

Management Board
21 March 2024

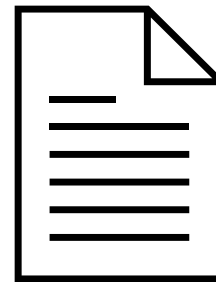


EFSA PUBLISHING ACTIVITIES

Barbara Gallani

Head of Communication and Partnership Dept.

EFSA PUBLISHING CHANNELS | OVERVIEW



694
total outputs
published in
2023

Process costs:
Ca. **€650 K** for **production**
+ ca. **€100 K** for other **initiatives**
(e.g. PLS, Food Risk Assess
Europe)



PUBLICATIONS | CLASSIFICATION

Defined by the Founding Regulation

EFSA Journal

- **Opinions** of the Scientific Committee/Panel
- **Statements** of the Scientific Committee/Panel/EFSA
- **Guidance** of the Scientific Committee/Panel/EFSA
- **Pesticide outputs**: Reasoned Opinions & Conclusions
- **Scientific Reports** of EFSA

Supplemented by:

- Editorials
- Plain Language Summaries

EFSA Supporting Publications

- Technical Reports
- External Scientific Reports: results of procurements
- Event Reports

Food Risk Assess Europe

- Selected scientific articles from the national food safety authorities of the EU Member States

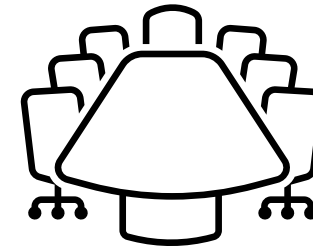
Published
for EFSA by
Wiley



Editorial Advisory Board

EFSA Journal Governance

- The EFSA Journal is supported by an **international Editorial Advisory Board**
- Includes representatives from **Member States (7)**, **EU Agencies (2)** and **EFSA's senior management (3)**
- Meets **four times a year**
- Advises EFSA on scientific output **quality, impact**, publishing **ethics**, publishing **technologies**, etc.



