



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
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Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research EAER
Federal Department of Home Affairs FDHA

Federal Office for Agriculture FOAG
Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office FSVO

Summary MANCP Annual Report 2021

Multi-Annual National Control Plan for the Food Chain and Utility Articles

Switzerland 
and
Principality of Liechtenstein 

- The official controls provided for in Switzerland along the entire food chain are generally carried out in accordance with the specified legal basis.
- The cockpit and the indicators show a satisfactory overall picture of the CH-system, and no exceptional trends can be identified for 2021.
- In 2021 a similar number of checks were carried out as before the Covid-19 pandemic.

Based on elaborated impact models, the following nine areas of the food chain were identified: Plant Health, Hygiene in Primary Production, Means of Production, Feed, Animal Welfare, Animal Health, Veterinary Medicines, Food and Commodities and Protected Designations. For all areas there is an aggregated indicator (control bar). The control bars for the year 2021 indicate that the defined overall strategy along the food chain is mostly on track.

In 2021 a similar number of checks were carried out as before the Covid-19 pandemic. Thus, in 2021 the pandemic did not significantly affect monitoring activities. The indicators were not “skewed” as in 2020 by fewer checks.

The assessment of the individual indicators along the food chain is shown in the tables below:

Indicator No 1: Proportion of compliant establishments along the food chain					
Area	Number Conforming Operations/Controls	Number assessed Operations/Controls	Value (in %)	Target value (in %)	Assessment
Plant Health	851	886	96.0	85	
Means of production*	251	259	96.9	85	
Feed	310	379	81.8	85	
Animal Welfare	8,739	10,262	85.2	85	
Animal Health	8,216	8,669	93.5	85	
Veterinary medicines	5,210	8,710	59.16	85	
Hygiene plant PrP**	4,678	4,838	96.7	85	
Hygiene animal PrP	8,101	8,640	93.8	85	
Hygiene PrP Milk hygiene	1,701	4,759	64.25	85	
Foodstuff and utility articles	39,639	44,070	89.9	85	





* Producers of compost and digestate;


** Holdings with more than 5 hectares of open arable land or with more than 50 hectares of specialised crops


Indicator No 2: Compliance rate for plant-based primary products from Switzerland				
Number NC	Number of checks	Value (in %)	Target value (in %)	Assessment
9	893	99.0	99	


Indicator No 3: Compliance rate for livestock feeds				
Number NC	Number of checks	Value (in %)	Target value (in %)	Assessment
15	2,626	99.4	95	




Indicator No 4: Compliance rate in official inspections of animals for slaughter				
Number NC	Number of checks	Value (in %)	Target value (in %)	Assessment
6'616	3,320,585	99.8	99	


Indicator No 5: Compliance rate for official samples of tested foodstuffs of animal origin					
Area	Number NC	Number of checks	Value (in %)	Target value (in %)	Assessment
Meat	806	4,722	82.9	95	
Milk	209	1,706	87.8	95	
Eggs	8	458	97.4	95	
Total	1,027	6,886	85.1	95	



Indicator No 6: Compliance rate for selected unprocessed plant products on the Swiss market				
Number NC	Number of checks	Value (in %)	Target value (in %)	Assessment
37	1,491	97.52	99	


Indicator No 7: Compliance rate for foods of animal origin from Switzerland (national residue testing programme)				
Number NC	Number of checks	Value (in %)	Target value (in %)	Assessment
7	2,479	99.72	99.5	


Indicator No 8: Access to safe drinking water				
Number NC	Number of checks	Value (in %)	Target value (in %)	Assessment
140	171,259	99.92	99	 Arsenic: Population affected by elevated levels < 0.1%.

Indicator No 9: Compliance rate for samples inspected by enforcement authorities in relation to statutory agricultural labelling					
Area	Number NC	Number of checks	Value (in %)	Target value (in %)	Assessment
Organic	2,747	12,635	78.25	90	
PDO/PGI	46	1,912	97.59	90	
Mountain/Alps	127	1,365	90.69	90	

Indicator No 10: Rate of prescriptions of antibiotics by veterinary practices as recorded in IS ABV from veterinary clinics			
Report rate (%)	Target (in %)	Assessment	
93.70	90		

