

Dioxin contamination of milk

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Dioxins

- What are dioxins?
 - PCDDs
 - PCDFs
 - Dioxine-like PCBs
- Hazards of dioxins
 - Lipophilic
 - Acute toxicity
 - Chronic toxicity





Incident

- Dioxins in composite milk sample
 - Above legal threshold levels
 - Sampled during monitoring programme
- Traced back to
 - Animal feed → potato peels → marl clay used in potato processing

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Measures taken

- Identify all farms that received contaminated animal feed
 - Block movement of animals, feed and milk
 - Analyse milk and meat
- Inform other member state (RASFF)
- Inform German Government
 - Only use of marl clay in ceramics



Recommendations

- Precaution in animal food production chain
- Management of crisis situation
- Renew inventory of technical auxiliary materials



Task for participants

- Questions
 - Type of hazard
 - Signals for early identification
 - Measuring and monitoring
 - Management measures
 - Possibilities for improvement
 - Use example for other emerging risks



Assignment



Answers

- Type of hazard
 - Known but new way of contamination
 - Unlikely to re-occur
- Signals for early identification
 - New production process potato-processing
 - Dioxins in marl clay are not new
- Measuring and monitoring
 - Dioxins in milk and meat can be measured
 - Monitoring using random samples already takes place



Answers

- Management measures
 - Trace back and block suspected products
 - Inform (inter)national authorities and inspections
 - Destruction of products
 - Inform consumers about the measures taken
- Possibilities for improvement
- Use example for other emerging risks
 - Changing production process
 - Using marl clay



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