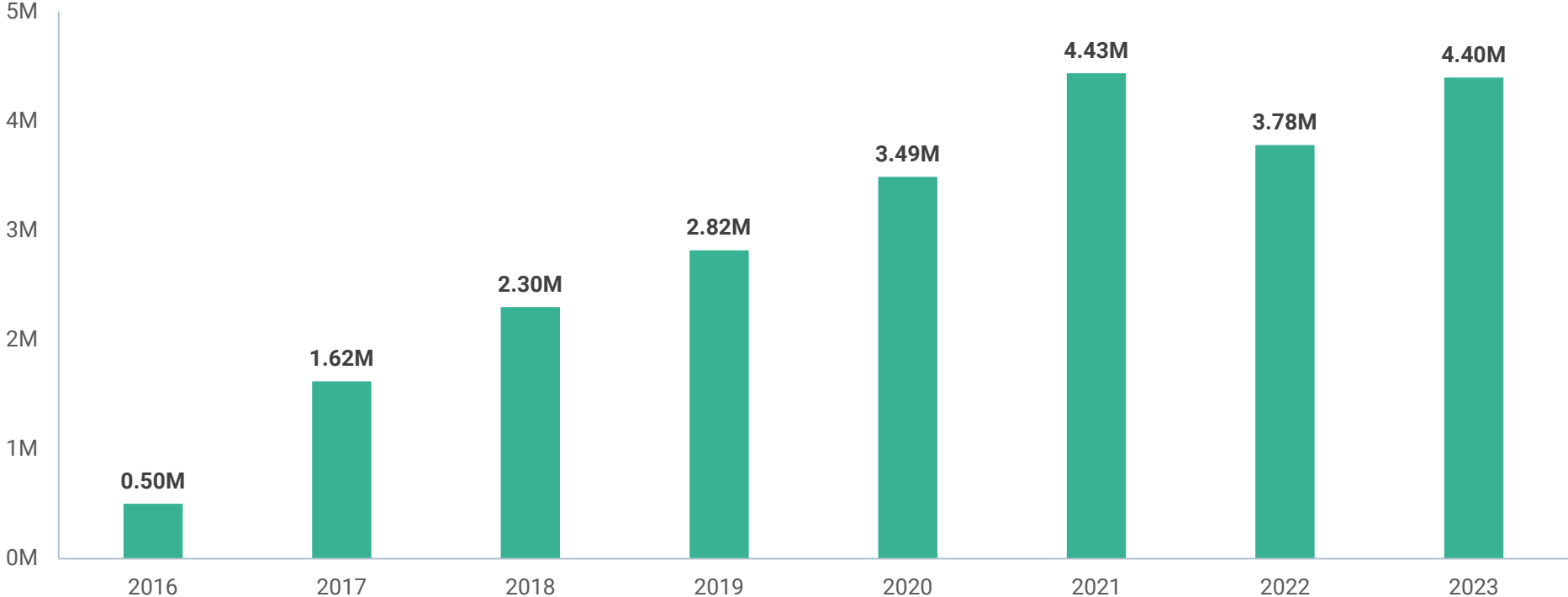
12

**Board Members
from 10
nationalities**

PERFORMANCE | GROWTH IN USAGE



TRENDS IN DOWNLOADS



Source: Wiley Journal Insights



PERFORMANCE | DOWNLOADS AND CITATIONS

21M

Total downloads (all time)

99K

Total citations (all time)

Most downloaded¹:

	Output	Pub. year	Downloads
1	Reevaluation of silicon dioxide (E551) as a food additive	2018	170,541
2	Guidance for the identification of endocrine disruptors in the context of Regulations (EU) No528/2012 and (EC) No1107/2009	2018	133,992
3	Scientific opinion on the safety of green tea catechins	2018	117,756

Most cited²:

	Output	Pub. year	Citations
1	EU One Health 2018 Zoonoses Report	2019	1,053
2	EU summary report on trends and sources of zoonoses , zoonotic agents and food-borne outbreaks in 2017	2018	975
3	EU summary report on trends and sources of zoonoses , zoonotic agents and food-borne outbreaks in 2016	2017	901

