



19th May 2023

http://www.securite-alimentaire.public.lu/point_focal/index.html

LUXEMBOURGISH EFSA FOCAL POINT NEWSLETTER

23-5

Calls

EFSA grant - Call for proposals GP/EFSA/PREV/2023/03 - Partnership with EFSA on the retrospective Cumulative Risk Assessment (CRA) of dietary exposure to pesticide residues | Deadline: 30.6.2023

The following Call for Proposals (grant) has been launched on the EFSA website:

Call reference: GP/EFSA/PREV/2023/03- **Partnership with EFSA on the retrospective Cumulative Risk Assessment (CRA) of dietary exposure to pesticide residues**

Link to the **call documents**:

<https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/art36grants/article36/gpefsaprev202303-partnership-efsa-retrospective-cumulative-risk-assessment>

The deadline for submission of proposals is **Friday 30th June 2023**.

This call for proposals aims to conclude two Framework Partnership Agreements with multiple organisations belonging to the Article 36 list that will support EFSA

in producing retrospective CRAs in the next 4 years. The call has two lots (hazard assessment with financial ceiling €2.9M and cumulative exposure assessment with the financial ceiling €1.1M), and your organisation can apply for one or both lots.

Implementation of tasks will be performed via specific agreements. You can find more details (i.e. objectives, tasks, deliverables and timelines) in the set of the call documents referring to the link above.

EFSA grant - Call reference: GP/EFSA/PLANTS/2023/06 – GP/EFSA/PLANTS/2023/06: Experimental and observational evidence to reduce knowledge gaps for risk assessment of new and emerging plant pests | Deadline: 30.6.2023

We would like to inform you that EFSA has recently launched the following call for Proposals (grant):

Call reference: GP/EFSA/PLANTS/2023/06 - **GP/EFSA/PLANTS/2023/06: Experimental and observational evidence to reduce knowledge gaps for risk assessment of new and emerging plant pests**

Link to the **call documents**:

<https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/art36grants/article36/gpefsaplants202306-experimental-and-observational-evidence-reduce-knowledge>

The deadline for submission of proposals is **Friday 30th June 2023**.

The objective of this call is to reduce key knowledge gaps for risk assessment of new and emerging plant pests, by collection, through focused research, of experimental and observational evidence.

The call is divided into three lots:

Lot 1: Improving the knowledge on the European and global **distribution of** plant pathogenic species of the *genus Colletotrichum*, recently subject to taxonomical changes – with the maximum duration of the project 3 years and the maximum possible amount of EFSA grant € 300,000.

Lot 2: Investigating the **epidemiology and control of citrus black spot**, caused by the plant pathogenic fungus *Phyllosticta citricarpa*, in Mediterranean citrus growing areas in Tunisia – with the maximum duration of the project 4 year and the maximum possible amount of EFSA grant € 500,000.

Lot 3: Investigating the **biology and capacity to transmit Xylella fastidiosa of the sharpshooter Draeculacephala robinsoni**, recently introduced into the EU – with the maximum duration of the project 4 years and the maximum possible amount of EFSA grant € 400,000.

The proposal can be submitted for one or more lots. More details (i.e. on objectives, tasks, deliverables, timelines, meetings and possible subcontracting) you find in the set of the call documents referring to the link above.

Call reference: GP/EFSA/PLANTS/2023/02- Support to urgent authorisations on Plant Health and Pesticides | Deadline: 21.8.2023

The following Call for Proposals (grant) has been launched on the EFSA website:

Call reference: GP/EFSA/PLANTS/2023/02- **Support to urgent authorisations on Plant Health and Pesticides**

Link to the **call documents**:

<https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/art36grants/article36/gpefsaprev202303-partnership-efsa-retrospective-cumulative-risk-assessment>

The deadline for submission of proposals is **Monday 21st August 2023**.

This call for proposals aims to **develop protocols** for the evaluation of emergency authorisations of pesticides granted under Article 53 of Regulation (EU) 1107/2009. The protocols are for different functions of active substances, namely:

- ✓ insecticides and acaricides
- ✓ fungicides and bactericides
- ✓ the remaining functions of active substances (e.g. soil fumigants, herbicides and nematicides).

Implementation will be performed via a direct grant agreement (with up to € 1,000,000 budget for project duration of max. 43 months) .

You can find more details (i.e. objectives, tasks, deliverables and timelines) in the set of the call documents referring to the link above.

Public Consultations

Public consultation on the Draft Statement on how to interpret the QPS qualification on 'Acquired antimicrobial resistance genes' | deadline: 30.5.2023

EFSA's Panel on Biological Hazards (BIOHAZ) has recently launched a public consultation on the "**Draft Panel statement on how to interpret the QPS qualification for all QPS bacterial taxonomic units "the strains should not harbour any acquired antimicrobial resistance genes to clinically relevant antimicrobials'**".

This document aims to clarify the definitions of 'intrinsic' and 'acquired' AMR genes and provide some general principles on the risk assessment of AMR genes present in QPS bacterial TUs. The definitions and principles are intended to harmonise and support the risk assessment performed in the different EFSA risk assessment areas and they apply to bacteria used in the food and feed chain. They should therefore be generally applicable and of practical use. The tools and methodologies recommended in this document are formulated based on the actual knowledge in an area constantly in evolution. Therefore, regular updates may be expected in the future.

Interested parties are invited to submit their comments by **30 May 2023**. [Here](#) you will find the Connect.EFSA link to include in the communication.

