

7. Summarized considerations of CCFH request

In response to the request made by the CCFH to FAO/WHO, this chapter summarizes considerations agreed on by the invited experts during the Joint FAO/WHO Technical Meeting on *Salmonella* and *Campylobacter* in chicken meat.

Independent assessment and review of available scientific information on control measures

- Relevant literature was reviewed in Chapter 3. The information received as a response to the call for data preceding the Technical Meeting was of critical value for this report, with additional references provided by the experts attending the meeting.

Evaluate quantitative aspects of hazards reduction in terms of prevalence and concentration (specific interventions)

- The Experts evaluated and commented on the interventions identified in the Codex draft Guidelines. In Chapter 4, more interventions were added where data were available. These should not be considered as standalone interventions, and not all of the mentioned interventions will be effective for both pathogens.

Primary production

- The Experts considered the control measures mentioned in the primary production part of the production chain to be a part of GHP. Additional measures were added, but the group emphasized that the impact of these must be further investigated in order to quantify their effect.

Additional measures

- Increased pest control.
- Treatment of drinking water.
- Sanitation of eggs.
- Biosecurity measures.
- Culling of *Salmonella*-positive flocks.
- Heat treatment of feed.
- Vaccination.
- Probiotics.
- Competitive exclusion (CE).
- Feed and water additives.
- Bacteriocins.
- Bacteriophages.
- Negative air ionization.
- UV irradiation of hatching eggs.
- Scheduled slaughter.

Processing

The following measures were proposed as additional interventions to the CCFH document:

- Use of ASC (acidified sodium chlorite) in On-line reprocessing (OLR).

- Air chilling as a measure to reduce carcass temperature.*
- Forced air chilling (Blast chilling).*
- Crust freezing.
- High oxygen concentration during chilled storage.

NOTE: * Effective for *Campylobacter* due to drying, but not effective for *Salmonella* reduction.

Distribution and Preparation

- No additional hazard reducing measures were mentioned during the Technical Meeting, but the Experts stated that further studies were needed in order to determine the effect of heat treatment and home cooking practices.
- Some specific interventions could not be executed in all regions due to legislation differences. With regard to this, see Appendix concerning washing with water and use of chemical additives.

Evaluate likely outcomes in terms of hazard reductions in the commercial setting

- The outcomes of the specific interventions have been mentioned in regard to their scientific validity and their quantitative effect on level of contamination and prevalence. The repetition of these can be found as Chapter 5, above.

Assess the feasibility of developing a Web-based risk-management decision-support tool

- The Web-based risk-management tool was discussed by the Experts, and was found to be feasible. A subgroup was formed to help the developers of the Web-based tool regarding the limitations and the modelling, and aspects of developing this prototype tool were discussed. The Experts agreed on the terms described in Chapter 6. The subgroup was to work with the tool developers on the production of the prototype Web-based tool, and this work was to be presented at the next CCFH meeting.

Develop a framework and identify data needs for the Web-based risk-management decision-support tool

- Prior to the Technical Meeting, a subgroup of experts was invited to participate in a Web discussion forum set up by the JEMRA Secretariat. This forum was used prior to the meeting to discuss both feasibility and the advantages and limitations of such a tool. During the Technical Meeting this subgroup of experts continued their work on the terms of development. After the decision in plenum that the prototype tool was found to be feasible, this subgroup continued their work on the development of the model and the Web tool. The electronic discussion forum will remain one possible way of communication, but e-mail will also be used as a means of communication. The data needs to develop a prototype Web-based tool have been described in Section 4.4, above.