



Netherlands Food and Consumer  
Product Safety Authority  
*Ministry of Agriculture,  
Nature and Food Quality*

# Food Safety

**Tycho Vermeulen**  
Agricultural Counselor

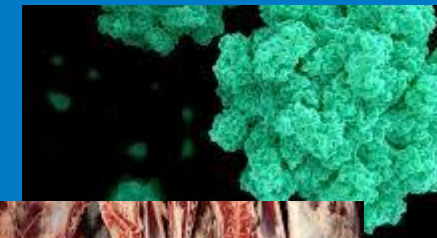
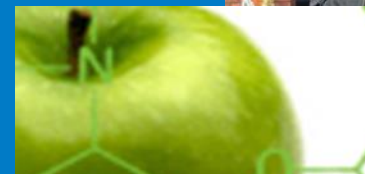
**Bernadette Ossendorp**  
Chief Food Safety Officer

*October 13, 2023*





Safe and sustainable life for people, animals  
and nature





# NVWA Personel and locations

3500 employees

Headquarters in Utrecht and  
8 additional locations

Inspections:	± 147,906
Samples:	± 555,000
warnings, fines etc:	± 22,000





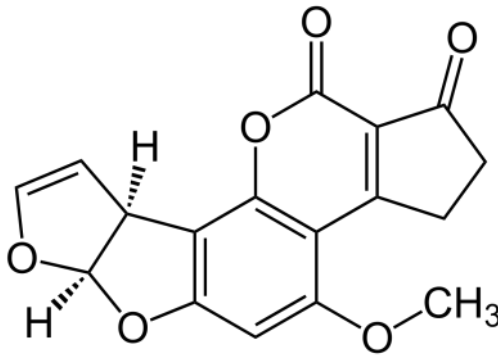
# NVWA within the Dutch government

- › Independent implementing agency under the **Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality** → independent part of this Ministry executing official tasks
- › Delivery agency for the **Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sports** → executes assignments for this Ministry
- › Ministers have mandated responsibility over issues performed by the NVWA to the Inspector-General

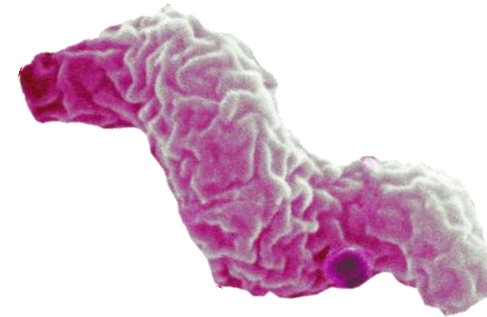


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## (Micro)biological



most feared  
by consumers



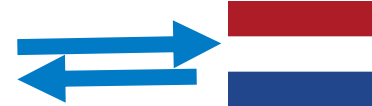
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# The Food safety system



Policy/legislation: mostly EU harmonised

**European Commission**  
European Parliament  
Council of the EU



Ministry of  
Agriculture, Nature  
and Food Quality



Ministry of  
Health, Welfare  
and Sports



Control/Enforcement

Food/Feed Production

Netherlands Food and  
Consumer Product Safety  
Authority (NVWA)



Food Business Operators:  
responsible to ensure  
compliance





# Food safety world-wide through Codex Alimentarius



[Home | CODEXALIMENTARIUS FAO-WHO](#)

- Food 'law', United Nations 1962
- 188 Member Countries and 1 Member Organization (The European Union)
- 235 Codex Observers - 60 IGOs, 159 NGOs, 16 UN
- Standards indirectly binding through treaties (WTO)

Member since 1972



Egypt

[Codex Contact Point](#)

Eng. Hanan Fouad Hamed

Codex Contact Point

Egyptian Organization for Standardization and Quality (EOS)

16 Tadreeb EL-Modarrebeen St., Ameriya,

Cairo, Egypt



# General Food Law

**General Food Law** is the foundation of the food safety legislation:

**"Food/feed shall not be placed on the market if it is unsafe"**

(unsafe = injurious to health or unfit for consumption)

## ***Scope***

- › production, processing & distribution of food & feed
- › excludes private domestic activities

## General objectives

- › high level of protection of human life and health
- › protection of consumers interests (fair practice)
- › free movement in the Community of food & feed
- › based on: international standards, risk analysis





# General Food Law



Regulation (EC) No. 178/2002



## Main **responsibilities food business operators** (FBOs):

- ✓ Responsible for importing, producing or selling safe food/feed, that comply with the legislation.
- ✓ Traceability of product: 1 step forward and 1 step backwards.
- ✓ Obligation to notify the authorities in case unsafe food/feed has been placed on the market and take corrective actions (withdrawal/recall of unsafe products).

## Main **responsibilities member states** (MS):

- ✓ Enforce, monitor & verify FBO official controls, surveillance, communication
- ✓ lay down effective, proportionate & dissuasive measures & penalties upon infringement.



