

## **CALL FOR CONTINUOUS COLLECTION OF CHEMICAL CONTAMINANTS OCCURRENCE DATA IN FOOD AND FEED**

Deadline: 1 October of each year

### **Background**

In the framework of Art.23 and 33 of Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 EFSA has received from the European Commission mandate to collect on a continuous basis all available data on occurrence of chemical contaminants in food and feed (Mandates M-2008-0143, M-2009-0130, M-2009-0131, M-2009-0277, M-2009-0318, M-2010-0132, M-2010-0374). In particular, in mandate M-2010-0374 the Commission summarises the scope of the continuous data collection by referring to previous mandates and indicating additional substances:

*“ The permanent data collection exercise could in principle encompass the whole field of contaminants in feed and food. However, to focus the work, it is appropriate also for the competent authorities and stakeholder organisations which have to provide data, to identify specific topics for which a permanent occurrence data collection exercise is to be set up. Several requests for data collections were already addressed by the Commission to EFSA e.g. on heavy metals, furan, acrylamide in food, etc. In annex to this letter, several topics which have not yet been the subject of a specific request are identified...”*

On this basis, after consulting with the Commission and the appropriate Member State Network (DATEX Expert Group on Chemical Occurrence), a continuous call for data is now issued on a list of chemical contaminants, including backlog data not yet included in the EFSA database.

In a more general context and considering the efficiency of data transmission, EFSA welcomes receiving data on occurrence of other contaminants that have been determined in the same samples as the contaminants listed in this call. The EFSA data management system will make these data available to the future EFSA reports and risk assessments.

The Rules on use, disclosure and re-use of occurrence data in the area of contaminants in food and feed agreed by the Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health on 19 May 2010 (document available on request) are of application for this data collection.

## Call for data

National food authorities, research institutions, academia, food business operators, and other stakeholders are invited to submit data on occurrence of any of the following substances:

<i>Data collection</i>	<i>Previous<sup>1</sup></i>
<b>Process Contaminants</b>	
Furan	→ <sup>2</sup>
Acrylamide	→
PAHs	→
3-MCPD esters	→
Ethyl Carbamate	→
<b>Organic contaminants</b>	
Dioxins and DL PCBs	→
Non dioxin-like PCBs	→
Brominated Flame Retardants	→
PFAS	→
Mineral oil hydrocarbons	→
Melamine and analogues	2009→
<b>Inorganic</b>	
Nitrates in vegetables and other food commodities	2008→
Cadmium	2009→
Lead	2009→
Arsenic (inorganic and total)	2009→
Mercury (methyl mercury and total mercury)	2006→
Fluorine in feed	2006→
Nitrite in feed	2008→
<b>Mycotoxins</b>	

<b>Data collection</b>	<b>Previous<sup>1</sup></b>
Aflatoxins (B1 in feed and B1 and Total in food, M1 in dairy)	2007→
Ochratoxin A	2007→
Deoxynivalenol (and acetylated derivatives)	2007→
Zearalenone	→
Fumonisin	2007→
Patulin	2007→
T-2 and HT-2	→
Nivalenol	→
Ergot alkaloids	2006→
<b>Inherent plant toxins</b>	
Opium alkaloids in poppy seeds	2006→
Pyrrolizidine alkaloids	2006→
Glucosinolates in feed	2006→
Tropane alkaloids	2006→
Inherent plant toxins in feed regulated by 2002/32/EC <sup>4</sup> or not yet regulated	2006→
Free Gossypol	
Hydrocyanic acid (feed and food)	
Theobromine	
Ricin	
Abrin	
Crotin I	
<b>Organochlorine compounds</b>	

<i>Data collection</i>	<i>Previous<sup>1</sup></i>
Organochlorine compounds in feed regulated by Directive 2002/32/EC <sup>4</sup>  Aldrin  Dieldrin  Camphechlor  Chlordane  DDT  Endosulfan  Endrin  Heptachlor  Hexachlorobenzene (HCB)  Hexachlorocyclohexane (HCH-alpha, beta and gamma isomers)	2006→

<sup>1</sup> Previous = year from which backlog data are also requested (only with 2010's delivery)

<sup>2</sup> → = if data from years before 2010 were already submitted, answering to previous calls, data are requested only from now on

<sup>3</sup> yyyy→= data requested starting from year yyyy (data before 2010 have to be delivered only once, together with 2010 data collection)

<sup>4</sup> Directive 2002/32/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 May 2002 on undesirable substances in feed

Submitted data should be compliant with the Standard Sample Description (SSD) agreed between EFSA and the EU Member States and published in January 2010 (<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/scdoc/1457.htm>). The nature of the food samples should be always defined according to the catalogue “FOODEX” and be reported in the variable **EFSAProdCode**. Please, note that the catalogue “MATRIX” is of specific interest in reporting Pesticide Residues and its use is optional in the context of this call for data (use the available XXXXXXXA code in the variable **prodCode** when MATRIX catalogue not available or applicable).

SSD compliance of data not generated according to this standard can be obtained in the following ways:

1. through appropriate mapping in case of data existing in database form or
2. using the provided excel sheets (simplified format) in case of manual entry.

Please, note that the simplified excel sheets insert text instead of codes when choosing from a standard catalogue. They need therefore further processing in EFSA to be transformed into fully compliant files.

Data can be submitted in electronic format (XML) or in the simplified Microsoft Excel reporting format. Electronic transmission in XML format is strongly suggested. The XML schema to validate the XML message can be downloaded from <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/doc/1895ax1.zip> (file: StandardSampleDescription.xsd).

More details on how to submit the occurrence data can be found at <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/datexcallsfordata/datexsubmitdata.htm> and in the Guidance on Data Exchange (<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/doc/1895.pdf>).

The “Guidance on Standard Sample Description” and the “Generic Reporting Format” are generally applicable. For some contaminant groups listed in the same web page, specific additional rules are applicable. These are reported as instruction files and specific excel formats. The specific formats are not deviating from the general SSD, they only prescribe different status (optional/mandatory) for some fields and may restrict the catalogues to only the applicable entries.

**Deadline for transmitting data:** 1 October each year.

### **Contact details**

Data should be transmitted using the EFSA web interface “Data Collection Framework (DCF)” (<https://dcf.efsa.europa.eu/dcf-war>). In order to receive access to the DCF web interface please contact [datex@efsa.europa.eu](mailto:datex@efsa.europa.eu).

In case data are compiled using the simplified excel file, they cannot be transmitted using the DCF web interface. In this case data should be sent to the e-mail address ([contaminants@efsa.europa.eu](mailto:contaminants@efsa.europa.eu)).

Please address any technical inquiries regarding the reporting of data to [datex@efsa.europa.eu](mailto:datex@efsa.europa.eu)

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