Indicator No 11: RASFF notifications concerning Switzerland				
Indicator No 11-01: RASFF notifications with reference to CH market				
Reports CH	Total of reports	Value (in %)	Target value (in %)	Assessment
314	4,590	6.8	6	
Indicator No 11-02: RASFF notifications for CH products				
Reports CH	Total of reports	Value (in %)	Target value (in %)	Assessment
9	4,590	0.2	< 1	

Indicator No 12: Number of immediate reports to the WOAAH concerning outbreaks of animal diseases		
CH notifications to WOAAH	Target value	Assessment
3	0-2	

Indicator No 13: Incidence per 100,000 inhabitants in the event of campylobacteriosis			
Number of cases CH	Incidence per 100,000 inhabitants	Target value	Assessment
6,638	76.8	<60	

The results show that most indicators are "on track" or do not require urgent action to achieve the strategic objectives.

Only Indicators 12 and 13 as well as the Vetmed field of indicator 1 have to remain under observation, as they are far from the target. When necessary, measures have to be taken.

The indicator no. 10 (Rate of prescriptions of antibiotics by veterinary practices as recorded in

IS ABV from veterinary clinics) was able to be evaluated for the first time in 2021.

Although there has been a slight improvement in the values for indicator no. 5 in 2021, the value is still below expectations.

The infringements for certain product categories such as meat and dairy products have decreased. This slightly positive trend will have to be closely monitored in the coming years and if the trend goes in a different direction again, measures may have to be taken.

A closer look at the individual sectors of the food chain provides the following information:

Plant health / quarantine organisms - 426 farms were inspected as part of the trade controls. 36 major infringements were found, which in most cases they concerned plants that were delivered with an incorrect or complete absence of the obligatory plant passport. In addition, the newly applicable requirements had to be pointed out on several occasions. Regional surveillance is the responsibility of the cantons. In 2021 the regional surveillance matched that of the previous year. In the context of the regional surveillance 32 particularly dangerous harmful organisms were monitored. Particular attention was paid to the following quarantine organisms: *Popilla japonica* (Japanese beetle), grapevine flavescente dorée and Tomato Brown rugose fruit virus (Jordan virus). In 2021, based on the plant passport, 463 production holdings were subjected to at least one inspection. 87 samples suspected of being infested with a particularly dangerous harmful organism were taken and in 15 cases the suspicion was confirmed in the laboratory. 9,087 freight consignments, respectively 63,599 goods subject to inspection (partial consignments) were subjected to phytosanitary import inspections in 2021. 89 consignments of goods subject to inspection were rejected. This corresponds to 0.98 % of the imported consignments.

Plant varieties and propagating material - In 2021, sampling of 25 imported seed lots and analyses for compliance with the requirements for quality (germination and purity testing), marking and sealing of seed have been carried

out. No breaches with seed quality, labelling and sealing requirements were found.

Plant protection products (PPPs) - The 2021 campaign (PPP market surveillance) focused on plant protection products containing the active substances Terbutylazin and Metazachlor. In addition, the relevant impurities of Atrazin, Propazin, Simazin and toluene were analysed. Seventeen samples were collected. The infringements found were mostly due to the fact that certain regulations were overlooked by those placing the products on the market. In 2021, checks were again carried out on the basis of sampling and laboratory analyses to verify compliance with the PEP (proof of ecological performance) requirements and other measures of the Direct Payments Ordinance (DPO) in the area of plant protection products. A total of 122 samples were taken from the crops and analysed. The identified discrepancies exclusively concern voluntary measures or contributions in the context of the direct payment system with one exception: one discrepancy concerned the use of an unauthorised product. In addition, charges were brought in this case in order to reduce direct payments. None of the 13 feedstuffs tested was found to exceed the maximum level of glyphosate. 111 additional feedstuffs were tested for pesticides. In two of these tests the maximum levels were exceeded (herbal mixture). The infringement was traced back to a batch of a contaminated single feedstuff (fennel seed flour).

Fertilisers - 259 compost and digestate plants were inspected in 2021. A total of 96 % of the facilities were in compliance. Since 2006, inspections have shown an increase in the compliance rate of inspected facilities. In the past 5 years, the compliance rate of inspected facilities has been over 90 % with little change. In the ambit of the marketing campaign Fertiliser 2019/2020, eleven cantons checked 50 mineral phosphorus fertilisers in 25 establishments for various chemical and fertiliser regulations such as for example labelling, nutrient and pollutant contents. In 26 % of the investigated fertilisers the cadmium content was higher than 50 grams cadmium per tonne of phosphorus. Taking into account the measurement uncertainty, 16 % of the fertilisers were above the limit value and were blocked from release. Compared with the marketing campaign 2011/2012 a clear improvement was observed in the quality of the phosphorus fertilisers.

