



Thursday
9 May
2024

14:30-15:30 CET

Languages:
English

FAO webinar

Food safety implications from the use of environmental inhibitors in agrifood systems

Background and Objective

The challenge of feeding an increasing global population while responding to the climate crisis requires developing practices and technologies that enhance the sustainability of food production. Environmental inhibitors are one of the approaches used to minimize the harmful effects of agrifood systems on the environment. They can reduce greenhouse gas emissions, such as methane from ruminants, limit the loss of nitrogen from cultivated fields and pastures, while also improving the efficiency of livestock and crop production.

However, an inadvertent presence of environmental inhibitors' residues in food commodities can raise health concerns as well as trade disruption if standards or appropriate measures are not established. The possible food safety issues associated with these substances can be challenging to assess and manage due to the lack of internationally harmonized regulatory approaches and an agreed definition for environmental inhibitors and insufficient food safety information for some compounds.

Based on the recent FAO publication, the webinar aims to stimulate discussion on the food safety aspects that need to be considered and addressed when using environmental inhibitors in agrifood systems.

Programme

1	Opening remarks	Corinna Hawkes - Director FAO Agrifood Systems and Food Safety Division (ESF)
2	Presentation of the FAO report	- Vittorio Fattori (FAO ESF) - Magdalena Niegowska Conforti (FAO ESF)
3	Panel discussion	- Warren Hughes (Ministry for Primary Industries, New Zealand) - Claudio Nuñez (Agriculture and Livestock Service, Chile) - Michael Dickinson (Food Standards Agency, United Kingdom) - Holly Erdely (Food and Drug Administration, USA)
4	Closing remarks	Markus Lipp (FAO ESF)

Moderator
Jane Feeney
(FAO ESF)

Resources:

- Publication:
[Food safety implications from the use of environmental inhibitors in agrifood systems](#)

- Foresight section on the FAO Food Safety website:
<https://www.fao.org/food-safety/scientific-advice/foresight/en/>