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[Luxembourgish EFSA Focal Point](#)

LUXEMBOURGISH EFSA FOCAL POINT NEWSLETTER

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Contents

Calls.....	2
Scientific and technical assistance on a foresight activity in the field of plant health to enhance crisis preparedness for the EU territory deadline 07.10.2026.....	2
Call for data relevant to the genotoxicity assessment of the flavouring substance acetaldehyde [FL No. 05.001] deadline 31.07.2027	2
Public consultations.....	3
Draft statement on mixture methodologies for assessing toxicity from chronic exposure to plant protection products deadline 23.08.2026.....	3
Update of the scientific opinion on the risks for animal and public health related to the presence of Alternaria toxins in feed and food deadline 30.08.2026	3
Events	3
Registration open: Emerging Food Contaminants conference Luxembourg 28.09.2026	3
Workshop on implementing EC Roadmap on phasing out animal testing in pesticides and biocides 21.-22.10.2026.....	4
Joint Conference on Data and use of AI for surveillance and risk assessment in food safety, animal health and plant health 29.-30.10.2026.....	4
EFSA's Scientific Colloquium 29 - Decoding the Microbiome: From Knowledge Gaps to Actionable Regulatory Science 23.-24.11.2026	4
Trainings.....	5
Training course on Bayesian BMD model averaging in risk assessment 27.-28.10.2026.....	5
Publications.....	6
EFSA lowers safe level for exposure to TFA	6
Multi-country outbreak of Salmonella Stanley infections linked to flavoured noodle products.....	6
EFSA recruitment	7

Head of Risk Assessment Department deadline 24.08.2026.....	7
Scientific officer deadline 20.08.2026	7
Other	7
Food Composition Data 2026 is now available	7

Calls

Scientific and technical assistance on a foresight activity in the field of plant health to enhance crisis preparedness for the EU territory | deadline 07.10.2026

EFSA has been conducting horizon scanning on plant pests since 2017 to support EU crisis preparedness and inform plant health policy decisions. This activity is mainly carried out through the EIOS system (<https://www.who.int/initiatives/eios>), with technical support from WHO and the JRC. Relevant information is screened daily and synthesised into monthly newsletters for EU risk managers. Over the years, additional tools and tasks have been integrated, and a shift towards more advanced, foresight-oriented approaches has become essential.

This call aims to identify the most suitable partner to support the evolution of the horizon scanning mandate, including the development and implementation of methods and tools, and to strengthen the integration of plant health within the One Health framework.

Deadline: **07 October 2026 17:00:00 Brussels time**

[More information](#)

Call for data relevant to the genotoxicity assessment of the flavouring substance acetaldehyde [FL No. 05.001] | deadline 31.07.2027

The purpose of this call for data is to offer interested parties (e.g. food business operators, national food authorities, research institutions, academia) and/or other stakeholders, the opportunity to submit additional data (published, unpublished or newly generated) relevant to the evaluation of the genotoxicity of acetaldehyde [FL no: 05.001] when used as a flavouring substance.

[More information](#)

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

Public consultations

Draft statement on mixture methodologies for assessing toxicity from chronic exposure to plant protection products | deadline 23.08.2026

EFSA is consulting publicly on a draft statement addressing mixture methodologies for assessing toxicity from chronic exposure to plant protection products. The consultation aims to gather feedback on scientific approaches used to assess the potential long-term toxic and carcinogenic effects resulting from interactions between components in plant protection products. Interested parties are invited to submit comments **by 23 August 2026**.

[Comment here](#)

Update of the scientific opinion on the risks for animal and public health related to the presence of Alternaria toxins in feed and food | deadline 30.08.2026

Objective: The objective of the current assessment is to re-assess, based on new scientific evidence and developments which became available since the 2011 Opinion, the risks for animal and public health related to the presence of Alternaria toxins in feed and food.

Deadline to comment: **30 August 2026**

[Comment here](#)

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

Events

Registration open: Emerging Food Contaminants conference Luxembourg | 28.09.2026

The Luxembourg Veterinary and Food Administration (ALVA) organises its annual food safety research conference.

The event is supported by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) and will be held in the Cercle Cité (Luxembourg City, entrance via Rue Genistre) on Monday, 28 September 2026 at 2 pm followed by a reception.

Participation is free of charges, however, the registration is mandatory.

[More information, agenda & abstracts](#)

[Registration](#)



Workshop on implementing EC Roadmap on phasing out animal testing in pesticides and biocides | 21.-22.10.2026

Objective: The workshop will focus on the implementation of the European Commission's roadmap for phasing out animal testing in pesticides and biocides. Participants will discuss key actions supporting the roadmap and explore ways to accelerate the development and use of non-animal methods in risk assessment.

Participants: The meeting is open to stakeholders with expertise in pesticides, biocides and New Approach Methodologies (NAMs) for risk assessment. Participation is limited to 100 participants, with selection ensuring balanced representation.

Date: **21-22 October 2026, 09:30-17:30/09:00-13:00 (CEST)**

Location: **Parma, Italy**

Registration deadline: 17 September 2026, 23:59 (CEST).

[Register here](#)

Joint Conference on Data and use of AI for surveillance and risk assessment in food safety, animal health and plant health | 29.-30.10.2026

How can artificial intelligence help address future challenges in food safety, animal health and plant health? A joint international conference hosted by ANSES will bring together experts from leading organisations, including EFSA, to explore the use of AI, omics technologies and data-driven approaches for surveillance, detection and risk assessment.

