASFC on the re-assessment of the ratings of adverse effects of hazards mentioned in the control programme of the FASFC: partim animal health

Terms of reference

The Scientific Committee is asked to re-assess the scores of the adverse effects related to the various hazards (parameters) that are monitored by the FASFC in the food chain (program of analyses in the control programme). More specifically, it is asked :

- to determine or re-assess the scores assigned for grading the severity of the adverse effects related to the hazards, diseases, and parameters in the food chain;
- if the Scientific Committee finds it necessary, to re-assess the approach to be followed in setting the rating of the adverse effects severity.

This opinion concerns the scores for the adverse effects of hazards (parameters) and parameter profiles (set of parameters) for the section 'animal health' of the monitoring programme.

Method

The opinion is based on expert opinion, scientific literature and the current epidemiological situation for different animal diseases and zoonoses.

Conclusion

The Scientific Committee proposes a limited number of changes to the scoring of the adverse effects of certain parameters applied in the analytical programme of the animal health section of the monitoring programme.

In addition, it is recommended to refer to the susceptible animal species for each parameter/pathogen. Indeed, some pathogens occur in different animal species but the severity of the clinical picture is not necessarily the same depending on the animal species.

A number of parameters are associated to pathogens for which a control or an eradication programme is currently in force in Belgium (e.g. IBR, BVD, Brucellosis, etc.). Many samples are already taken as part of these programmes. It is recommended to thoroughly investigate the usefulness of any additional sampling for these pathogens within the framework of the FASFC analytical programme.

The full text is available on this website in dutch and in french.