Management Board

15 October 2020

Highlights from 100th SC Plenary

(16-17 September 2020)

Trusted science for safe food

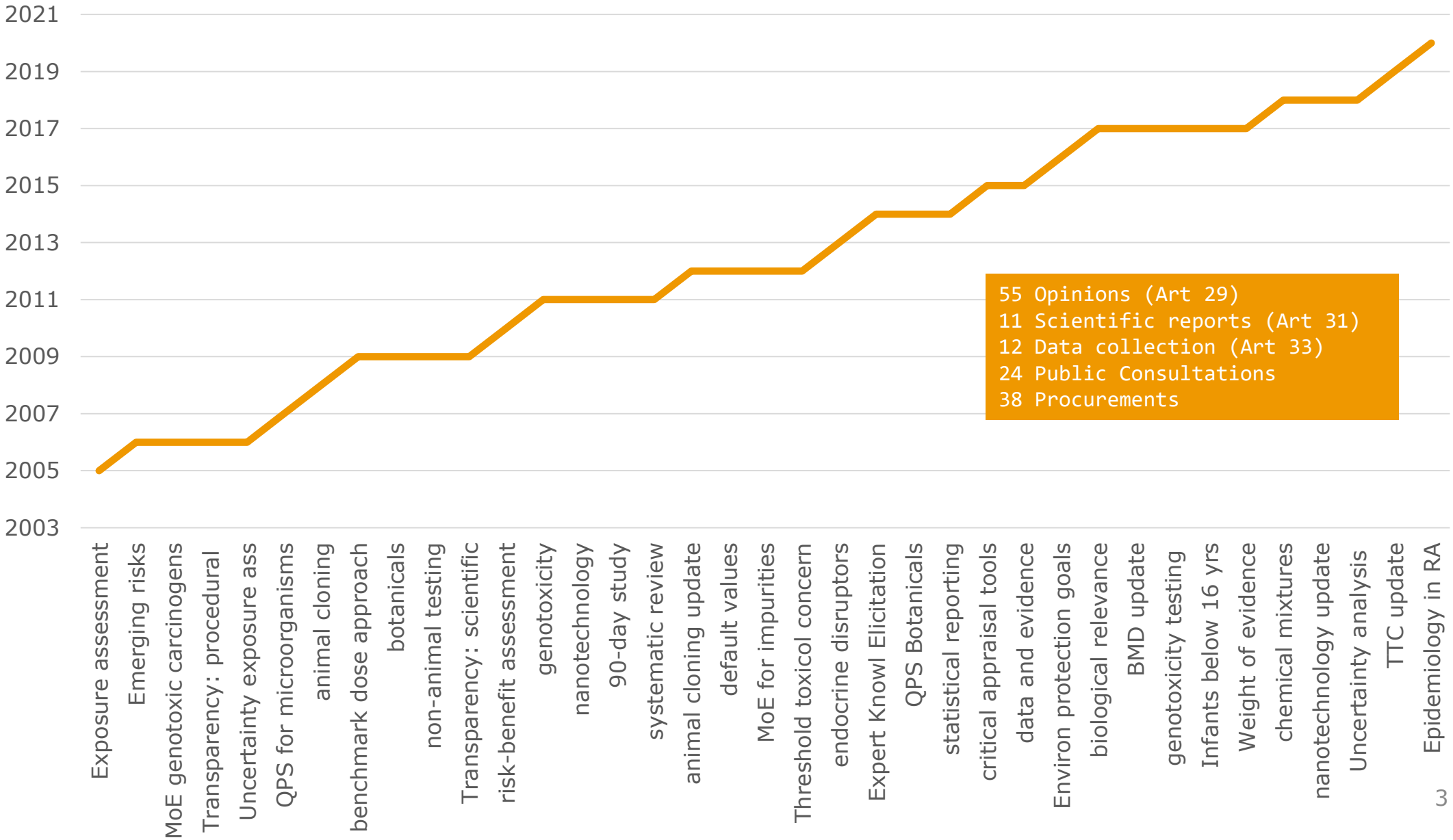
efsa

European Food Safety Authority

SC Members 2018-2022

Josef Schlatter, Antonio Hernández-Jerez, Claude Bragard, Søren Saxmose Nielsen, Susanne Hougaard Bennekou, Dieter Schrenk, Simon More, Thorhallur Halldorsson, Diane Benford, Maged Younes, Vittorio Silano, Nils Rostoks, Vasileios Bampidis (90th SC Plenary, Parma, 170918)