Date: **29 – 30 October 2026**

Location: **ANSES – Maisons-Alfort Cedex, France and online**

[Event page](#)

[Provisional programme](#)

EFSA's Scientific Colloquium 29 - Decoding the Microbiome: From Knowledge Gaps to Actionable Regulatory Science | 23.-24.11.2026

Objectives:

The colloquium is designed to produce three specific outputs:

Output 1 – A structured maturity assessment for each domain addressed, distinguishing:

- What is approaching sufficient regulatory science readiness;
- What requires further development and tailoring for risk assessment integration;
- What requires longer-term research investment.

Output 2 – A set of priority regulatory science actions, structured around three specific questions:

- What adversity criteria and evidence standards are needed before microbiome endpoints can be incorporated into regulatory decisions;
- What methods, data and reporting standards must be established for regulatory submissions involving microbiome data;
- Whether and how existing regulatory tools can be adapted to integrate microbiome-related endpoints.

Output 3 – A gap-closing action plan identifying who does what and when, distinguishing:

- What falls within EFSA's and partners' direct regulatory science remit;
- What requires international coordination;
- What requires longer-term research investment that regulatory science organisations should advocate for.

Participants:

- The event is intended for scientists, regulatory experts and other stakeholders with expertise at the interface of microbiome science and risk assessment.
- In-person attendance is limited to a maximum of 120 participants, including speakers and other experts already identified by EFSA and co-organisers.
- Plenary sessions will also be web streamed (video and listening-mode only).

Online participation is not foreseen — please register for this event only if you are able to attend in person. Participation is free of charge.

Date: **23 November 2026, 09:00 - 18:00 (CEST);**

24 November 2026, 09:00 - 13:00 (CEST)

Location: **Brussels, Belgium**

Registration deadline: 14 September 2026 - 12:00 (CEST).

[Register here](#)

Trainings

Training course on Bayesian BMD model averaging in risk assessment | 27.-28.10.2026

The course aims to provide participants with an in-depth understanding of the Bayesian BMD approach and practical experience using EFSA's platform for BMD analysis.

By the end of the course, participants should be able to:

- Understand the general principles of the Bayesian BMD model averaging approach.
- How to derive a BMD with quantal and continuous data from animal studies.
- Get the overview of the EFSA platform for Bayesian BMD analysis.
- Perform BMD analyses using the Bayesian model averaging approach, using the EFSA platform for BMD analysis.
- Report Bayesian BMD analyses, including uncertainty characterisation around the RP.
- Apply BMD analysis outcomes for the derivation of health-based guidance values.

Expertise needed for the nominations are: Quantitative toxicology, with emphasis on knowledge related to dose-response modelling or quantitative analysis of in-vivo toxicological studies Statistics in general, with emphasis on those that are dealing with in-vivo toxicological assessments

One expert per Member State will be accepted. Please contact the [Luxembourgish EFSA Focal Point](#) to get nominated.

- Travel and accommodation will be arranged directly by EFSA in line with the [EFSA Experts' Compensation Guide](#).
- EFSA will provide a prepaid flight ticket and accommodation.

Date: **27–28 October 2026, 09:30–17:30 (both days)**

Location: **Brussels, Belgium**

Deadline to submit nomination to the [Focal Point](#): 10 September 2026 (COB)

Publications

EFSA lowers safe level for exposure to TFA

The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) has reduced the safe level of trifluoroacetic acid (TFA) in the diet based on new scientific evidence. TFA is a breakdown product of some pesticides. The European Commission and EU Member States will take the new levels into account when they discuss measures to ensure consumers remain protected.

[Read the news](#)

[Read the plain language summary](#)

[Read the full scientific report](#)

Multi-country outbreak of Salmonella Stanley infections linked to flavoured noodle products

Flavoured noodle products are the most likely source of an ongoing multi-country outbreak of Salmonella Stanley infections, with evidence linking the cases to items from the same brand, according to a Rapid Outbreak Assessment by EFSA and ECDC.

Between November 2025 and June 2026, 106 confirmed cases were reported in 13 European Union/European Economic Area (EU/EEA) countries and the United Kingdom. The outbreak has mainly affected children and young adults, with at least 49 people requiring hospitalisation.

[Read the news](#)

[Read the Rapid Outbreak Assessment](#)

EFSA recruitment

Head of Risk Assessment Department | deadline 24.08.2026

EFSA is launching a selection procedure to fill **two Head of Department** positions for its two future Risk Assessment Departments, which are expected to become operational as of January 2027:

B - Risk Assessment I (Plants, Animals, Biological Hazards and Pesticides)

C - Risk Assessment II (Food and Feed Products)

The successful candidates will play a key role in shaping these departments and ensuring the delivery of scientific risk assessments, in line with EFSA's mission.

Deadline: **24 August 2026 at 23:59 (local time)**

[Read more and apply!](#)

Scientific officer | deadline 20.08.2026

EFSA has published **two** new calls for **Scientific Officers** in the areas of

- 1. [Food/Feed Microbiology & Industrial Biotechnology](#) and
- 2. [Chemistry, Exposure, Toxicology](#).

The purpose of these calls is to establish a talent pool (reserve list) that may be used for the recruitment of staff when a position becomes available and will be valid until 31 December 2027. The validity of the talent pool may be extended.

The successful candidates will play a key role in EFSA's scientific activities by supporting risk assessment, scientific advice, stakeholder engagement and science communication.

Deadline: **20 August 2026 at 23:59 (local time)**

[Read more and apply for Food/Feed Microbiology & Industrial Biotechnology!](#)

[Read more and apply for Chemistry, Exposure, Toxicology!](#)

Other

Food Composition Data 2026 is now available

Explore EFSA's new open-access database with harmonised food composition data for ~25,000 foods, including fortified foods, food supplements, recipes and branded foods from across Europe. Discover nutrient data, quality scores, FoodEx2 classifications, methodologies and supporting references—all in one place.

[Check out the Dashboard](#)

If you no longer wish to receive our newsletter please send an email to focal.point@alva.etat.lu