Feedstuffs - 379 process controls were carried out in 320 establishments. In 18.2 % of the inspected establishments, deadlines were set for the correction of non-conformities or other measures were requested. An additional 1,179 product controls were carried out. The proportion of serious non-conformities was 3.9 % (46 cases). Serious non-conformities for exceeding the authorised maximum contents are defined in Annex 2 FADO or for non-compliance to Art. 7 FeedO, on the grounds of safety for humans, animals or the environment. Extreme deviations in the contents or cases of recurrence are likewise classified as serious non-compliance. In comparison with the previous year the rate of compliance of 70.3 % increased from 66.5 %. Furthermore, 306 samples of feedstuffs for domestic animals were analysed for GMO. All samples were in compliance.

Animal health – In 2021 around 21 % of all establishments were inspected in the three areas of veterinary medicines, animal health and animal transport. Compared to the previous year, the number of farms with deficiencies has increased slightly in the areas of animal health and animal transport. 401,720 investigations into 74 animal diseases/zoonoses were carried out in the approved laboratories. 1,048 animal disease notifications were recorded. As in the previous year, there was a reduction in the number of cases of BVD throughout Switzerland in 2021. However, in the second half of the year a major outbreak of BVD occurred in Canton

Thurgau, which is why the number of cases in the 4th quarter 2021 was higher than in the same quarter of the previous year. On the 5th of February 2021 a seagull infected with bird flu was discovered in the Canton of Schaffhausen. In November a case was found in a hobby holding in the Zurich Unterland. There were no indications on transmissibility to humans. The quantity of antibiotics sold also decreased in 2020. Since 2015 the use of critical antibiotics has more than halved. This decrease is mainly based on a decline in sales of drug premixes and other oral preparations.

Animal protection - Basic inspections of compliance with animal protection legislation were carried out on 14,982 farms with farm animals. This corresponds to 24.8 % of the farms that fall under the requirements of the MANCP Ordinance. No deficiencies were found on approx. 85.2 % of the farms (the same proportion as in the previous year).

Foodstuffs and utility articles - In the area of hygiene in animal primary production, this year's proportion of establishments with deficiencies is 6.2 %, only marginally higher than the same figure for the previous year 2020 (5.9 %). This year's percentage of farms with non-conformities identified in dairy hygiene is 35.7 %, and was slightly lower with the value obtained the previous year (37 %). In the inspections in the area of hygiene in plant primary production, shortcomings were found in 0.7 – 8.0 % of the inspected farms depending on the rubric in Acontrol. From the inspection year 2021 the rubric "Hygiene in plant primary production" was subdivided in Acontrol into two rubrics (A. General Requirements, B. Plant protection agents and biocides), which can be checked separately. This enables the cantons more flexibility in the coordination of the inspections. As in previous years, the vast majority of shortcomings concerned the registration and proper use of plant protection products (in particular, failure to register herbicide treatments per plant or harvest dates, as well as improper storage of plant protection products and failure to dispose of unused products). For milk testing, comparison of 2020 and 2021 data shows a decrease in the number of milk samples tested. This is due to the decrease in the number of milk production farms. The percentage of samples resulting in a milk supply ban due to repeated high cell counts was slightly higher in 2021 than in previous years. For the milk supply bans due

to repeated increased bacterial counts or to a positive detection of inhibitors, the percentage of samples decreased slightly. At present, no specific measures have to be undertaken. There has not been a significant change from the previous year in terms of the fitness for human consumption of whole carcasses and no specific action needed to be taken. Of all the samples collected under the foreign matter inspection programme, 7 (0.28 %) were found to be non-compliant. The rate of non-compliance is roughly in line with the average of recent years.