¹ Source: Wiley Journal Insights

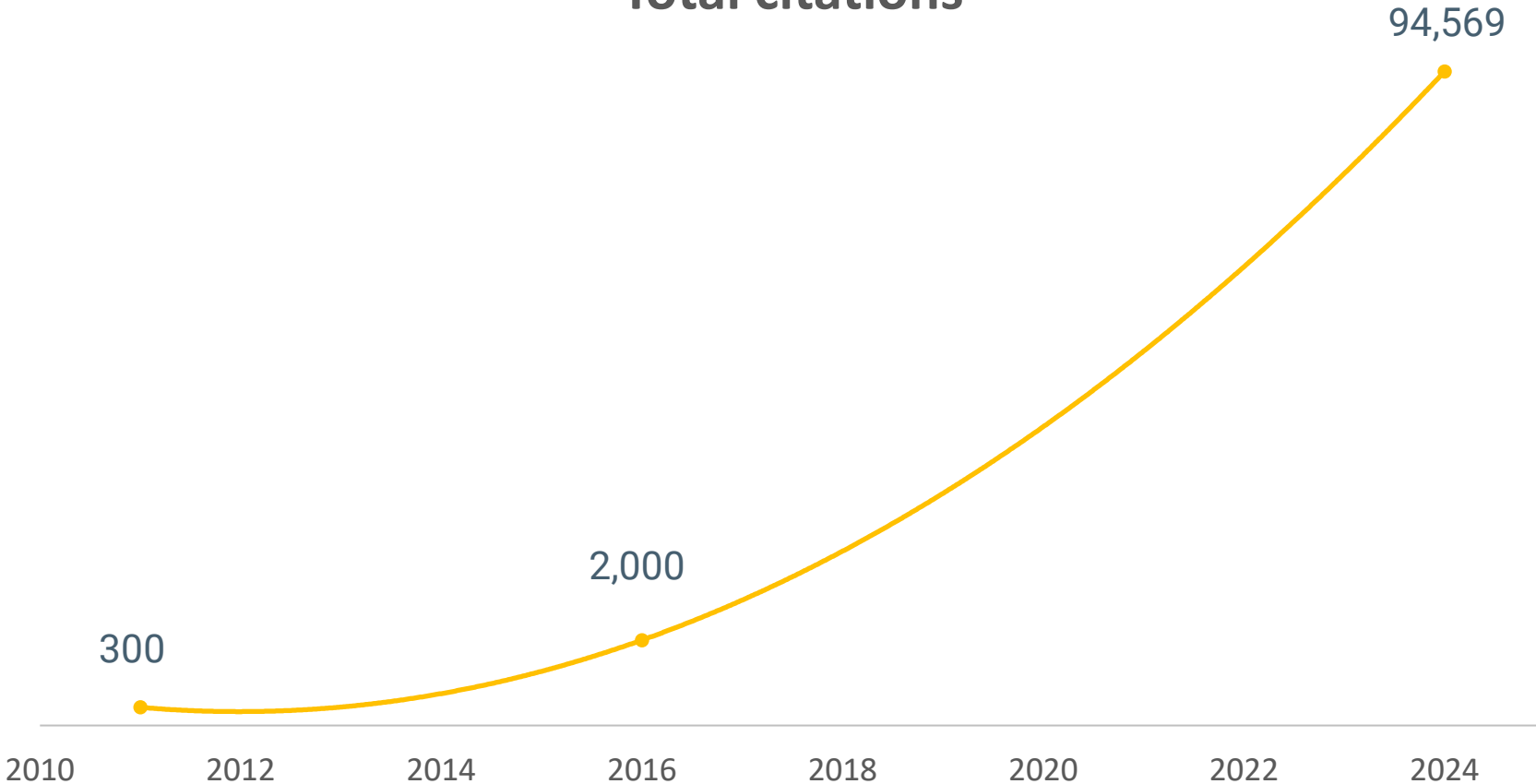
² Source: Web of Science



PERFORMANCE | GROWTH IN CITATIONS



Total citations



PERFORMANCE | **IMPACT FACTOR (IF)**

3.31 – 2-year IF (2023)

60/142 – rank in Food Science & Technology category (2022)

We are moving beyond traditional measures like the IF and category rank towards more nuanced metrics such as attention scores and policy impact.



PERFORMANCE | ALTERNATIVE IMPACT METRICS

Top Altmetric online attention scores

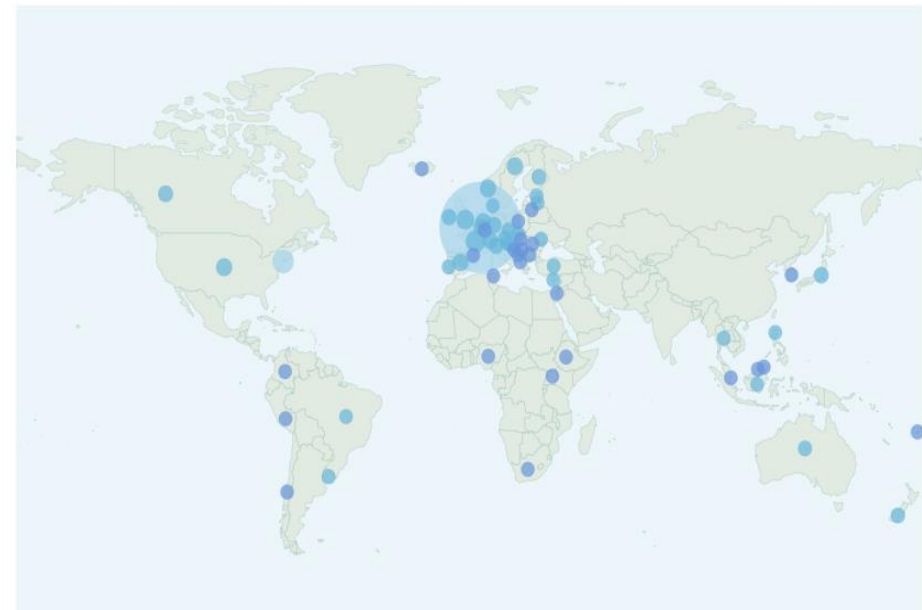
-  567 Scientific Opinion on the safety of caffeine
Article in **EFSA Journal**, May 2015
-  543 Shiga toxin-producing E. coli (STEC) O104:H4 2011 outbreaks in Europe: Taking...
Article in **EFSA Journal**, October 2011
-  515 Novel foods: a risk profile for the house cricket (*Acheta domesticus*)
Article in **EFSA Journal**, August 2018
-  494 Statement on the validity of the conclusions of a mouse carcinogenicity study...
Article in **EFSA Journal**, May 2017
-  402 Scientific Opinion on the risks to public health related to the presence of...
Article in **EFSA Journal**, January 2015

