

# European baseline studies on zoonotic agents –future plans

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## Legislation

- DIRECTIVE 2003/99/EC OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 17 November 2003 on the monitoring of zoonoses and zoonotic agents, amending Council Decision 90/424/EEC and repealing Council Directive 92/117/EEC
- REGULATION (EC) No 2160/2003 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 17 November 2003 on the control of salmonella and other specified food-borne zoonotic agents
- A number of specific regulations for control *Salmonella* in different animal

## Scope of Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003

- Proper and effective measures to detect and control
  - Salmonella and other zoonotic agents
  - At primary production and all relevant stages of production
- To reduce their prevalence and public health risk
- Initial provisions: *Salmonella* in poultry and pigs, but legal basis to extend the scope and control to other agents and/or animal populations

## New targets ?

- Other zoonotic agents
- Other stages of food chain
- Other animal production
  
- Criteria: frequency, gravity, economic consequences, epidemiological trends, scientific advice, technological developments, requirements and trends in breeding and production systems
  
- New provisions: *Salmonella* and *Campylobacter* in broilers and broiler carcasses
- MRSA in breeding pig herds

## How to set Community targets

- Based on results of baseline surveys/studies
  - Obtain comparable data for analyses at the Community level
  - Obtain knowledge important for establishment of control programmes
- After consultation of EFSA
- By comitology procedure
- Maximum % of units remaining positive or/and minimum % reduction of units
  - Within defined time limit
  - Verified by defined testing scheme

## A survey on the prevalence of *Salmonella* spp. and Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* in herds of breeding pigs to be carried out in the Member States

- Initial survey of the occurrence of MRSA in pigs in MSs
- No plan for setting target at the moment
  
- MRSA in breeding pig herds
- 1. January 2008 – 31. December 2008
- Combined with *Salmonella* baseline study
- Bacteriological examination of dust
  - Verification of species and identification of *mecA* gene by PCR
  - Antimicrobial susceptibility typing, MIC
  - *Staphylococcus* type A (spa-typing)
  - MLST-typing

## Major Achievements in EU by performing baseline studies

- Have provided comparable data for analyses at the Community level
- Have provided results for setting EU targets
- Have identified differences between results from the baseline studies and regular monitoring results
- Have confirmed that poultry products – and in particular table eggs – continue to be important sources of human salmonellosis in EU
- .....but also that effective surveillance and control efforts, as implemented in several MS, can significantly reduce the prevalence in laying hens and broiler flocks, and thus the associated human infections