In 2021, the FSVO received the results of 41,350 risk-based process controls in businesses carried out by the cantonal enforcement authorities. The proportion of businesses for which administrative measures were imposed and which received sanctions remained within a similar range in previous years. In 2021, 48,975 official food samples (including drinking water) and 1,257 samples of utility articles were examined by the cantonal enforcement authorities. The grounds for complaint of the official samples were strongly dependent on the type of product. High complaint rates (>30 %) were found for increased energy foodstuffs and nutritional needs for persons (50.46 %), edible oils (38.38 %) and cooked cured products (34.38 %). In 2021, the FSVO received the results of 307 food samples from the cantonal enforcement authorities which had been tested for components of genetically modified organisms. Of the samples, 24 (8.3 %) contained GMO constituents. GMOs authorised or tolerated in Switzerland were identified in 5.2 % of the samples analysed. The measured GMO content was mostly in the trace range.

Eight of the GMO-positive samples (2.6 %) were rejected because they contained GMOs not authorised in Switzerland. The border veterinary inspections of foodstuffs of animal origin were all compliant. As part of the controls on foodstuffs and utility articles on importation, 346 samples of foodstuffs and articles of daily use were collected by the Federal Office for Customs and Border Security and analysed by the cantonal food control authorities. From the results of the control programmes at the border, it can be concluded that high complaint rates due to pesticide residues in Asian fruits and vegetables (13 % and 21 %) are still to be expected. A total of 772,712 kg of beef was imported that may have been produced using hormonal growth promoters. This is 227,717 kg less than

in 2020. The controls showed that the companies complied with the regulations and no so-called hormone meat was exported to the EU. During a national campaign in 2021, cantonal chemists surveyed foodstuffs that offered CBD (cannabidiol) and contained cannabis or cannabis extracts. The high complaint rate shows that sellers are not exercising their obligation of self-regulation for such foodstuffs and thus do not or only poorly take into account the protection of the consumers. In the context of another campaign, more than 300 online shops were examined to determine whether consumers also received in digital form all required information on the offered foodstuffs. The results showed that significant improvements are needed in the declarations. In a third national campaign, the handling of food packaging was investigated in 70 catering, commercial and industrial establishments. Conclusion: food packaging is used correctly although action is still needed, particularly with the handling of certificates.

Statutory agricultural labelling – The supervisory authorities carried out 12,635 biomonitoring checks in which 2,747 certain irregularities and infringements were identified. Irregularities and infringements against the Bio Ordinances in the agricultural sector impact the direct payments. All private inspection organisations in Switzerland approved for organic production were monitored by the FOAG in accordance with Art. 32 and 33 of the Organic Farming Ordinance. The certification authorities checked 1,162 agricultural establishments and 750 processing establishments according to PDO/PGI regulations. Of the 46 identified serious cases of non-compliance the certificate was withdrawn or refused in 5 cases. The certification authorities carried out 1,385 inspections according to the Mountain and Alpine regulations. A total of 127 inspections recorded non-compliance. Most of the non-compliant cases were identified for labelling, requirements for raw material suppliers, separation of the flow of goods and traceability of raw materials. In the ambit of its ultimate supervisory function in the areas PDO/PGI and the Mountain/Alpine, the FSVO audited the inspection organisations. The main topics for PDO/PGI were the traceability of CH meat and checks on the requirements in accordance with the specifications for milk deliveries/milk processing. The main topics for Mountain/Alpine were the implementation of the sanction regulation VH (processing and trade), the traceability of Swiss meat (value chain) and

the keeping of slaughter animals in mountain and summering areas. For the grape harvest control, the cantons found only a few non-compliances. There were minor infringements and some declassifications, but no sanctions. In the 2021 reporting year, the wine trade control carried out a total of 1,104 controls; in only one case a serious deficiency was encountered. This corresponds to a proportion of 0.1 % of the total number of controls (8.2 % in 2020).

In 2021 in Switzerland there were 18 **public warnings** for foodstuffs (2020:28) and 2 for utility articles (2020:3), and at least 65 **recalls** for foodstuffs (2020:49) and 13 for utility articles (2020:12).

In the year under review, Switzerland was not audited by the EU. However, one video inspection was carried out by a third country (Russia – dairy products).

The system along the food chain was **scrutinised** by several national authorities. Particular areas of scrutiny were "meat inspection and animal welfare in slaughterhouses for poultry and rabbits", "Inspection of plant health", "Export into the Eurasian Economic Union (EEU)", "Food fraud" and "Disposal of animal by-products".

For detailed information - See MANCP Annual Report 2021 in German and French.