Policy uptake (Overton)

Document count
12,609

Countries
62

Sources
317



PRODUCTION | 2019 vs 2023 FIGURES

Consistent growth
in production figures
since 2019

2019

Full year

33

1,127

34

13,518

412

VS

2023

Full year

Average **pages**
per output

43

Average **pages**
per month

1,893

Average **output**
per month

44

**Total Journal
pages** (typeset)

22,710

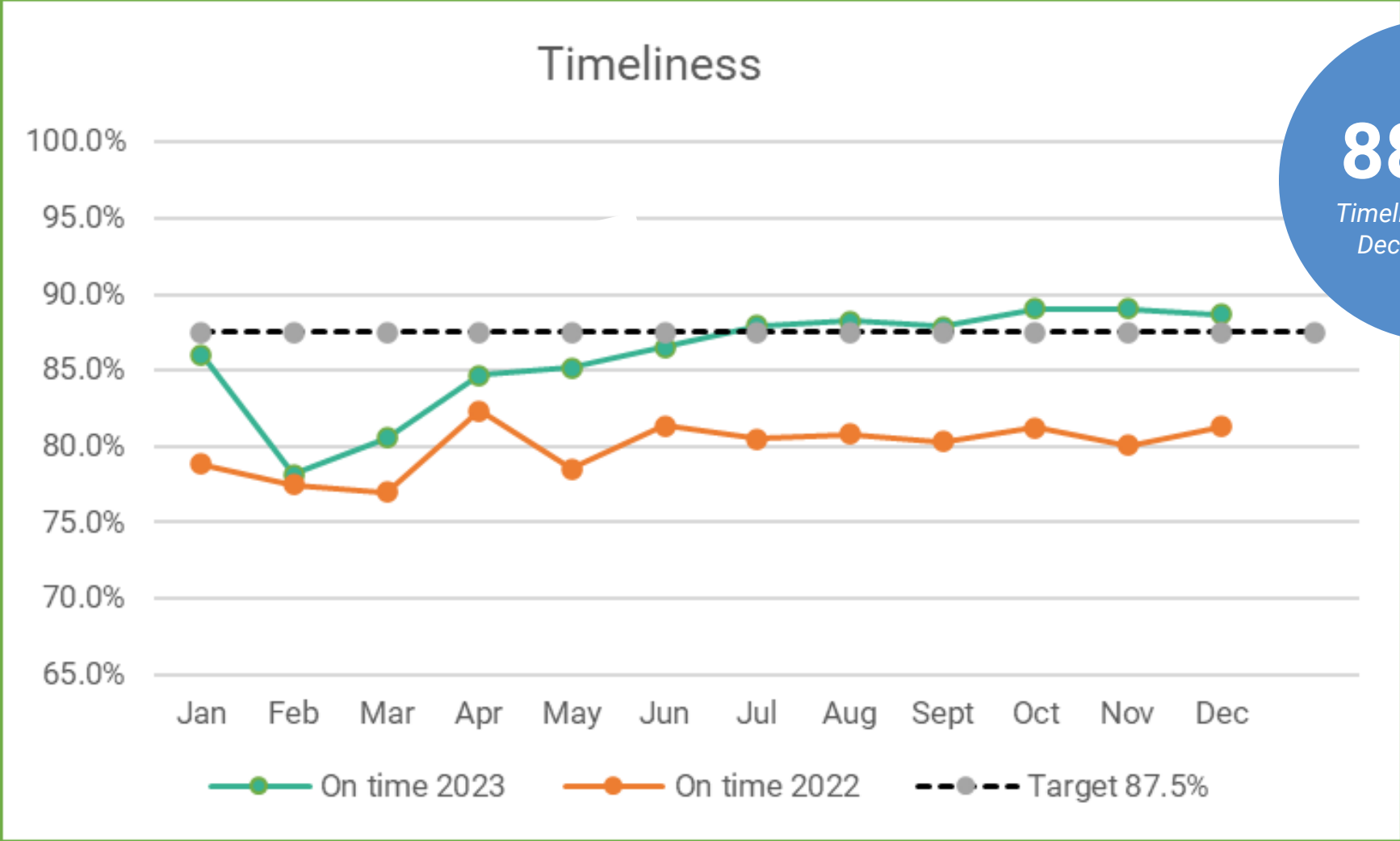
**Total Journal
outputs**

532

10



TIMELINESS | 2023



88.7%
Timeliness target in
December 2023



OUTPUT LENGTH ANALYSIS | PRELIMINARY FINDINGS

High-level trends observed for EJ outputs (2019 vs. 2023)

- **Total number of outputs:**
412 → 532 (+29%)
- **Total number of large outputs (>100 pp):**
25 (2021*) → 48 (+92%)
- **Total number of pages:**
13,518 → 22,710 (+68%)
- **Average number of pages per output:**
33 → 43 (+30%)

Preliminary observations for typeset outputs (2020 vs. 2023)


- Observed **increase varies** across panels and output types
- For some panels, strong correlation between **number of authors** and increase

Next steps

- Focus on selected panels, output types & sections to find/address causes



MAKING IT CLEARER | EXPLAINING OUR SCIENCE (PLS)

PLAIN LANGUAGE SUMMARY 

18 January 2024

Update of the risk assessment of inorganic arsenic in food

Background to the risk assessment update

- Risk managers need advice on the safety of food contaminants, such as arsenic, to establish acceptable maximum levels that can be present without causing adverse health effects.
- Chronic intake of inorganic arsenic via diet and/or drinking water is known to cause adverse health effects, including cancer of the skin, bladder, and lungs.