SC Opinions since 2003

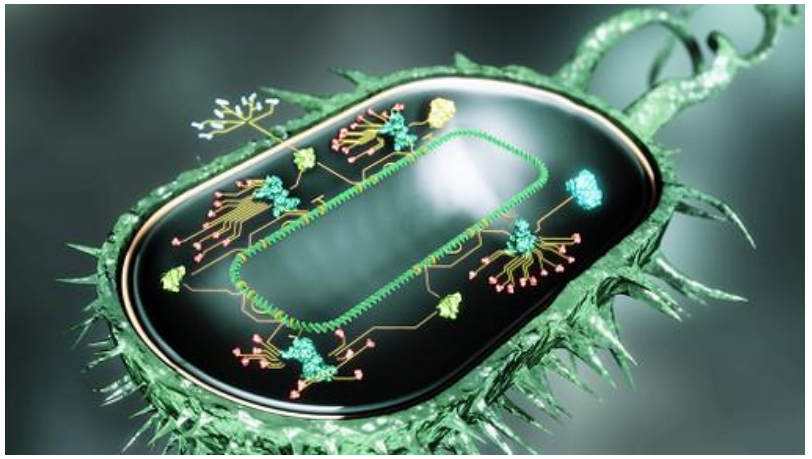


SC Dinner, Parma 28 May 2018

Juliane Kleiner, Helle Knutsen, Maged Younes, Josef Schlatter, Bernard Bottex, Judith Ricketts, Caroline Merten, Andrea Gervelmeyer

Synthetic biology

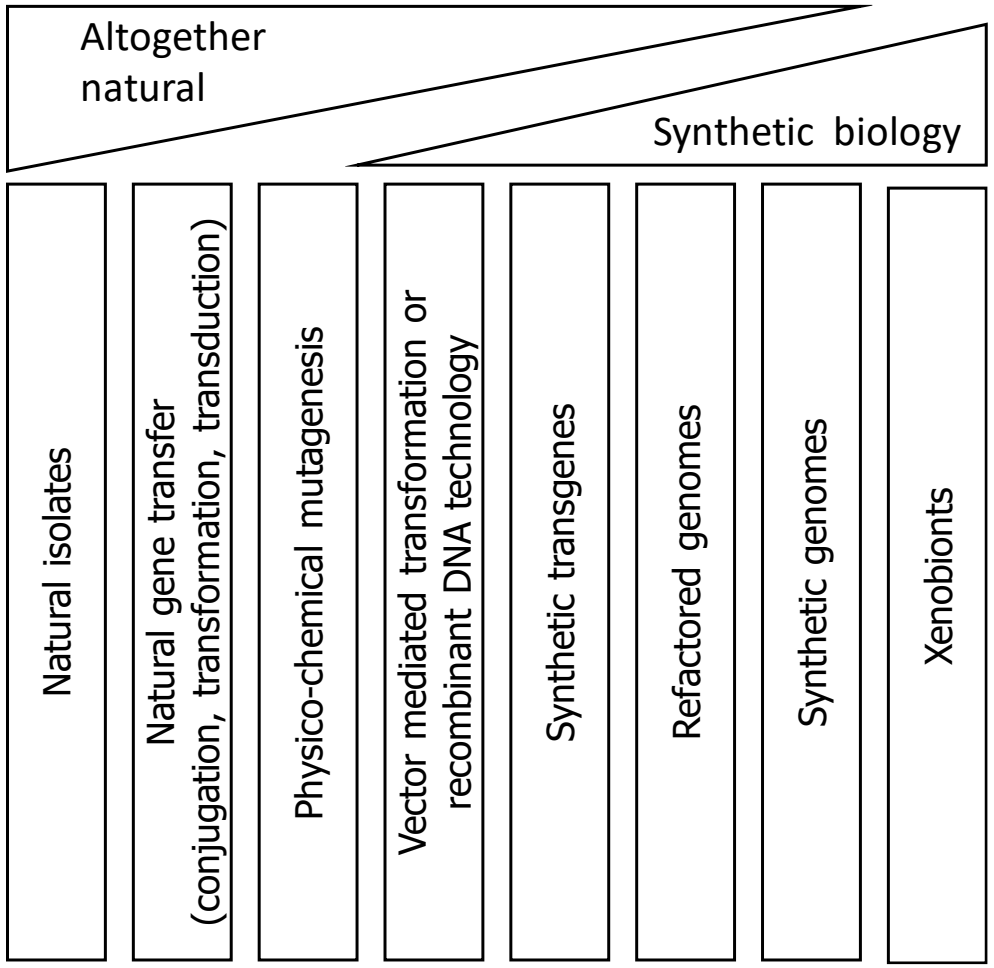
The application of science, technology and engineering to facilitate and accelerate the design, manufacture, and/or modification of genetic material in living organisms



