



23 July 2024

[Luxembourgish EFSA Focal Point](#)

LUXEMBOURGISH EFSA FOCAL POINT NEWSLETTER

24-07

Calls

Call for Proposals EUBA-EFSA-PLANTS-2024-03 on the "Commodity risk assessment for ornamental plants and plant products" | deadline 01.10.2024

Objectives: This call for proposals aims to identify organisations for which tasks falling within the plant health mission of the PLANTS unit can be entrusted by EFSA. In particular, these tasks regard the commodity risk assessment and/or assessment of commodity treatments for the evaluation of the technical dossiers sent by Third Countries for High Risk Plants or for request of derogation of import prohibitions.

Eligibility: Only the [competent organisations](#) designated by the Member States are eligible to apply.

Deadline for submission: 01 October 2024, 17:00 (CET).

[Apply here](#)

Call for Expression of interest for Novel Food SMEs | deadline 31.10.2024

EFSA has launched a Call for Expressions of Interest targeting Novel Food SME applicants. This initiative is designed to raise awareness and facilitate Novel Food SMEs' access to the general pre-submission advice (GPSA) service, offering comprehensive support that addresses the specific needs of SMEs and focuses on **two specific stages** namely:

- the **very early stage of the development of the novel food**, even before starting the studies that will be included in the application,
- the **latest stages of the preparation of the application**, when most of the information that will be included in the application is already available to the SME.

EFSA will provide this advice through tele-meetings with the potential applicant, ensuring confidentiality.

SMEs can submit their expressions of interest via a [dedicated form](#) by 31 October 2024.

They can find more details and the call text on [EFSA's website](#). An online, pre-recorded info session to present the call and reply to the most frequently asked questions will be published on 16 July 2024 and the recording will be available on the call webpage.

All information submitted within the scope of this call will be treated as confidential. EFSA will make publicly available a summary of the advice, once an application that is the subject of the advice is declared valid, together with the non-confidential version of the application dossier.

Call for Proposals EUBA-EFSA-FEEDCO-2024-01 on the "Role of nitrate/nitrite and of processing and storage in the N-nitrosamine formation in certain foods" | deadline 28.11.2024

Background: N-nitrosamines are genotoxic and carcinogenic compounds occurring in food. Their formation has been linked to the presence of nitrates and nitrites in food, mainly in processed food products. The EFSA's evaluations indicated the need of further studies on the levels of N-nitrosamines formed in different processed meat products with known ingoing amounts of nitrates/nitrites added and in foods other than processed meat as well as in all products when cooked in different ways.

Objectives: This call for proposals seeks to investigate possible correlations between nitrates/nitrites and nitrosamines, and the role of cooking and storage on nitrosamine formation.

Budget: EFSA has available a total of EUR 750,000 for awarding one Direct Agreement with a duration of 30 months.

Eligibility: Only the competent organisations designated by the Member States are eligible to apply.

Deadline for submission: 28 November 2024, 17:00 (CET)

[Apply here](#)

See all EFSA open calls for [grant proposals](#), [calls for data](#) and [calls for tender](#).

Public consultations

Pesticide residues: Draft scientific report on review of the methodology used for the assessment of the short-term (acute) dietary exposure to pesticide residues in food (IESTI methodology) | deadline 23.08.2024

EFSA's Pesticide Peer Review Unit has launched a new public consultation. In the consumer risk assessments conducted in the framework of applications to set/modify maximum residue levels

(MRL) or to approve active substances used in plant protection products, risk assessors calculate the acute (short-term) dietary exposure using a methodology called the International Estimated Short-Term Intake (IESTI). In 2022, the European Commission (EC) submitted a request to the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), in accordance with Article 43 of Regulation (EC) No 396/2005, to provide a scientific report on the IESTI methodology.

Deadline : 23 August 2024

[Comment here](#)

Margin of exposure: Scoping paper on the revision of the opinion on the margin of exposure for chemicals which are both genotoxic and carcinogenic | deadline 06.09.2024

EFSA's Methodology and Scientific Support Unit has launched a new public consultation. EFSA is interested to implement a transparent process by reaching out to our stakeholders to provide feedback on the proposed revision of the EFSA opinion on the Margin of Exposure (MoE) for chemicals that are both genotoxic and carcinogenic (EFSA 2005) and the preliminary action plans.

Deadline : 6 September 2024

[Comment here](#)

Written targeted consultation on the draft protocol for the update of EFSA's risk assessment of dioxins and dioxin-like PCBs in feed and food | deadline 06.09.2024

EFSA is seeking your contribution for the mandate ***Request for an update of the scientific opinion on the risk for animal and human health related to the presence of dioxins and dioxin-like PCBs in feed and food on the basis of the new 2022 WHO TEF values*** ([EFSA-Q-2024-00227](#)).

See all open public consultations [here](#).

Events

Research conference Luxembourg: Contaminants in the food chain | 10.10.2024

The Luxembourg Veterinary and Food Administration (ALVA) is excited to announce the call for abstract submissions for the upcoming annual **conference on research in food safety: Contaminants in the food chain**. This year the event will be held in-person in the Coque Auditorium (Luxembourg Kirchberg) on **Thursday, 10th October 2024 at 2 pm**.

Connect with fellow professionals, researchers, and experts: The conference will be followed by a reception to foster collaborations within Luxembourg and beyond with invited speakers from our neighbouring countries.