- In 2009, EFSA's Panel on Contaminants in the Food Chain (CONTAM) adopted a scientific opinion on the presence of arsenic in food and concluded that the minimum amount of inorganic arsenic that produces a clear, low-level health risk for these effects lies between 0.3 and 8 µg/kg of body weight (bw) per day.
- In 2021, EFSA published an updated exposure assessment of inorganic arsenic in food (<https://doi.org/10.2903/j.efsa.2021.6380>).

What was EFSA asked to do?

- The European Commission requested an updated assessment of the risks to human health associated with the presence of inorganic arsenic in food, taking into account the updated exposure assessment and newly available scientific information on the toxicity of inorganic arsenic.
- In addition, EFSA was asked to provide risk assessments on small and complex organoarsenic compounds and to provide a risk assessment of combined exposure to inorganic and organic arsenic. These assessments will be finalised by the beginning of 2025.

How did EFSA carry out this work?

- EFSA carried out a comprehensive literature review to identify human and animal toxicology publications relevant to the hazard assessment of inorganic arsenic, published since 2009.
- Based on the biological differences between laboratory animals and humans, the CONTAM Panel decided to make use of only epidemiological (human) data for the hazard assessment of inorganic arsenic.
- The CONTAM Panel developed an approach enabling the use of the results from epidemiological studies in dose-response modelling, which was needed to establish a safe or acceptable level of exposure.
- EFSA held a public consultation from 24 July to 10 September 2023 and considered stakeholders' comments when finalising the opinion.