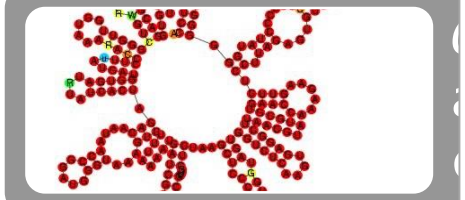
EFSA contact: Reinhilde Schoonjans

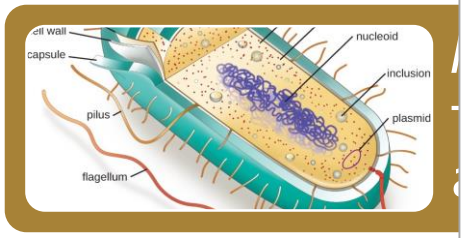
Identification of possible risks in terms of impacts on humans, animals and the environment.

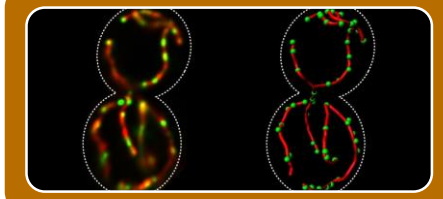
The adequacy of existing guidelines for risk assessment



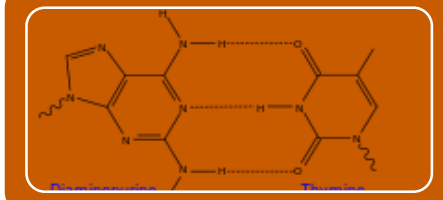
Four case studies







ketone, for beer flavouring



Xenobiological variants of bacterial origin

- 9 weeks online: 31 March until 4 June 2020
- 16 commenters: NGO, Private sector, National authority, University/academia, other, personal capacity
- 186 entries (with multiple comments inside)
- 10 countries
- 4,5 WG meeting days to address them

Risk benefit assessment of fish consumption in relation to the presence of dioxin (PCDD/Fs) and dioxin-like PCBs

EFSA contact: Djien Liem

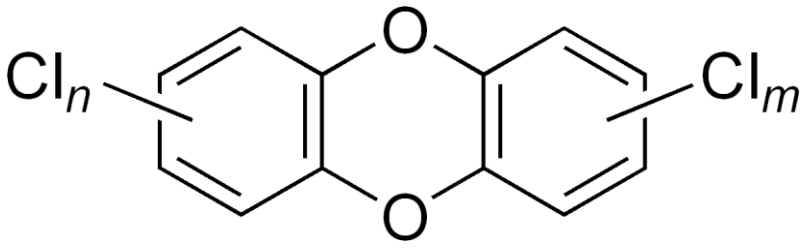
Atlantic salmon, *Salma salar*
Timothy Knepp, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
In the public domain

Dioxin and related PCBs

A group of chemical compounds
Some are highly toxic

Persistent environmental pollutants
- Highly stable
- Accumulating in the food chain

Human exposure generally through fatty food of animal origin



Polychlorinated dibenzo-*p*-dioxins

efsa
European Food Safety Authority

Search site

Home > News > Dioxins and related PCBs: tolerable intake...

20 November 2018

Dioxins and related PCBs: tolerable intake level updated

EFSA has confirmed the conclusion of previous assessments that dietary exposure to dioxins and dioxin-like PCBs – environmental pollutants present at low levels in food and feed – is a health concern. Data from European countries indicate an exceedance of EFSA's new tolerable intake level across all age groups.

Dioxins and dioxin-like PCBs are toxic chemicals that persist in the environment for years and accumulate at low levels in the food chain, usually in the fatty tissues of animals. Their presence in food and feed has declined in the last 30 years thanks to the efforts of public authorities and industry.

DRAFT ToR under negotiation

- To provide a risk-benefit assessment of fish consumption in relation to the presence of dioxins (PCDD/Fs) and dioxin-like PCBs, taking into account the estimated exposure to PCDD/Fs and DL-PCBs in relation with the established Tolerable Weekly Intake (TWI) of 2 pg TEQ/kg bw/week.