The adoption of the draft Panel Statement shared with this public consultation is scheduled for **September 2023**.

EFSA public consultations on Protocol for Scientific Opinions | Deadline: 12.6.2023

EFSA has launched three public consultations (PCs) on Protocols for the following Scientific Opinions:

- Evaluation of the safety in use of **plant preparations containing berberine** (relevant [link](#))
- Evaluation of the safety in use of **preparations from the fruits of sweet and bitter fennel** (*Foeniculum vulgare* Mill. and *Foeniculum piperitum* (Ucria) C.Presl) (relevant [link](#))
- Evaluation of the safety in use of **plant preparations containing hydroxycitric acid and isolated hydroxycitric acid** (relevant [link](#)).

The PCs will remain open until **12/06/2023**.

Events

La sécurité dans mon assiette – 7 June 2023 | deadline for registration 31 May 2023

ALVA as Focal Point of EFSA is pleased to invite you to the conference "**La sécurité dans mon assiette**" **organised in the framework of the World Food Safety Day**

The conference will take place on **7 June 2023 starting at 17:00** at the **Tramsschapp** (49 Rue Ermesinde L-1469 Limpertsberg) and will explain several official control systems of the food chain.

The conférence, in Luxembourgish and translated in French, will take place in the presence of the Minister of Agriculture, Viticulture and Rural Development, Claude Haagen, and will be moderated by Michèle Weber, a science mediator known from science.lu.

Registrations are open until 31 May 2023 via the following link: <https://www.emfro.lu/s3/La-securite-dans-mon-assiette-2023>

More information: <https://securite-alimentaire.public.lu/fr/actualites/evenements/2023/securite-dans-mon-assiette-2023.html>

Science meets policy conference 2023 | Deadline for registration: 31.5.2023

There are still few places available to **attend in person** the second edition of the **Science meets policy conference** to be held in Parma on 5-6 September. Physical participation is recommended to allow attendees to interact with the speakers.

Register here until 31.5.2023:

<https://click.outreach.efsa.europa.eu/?qs=419b77873283044030b792f08bcddd9b926d7d626a64a325c1d9f16215ddcf0476dc7433c2e6ffef64c02e09de761f7d41956d6f18b63261>

The event, jointly organised by EFSA and the European Commission's inter-EURL working group on Whole Genome Sequencing (WGS), will focus on EU initiatives towards the large-scale use of Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) to tackle foodborne threats. More information can be found [here](#).

The conference will be particularly relevant for food safety risk assessment **competent authorities** and **policymakers** in the EU and beyond, as well as **food business operators**.

114th Scientific Committee Open Plenary meeting_28-29 June 2023 | registration deadline 21/06/23

We would like to inform you that the registration to observe the **114th Scientific Committee Open plenary meeting** to be held on **28-29 June 2023** is now open. Observers are invited to register via this link

https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/114th_Open_Plenary_Meeting_of_the_Scientific_Committee_28_29_June_2023_Registration_for_Observers **by 21 June 2023 at 12:00 CMT**. A written response after the closing of the registration will be sent by email to participants. Please note that EFSA reserves the right to screen applications and prioritise requests to ensure geographical balance and broader participation.

If your participation is confirmed, you will receive the link to join the meeting. This link must not be shared with any other persons, including colleagues from the same company; not registered and invited persons will be rejected from the meeting.

The platform used for the event will be Microsoft Teams, a list of compatible web browsers can be found [here](#).

The participation to this event is free of charge and the meeting agenda will be published on 29 May 2023.

150th plenary meeting of the Scientific Panel on Animal Health and Welfare (AHAW)-Open for observers | deadline for registration 06/06/23

We would like to inform you that registration to observe the "**150th plenary meeting of the Scientific Panel on Animal Health and Animal Welfare (AHAW)- Open for Observers**" to be held as tele conference meeting on **21ST June, 2023 (9:00-13:30)**, is now open on the EFSA website. If you wish to attend as an observer please register **by June 6th, 2023 at 24.00 pm** from [here](#).

More information on the event, draft agenda, and guidelines for observers are available at [150th Plenary meeting of the AHAW Panel - Open for observers | EFSA \(europa.eu\)](#).

Training

ITS Food 2023 postponed - save the new date in 2024 !!!

Following our announcement from January, with this update, we have to inform you that the International Training for Safer Food (ITS Food) 2023 will be postponed to early 2024 for internal reasons.

We would like to share the new dates of ITS Food 2024 with you:

- February 26 to 29, 2024 (for participants from eastern hemisphere)
- March 04 to 07, 2024 (for participants from western hemisphere)

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. We truly hope that you will still be on board for - now - ITS Food 2024. We look forward to welcoming you online in February/March 2024 with an even better ITS Food 2024.

For further updates, please also check our website: www.bvl.bund.de/its-food

Publications

Pesticides in food: latest data published

EFSA's latest report on pesticides residues in food in the European Union is now available [here](#). It gives a snapshot of the residue levels found in a selection of commonly consumed products, suggesting that the food commodities analysed in 2021 are unlikely to pose a concern for consumer health. As well as the harmonised and comparable data collected under the EU coordinated programme (EU MACP), EFSA's annual report also includes data collected as part of national control activities carried out by individual EU Member States*, Norway and Iceland.

The detailed results of the control programmes are available on EFSA's website as browsable charts and graphs in the related [data visualisation](#) making the data more accessible to non-specialists.