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Dear stakeholder,

The CONFIDENCE project team is proud to present the 1st edition of the CONFIDENCE e-newsletter. In this newsletter you will find recent developments in the CONFIDENCE project and related information in the area of contaminants in Food and Feed.

If you want to subscribe to CONFIDENCE News, please fill in the registration form on

<http://www.confidence.eu/Stakeholders/registration.php>

Best regards,

Jacob de Jong, RIKILT - Institute of Food Safety

CONFIDENCE coordinator

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In the spotlight

Official launch of the CONFIDENCE project during the kick-off meeting in Brussels in June 2008

Safer food through rapid and cost-efficient tests for detecting chemical contaminants in food and animal feed. This is the major goal of a new European research project called CONFIDENCE. The project is coordinated by RIKILT – Institute of Food Safety, part of Wageningen UR, The Netherlands. During the kick-off meeting of the project in Brussels, the 17 participants from 10 European countries discussed research plans for the first year of the four year project.

[Read more about CONFIDENCE](#)



News from the CONffIDENCE project

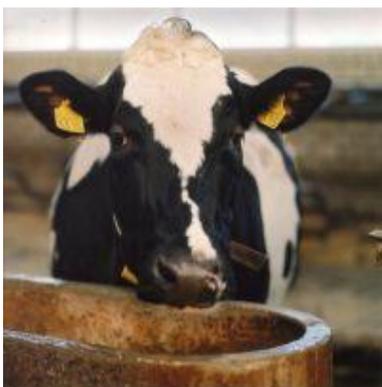
Developing detection methods for organic pollutants; POPs, PFCs, Pesticides



The organic pollutants cluster of the CONffIDENCE project is divided into 3 work packages: on persistent organic pollutants (POPs), perfluorinated compounds (PFCs) and pesticides respectively. For each class of pollutants, target compounds and products have been identified, and a strategy for development of improved, rapid detection methods has been established.

[Read more about organic pollutants](#)

Developing detection methods for Veterinary Pharmaceuticals: Coccidiostats, Antibiotics

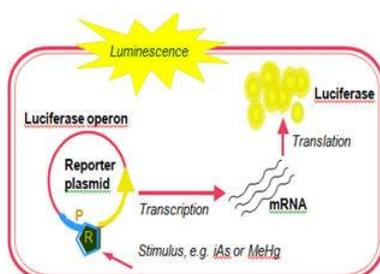


The veterinary pharmaceuticals cluster of CONffIDENCE project is divided into 2 work packages, WP2a and WP2b with the overall aim of developing rapid and low cost screening strategies for detection of veterinary drug residues in foods of animal origin. The new assays will be validated in accordance with the current EU guidelines (2002/657/EC) and used to perform small-scale predictive hazard modeling studies in the final year of the 4-year project.

[Read more on veterinary pharmaceuticals](#)

Developing detection methods for Heavy Metals

The total contents of the heavy metals lead, cadmium and mercury in food and feed are regulated by (EC) Nos 466/2001/EC, 78/2005/EC, 2002/32/EC and 2003/100/EC. However, for some heavy metals the chemical form (i.e. their speciation) is important in terms of food and feed safety. While for arsenic the inorganic forms are the most toxic and for mercury, methylmercury is the most toxic form, the heavy metal cluster will focus on the development of simplified and inexpensive methods for these analytes. Since seafood is the major dietary source for both arsenic and mercury in the European population, CONffIDENCE will focus on marine feed and seafood as sample matrices of interest. Two parallel approaches will be followed:



1. a cytosensor approach using luminescent recombinant bacterial cell biosensors (CYT) and

2. a solid phase extraction approach followed by atomic absorption spectrometry (SPE-AAS).

[Read more on heavy metals](#)



Developing detection methods for Biotoxins: Alkaloids, Marine Biotoxins, Mycotoxins

The biotoxin cluster of the CONfIDENCE project is divided into 3 work packages: on alkaloids, marine biotoxins, mycotoxins respectively. For each class of biotoxins, target toxins and products have been identified, and a strategy for development of improved, rapid detection methods has been established.

[Read more on biotoxins](#)

News from other projects

MONIQA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

08 - 10 October 2008 - Rome-Italy

The EU funded Network of Excellence MoniQA organized its First International Conference entitled "Increasing Trust in Rapid Analysis for Food Quality & Safety". The conference covered rapid and high throughput methods for food safety assessment, global harmonization of validation and standardization strategies, and socio-economic impact of current and future food safety regulations. The conference addressed current food-contaminant issues with plenary sessions devoted to microbiological contaminants, mycotoxins/phyco toxins, chemical contaminants, food allergens, food additives and processing contaminants and food authenticity. By attending the meeting, participants gained a state of the art view of approaches to the management of current food safety issues.

During this conference, the outline of the CONfIDENCE project was presented by the project coordinator, Jacob de Jong in an invited oral presentation. Furthermore the coordinators of both projects agreed to start a cooperation between MoniQA and CONfIDENCE.

[Read more about the MoniQA project](#)



BIOCOP OPEN DAYS

03 September 2008 – York-UK

BioCop held the Latest Advances in Chemical Food Safety Analysis Open Day at the Central Science Laboratory (CSL) in York/UK on the 3rd September 2008. Interested stakeholders involved in securing the food supply chain in relation to unwanted chemical contaminants were invited to attend this event.

During this event an update was given of the progress in the development of new & innovative technologies aimed at providing better ways to monitor, detect and control chemical contaminants which may be present in a wide range of foods. Examples of innovations in control of endocrine disruptors, drug residues and natural toxins were presented. There were also demonstrations of a number of novel biosensor technologies developed during the project.

[Read more about the BioCop Project](#)

Upcoming Events

ANALYSIS OF ESTROGENIC ENDOCRINE DISRUPTORS IN FOOD: STATE-OF-THE-ART AND FUTURE TRENDS

09 - 11 Dec 2008



Organised through the School for Advanced Residue Analysis in Foods (SARAF) BioCop and Cascade are pleased to invite you to their next workshop will take place on "Analysis of estrogenic endocrine disruptors in food: state-of-the-art and future trends - From specific spectrometric approaches to emerging global transcriptomic approaches" for representatives from all potential end-user groups on the 9th - 11th December 2008. This three day event will take place at the Ecole Nationale Vétérinaire de Nantes (ENVN), Nantes, France and will include sessions on the following: 1) Introduction to Endocrine Disruption, 2) Classical physico-chemical methods of analysis for EDC: the spectrometric approach and 3) Emerging biological methods of analysis for EDC: the transcriptomic approach.

[Read more about the workshop.](#)

RAPID METHODS EUROPE 2009



26 - 28 January 2009

Rapid Methods Europe is a series of events dedicated to the latest developments in rapid methods and instrumentation for food and feed safety and quality. During the years it has strengthened its position as an important meeting point for science and industry. Rapid Methods Europe presents new and cutting-edge technologies, the two main topics being microbiology and contaminants detection.

[Read more about Rapid Methods Europe...](#)



3RD INTERNATIONAL FEED SAFETY CONFERENCE - METHODS AND CHALLENGES

06 – 07 Oct 2009

The 3rd International FEED SAFETY Conference will be organised by RIKILT – Institute of Food Safety in Wageningen, The Netherlands in October 2009. Further information will follow soon. Contact: Piet Stouten (piet.stouten@wur.nl)

[More about the feed safety conference...](#)

[Download leaflet](#)

CONFIDENCE FP7 project : www.confidence.eu

For further information contact: coordination@confidence.eu

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