Share your research findings and contribute to the field's collective knowledge! Conferences are an excellent opportunity for researchers to promote their research and activities. Submit your abstract (max. 250 words) [via email](mailto:communication@alva.etat.lu) to communication@alva.etat.lu indicating your affiliation and if you wish to be considered for an **oral or poster presentation**.

Abstract submission deadline: 5 August 2024 at 2pm



Technical meeting on applications for food enzymes and New FEIM web tool | 14.-25.10.2024

Objective: The event aims to discuss **food enzyme applications**, focusing on common issues that lead to non-favourable risk assessment outputs. It will address procedural aspects specific to food enzyme dossiers under the various practical arrangements implementing the Transparency Regulation (EU) 2019/138 and illustrates how confidentiality claims are assessed. In addition, the event will introduce the **Food Enzyme Intake Model (FEIM) web tool** and a **catalogue of AMR genes in Bacillus species** used to produce food enzymes.

Please note that **EFSA will tailor the program also based on participants input** gathered during registration.

Dates: 24 October 2024 (14:00-18:00 CEST) and 25 October 2024 (09:00-18:00 CEST).

Location: Parma, Italy

Participation: The event is intended for **in-person participation**. Online participation will be ensured via **web streaming**, however, online participants will not have the possibility to interact during the meeting.

There is **no fee** for participation. However, in-person participants are required to cover expenses related to travel and accommodation.

Deadline: 6 September 2024, 23:59 CEST. Participants will be selected to ensure appropriate representation.

Please contact the luxembourgish focal point to express interest: focal.point@alva.etat.lu

Find more information regarding the web tool [below](#).

7th World Congress on Food Science & Technology | 14.-15.03.2025

Welcome to the **7th World Congress on Food Science & Technology**, organized by [Inovine Scientific Meetings](#). This premier event brings together experts, researchers, industry leaders, and professionals from around the world to share knowledge, discuss innovations, and collaborate on the future of food science. Our mission is to foster a global dialogue on food science, promoting the highest standards and practices to ensure the advancement of the field. We aim to provide a platform for learning, networking, and professional development for everyone committed to food science.

What to Expect

1. **Expert Presentations:** Gain insights from leading experts in food science through keynote speakers, panel discussions, and technical sessions.
2. **Workshops and Training:** Enhance your skills and knowledge by participating in hands-on workshops and training sessions.
3. **Exhibition Hall:** Discover the latest products, technologies, and services from top companies in the food science industry.
4. **Networking Opportunities:** Connect with professionals from around the globe through receptions, breakout sessions, and discussion groups.

[Abstract submission](#) until **29 July**

[Early bird registration](#) until **9 August**

EFSA recruitment

EFSA Seconded National Experts Call

EFSA is looking for an experienced engagement/external relations officer or scientist with proven experience in engagement and/or external relations to join the Engagement and External Relations Unit (ENREL) as a Seconded National Expert.

Profile: civil servant with experience in engagement/external relations

Responsibilities: among other tasks, the Seconded National Expert would complement the team by steering the implementation of a new monitoring tool, managing the external contractor, organising the input, and supporting the Unit with analytical data to inform decision-making. The selected candidate would in turn be exposed to the latest global discussions around science for food safety, build up experience in knowledge management, strategic decision making, and external relations activities supporting EFSA's strategic ambitions.

Eligibility criteria: before submitting the application, consult the SNE eligibility criteria [here](#).

Application procedure: submit the application to the Seconded National Expert database below.

See all open EFSA Professional opportunities [here](#).

Food Enzyme Intake Model (FEIM) web tool released

EFSA has released an innovative new webtool designed to support industry operators and consumers in **estimating exposure to food enzymes through the diet**.

The [Food Enzyme Intake Model \(FEIM\)](#) tool will enable users to obtain intake estimates for specific enzymes per manufacturing process and also to calculate cumulative exposure from multiple manufacturing processes simultaneously. It will not only support **food enzyme manufacturers** in compiling exposure data for application dossiers but also empower **consumers** with information on their dietary exposure to food enzymes.

The FEIM webtool is **freely accessible** to anyone through the [R4EU](#) platform upon registration.

[More information](#) – [Access the tool](#)

EFSA recruits leading scientists to panels for 5-year term

On 1 July 2024, 180 leading experts joined the EFSA's scientific panels for a new 5-year term. EFSA's experts provide independent scientific advice to protect EU consumers, animals and the environment.

The 2024-2029 mandate includes 11 panels, with the Panel on Food Enzymes (FEZ) and the Panel on Food Contact Materials (FCM) replacing the former Panel on Food Contact Materials, Enzymes, and Processing Aids (CEP). The Scientific Committee, comprising all panel chairs, now includes an additional member and a social scientist, enhancing EFSA's capacity to effectively respond to societal needs. Find more information [here](#).

The full list of panel members and their declarations of interest can be found [here](#).

EFSA Podcast: Episode 20 – Fowl threat: is avian flu going viral?

Avian flu has decimated poultry and wild birds around the globe in recent years. The virus has now spread extensively among mammals, affecting more than 50 species from cats to sea lions. The disease was recently discovered in dairy cows in North America and some farm workers were infected, causing widespread alarm. Could this be the next pandemic? Can we stop it spreading? Will vaccination help? Join us as we investigate why avian flu is making headlines and what we can do about it.

[Listen to the podcast here](#)

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