



**JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME
CODEX COMMITTEE ON CONTAMINANTS IN FOODS**

**Eighteenth Session
23-27 June 2025
Bangkok, Thailand**

**MATTERS OF INTEREST ARISING FROM FAO
FAO WORK ON FEED OF INTEREST TO THE CODEX COMMITTEE ON CONTAMINANTS IN FOODS**

(Prepared by FAO)

1. This addendum provides information on the FAO capacity development activities in the feed area, which are of interest to the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods (CCCF).

Other issues of potential interest to the Committee

Update from FAO

International Workshop on Feed Risk Assessment – Chemical Safety

2. The International Workshop¹ on Feed Risk Assessment – Chemical Safety was organized on 10 and 11 March 2025, in Utrecht, The Netherlands, by the Dutch National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), supported by the Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, Fishery, Food Security and Nature (LNV). After the first workshop held in 2013, the purpose of this workshop was to revisit and explore state-of-the-art methods and tools for the risk assessment of chemical contaminants in feed for farmed animals. The focus was on possible health risks for the consumers of animal-source food and animal health risks. New developments and challenges related to feed sources, contaminants, and technologies of increasing relevance were discussed. Current techniques and methods for feed safety risk assessment were explored during case studies and interactive simulations.
3. The workshop was attended by approximately 65 participants from about 20 countries from different regions. The participants were risk assessors, risk managers, and other feed and food safety experts from governmental organizations, academia, and the feed and livestock private sector. They concluded that since 2013, there have been important developments in feed risk assessment. One example is the increased availability of open-access transfer models, which has facilitated their use at the international level. The increased harmonization of feeding regimes at national and regional levels has also contributed to greater harmonization of risk assessment approaches.
4. These improvements have resulted in more accurate feed risk assessment, leading to more effective decision-making processes. However, despite these advancements, several challenges remain. One of the key concerns is the gap in international feed risk assessment related to animal health. Many countries and organizations operate under different frameworks, which creates inconsistencies in data collection and risk evaluation.
5. FAO will shortly publish a manual on feed risk assessment that will provide clarity and help harmonize currently applied methodologies. It was pointed out how the scarcity of animal health toxicity studies makes it difficult to perform comprehensive risk assessments. This also highlights the urgent need for more structured research and information exchange.
6. Another recurring theme throughout the workshop was the necessity of fostering better international collaboration in sharing high-quality data. Data on feed hazards are not always widely shared, thus limiting the effectiveness of global collaboration efforts. Participants emphasized the need to develop a centralized, user-friendly, quality data-sharing platform that could facilitate more seamless integration of hazard and occurrence data from various sources. Such a platform would improve the quality of risk assessments and enhance transparency and cooperation among stakeholders.

¹ <https://www.fao.org/feed-safety/news-events/detail/en/c/1734982/>

7. The workshop also addressed feed sources and technologies of increasing interest, which may introduce new hazards and challenges to risk assessment. However, current knowledge could allow for the conversion of a broad range of products into animal feed using proper risk-based measures, innovative technologies, and processing methods to ensure their safety and nutritional value for the needs of the animals and their products.
8. In conclusion, the workshop served as a valuable platform for stakeholders to exchange insights and discuss new developments in feed risk assessment. With emerging challenges, such as the potential risks associated with the use of feed sources from the circular economy and the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by livestock, thorough risk assessment of contaminants in animal feed remains crucial. It was encouraging to see the progress made in various areas in recent years, such as transmission models and the availability of standard feed regimes. The workshop was closed by stressing the need for enhanced international collaboration, quality data sharing, and capacity development to advance feed risk assessment further. FAO and other relevant stakeholders will remain committed to supporting these efforts through ongoing discussions, research initiatives, and capacity-building and training programmes.
9. A summary of the workshop and the recommendations is available online².