Updated risk assessment for inorganic arsenic in food

Long-term intake of inorganic arsenic is associated with a range of adverse health effects including cancers and neurodevelopmental disorders. An updated risk assessment was conducted taking into account new toxicity data and a revised exposure assessment.





 <p>Transformation of data to dose-response modelling</p> <p>The risk assessment was based on epidemiological data from human studies only.</p>  <p>The CONTAM Panel developed a novel approach for transforming the epidemiological data to dose-response modelling.</p>	 <p>Reference point for risk assessment</p> <p>A reference point of 0.06 µg/kg bw per day was derived from an epidemiological study showing that inorganic arsenic causes skin cancer.</p>  <p>The estimated exposure to inorganic arsenic via food and drinking water raises a concern for human health. This finding is in line with the outcome of EFSA's previous assessment of 2009.</p>
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Figure: Summary outcomes of the updated risk assessment of inorganic arsenic

29

Plain Language Summaries published since 2022

Most viewed:

1. BPA
2. Mineral oil hydrocarbons
3. Erythritol

- Focus group with target audiences held in 2023 to improve format and content
- In the context of EFSA 2027 Strategy, PLS is set to become part of EFSA's communication package with more prominence given to visual abstracts and summaries



STRENGTHENING | EU RISK ASSESSMENT COMMUNITY (FRAE)

The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the FRAE website. On the left is the EFSA logo (European Food Safety Authority). In the center is a search bar with the text "Search" and a magnifying glass icon. Below the search bar are two dropdown menus labeled "JOURNALS" and "SUBJECTS". Below these is a dark blue banner with the text "FOOD RISK ASSESS EUROPE" and "OPEN ACCESS" in a green box. Below the banner are the ISSN numbers: "Online ISSN: 2940-1399" and "Print ISSN: 2940-1399". At the bottom of the banner is a small image of a fruit basket. To the right of the banner is a "Latest issue" section with the text "Volume 1, 1" and "September". Below the banner is a navigation bar with "HOME", "ABOUT" (with a dropdown arrow), and "BROWSE" (with a dropdown arrow).

17

Articles published by:
Belgium, Bulgaria, Ireland
and **Spain**

*Contributions from **France, Croatia** and **Luxembourg** to be published soon*

Journal Overview

Food Risk Assess Europe (FRAE) is an open access repository of selected scientific articles from the national food safety agencies of the EU Member States. The articles are selected to inform the work of the European risk assessment community for food and feed safety and to leverage the knowledge generated by the national agencies for the benefit of all.

Articles

Sign up for email alerts

Enter your email to receive when new articles are published.

Email address*

- Leverage existing **EU scientific knowledge**
- Increase **visibility** and awareness
- Engagement with **national agencies**
- Strengthen **EU risk assessment community**



EFSA JOURNAL | IMPROVEMENTS & THEIR IMPACT IN 2023

Approved: 21 December 2023

DOI: 10.2903/j.efsa.2024.8554

SCIENTIFIC REPORT

efsa JOURNAL

Prioritisation of pesticides and target organ systems for dietary cumulative risk assessment based on the 2019–2021 monitoring cycle



- Roll-out of Plain Language Summary programme
⇒ *More accessible science*
- Launch of Food Risk Assess Europe (FRAE)
⇒ *Strengthened EU Risk Assessment Community*
- New style guide & article PDF design
⇒ *Enhanced user friendliness & timeliness*
- Measures for faster publication
⇒ *Quicker availability of EFSA outputs*



Plans for 2024 & beyond

- Review of structure & length of EFSA outputs
 - ⇒ *More efficient & accessible risk communication*
- Alignment with centralised EU mapping conventions (e.g. via guidelines for experts, staff, contractors)
 - ⇒ *Standardisation of EFSA mapping*
- Integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI guidelines for EFSA authors, etc.)
 - ⇒ *Increased efficiency & timeliness of publications*
 - ⇒ *Ensured risk mitigation (e.g. plagiarism, data privacy, security & ethical concerns)*
- Integration of ORCID identifiers
 - ⇒ *e.g. Further digitisation of workflows*