- In addition, an assessment of the influence of the presence of other contaminants in fish such as methylmercury, brominated flame retardants and perfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) on the outcome of the risk-benefit assessment has to be provided.

MUST-B scientific opinion

EFSA contact: Agnès Rortais

John Sullivan, public domain

SCER+AMU
PPR/PREV
AHAW
ENCO
COM

2012

EFSA Bee Task Force

2013

EFSA Scientific Colloquium on holistic RA for bees & Guidance on RA PPPs in bees

2014

Scientific report on research gaps in EU on bee health

2015

Statement on the usefulness of the BEEHAVE model in RA of PPP in bees

MUST-B WG

2016

EFSA/EU workshop on EU research priorities on bee health
Infographics on bees
Scientific opinion on HEALTHY-B toolbox
External scientific report on mixtures in bees
Statistical analysis on the EPILOBEE dataset
Specifications for ApisRAM

2017

EFSA/MEP/Stakeholders Colloquium on data collection and sharing on bee health in EU
Specifications for the outsourcing of a field data collection to calibrate ApisRAM

Terms of Reference of the EUBP
Start of the field DC to calibrate ApisRAM

2018

EU Bee Partnership (EUBP)

2019

MIXTOX Guidance
Ombudsman Award

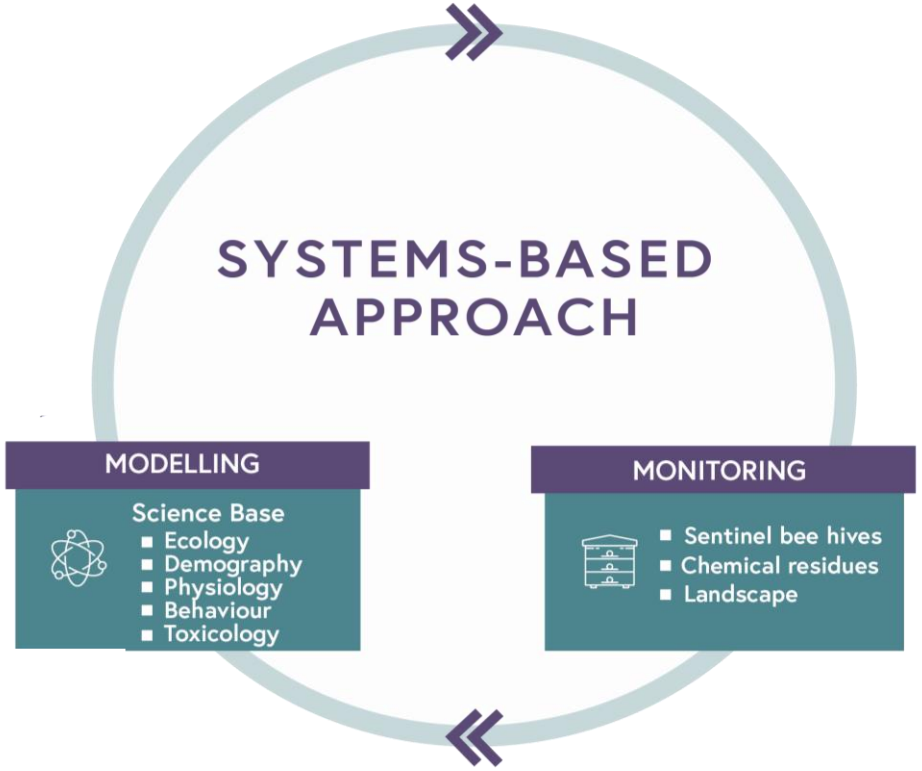
2020/21

Public consultations
MUSTB SO & revised Bee GD & publication
EUBP Prototype platform for data sharing
ApisRAM finalised

Inventory of EFSA's work on bee health, EFSA Scientific opinion on RA PPPs in bees

Systems-based approach

Risk assessment of honey bee colony health in the context of multiple stressors



A reflections document

This scientific opinion presents ideas and concepts for consideration and future development. The document is not prescriptive, nor is it constrained by or aligned to specific EU legislation.

Rather, the opinion seeks to present a framework, and supporting rationale, that is robust and forward-thinking, whilst acknowledging that some detail will require further elaboration, which in part will be reliant on new scientific discoveries.

This scientific opinion is aligned to aspirations outlined in the EU Green Deal and the EFSA strategy, presenting ideas and facilitating discussion, leading to practical solutions, in this critical area of environmental risk assessment of multiple stressors in honey bees.