# Food Safety Institutions





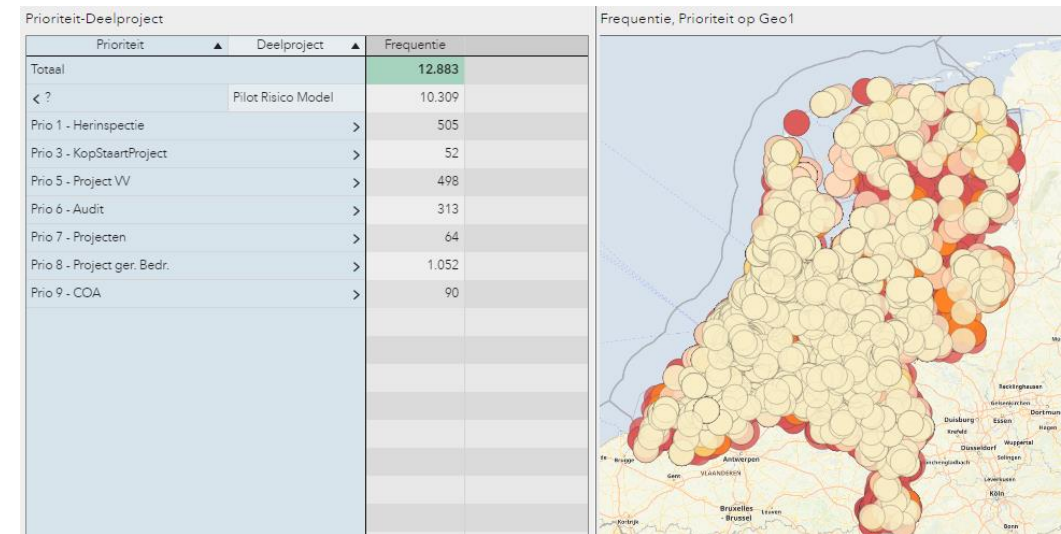
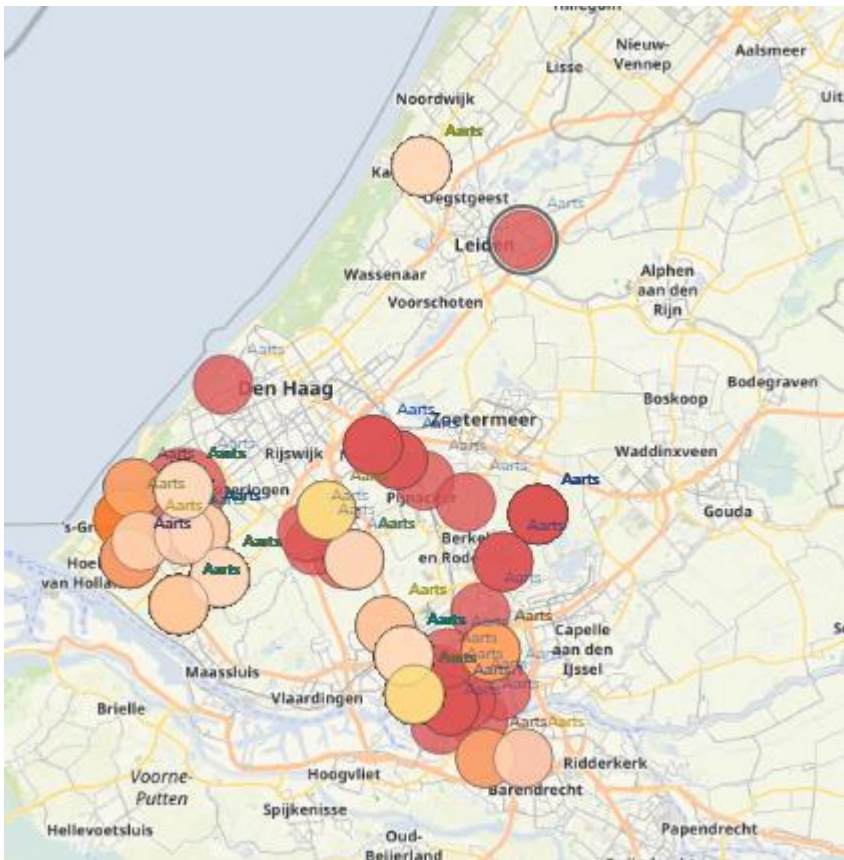
# Model for risk-based inspection planning

- › In the past only based on non-compliance but limited resources and EU requirement
- › Model Implemented in April 2022
- › Model based on Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) among others
- › 4 groups of risk factors:
  - Inherent Risk Factors
  - Mitigation Factors
  - Compliance Factors
  - Time Factor (since last inspection)
- › Risk profile determined by adding/subtracting points
- › Linked to our planning tool





# Planning tool



ProfielRisicoModel	LaatsteBezDatumReden	LOKATIENAAM
profiel2	22FEB2016 (AL crisis / calamiteit)	'MAARTJE THEADORA' - ROS-171
profiel2	22FEB2016 (AL crisis / calamiteit)	'MAARTJE THEADORA' - ROS-171
profiel2	09JAN2014 (AL horen, info, overleg)	'T FRUITHUIS KEES MULDER
profiel2	09JAN2014 (AL horen, info, overleg)	'T FRUITHUIS KEES MULDER
profiel3	24JUL2020 (A/AL inspectie)	'T SIEPJE
profiel3	24JUL2020 (A/AL inspectie)	'T SIEPJE
profiel2	23MAY2017 (AL horen, info, overleg)	""T NIJE ESKES"
profiel2	23MAY2017 (AL horen, info, overleg)	""T NIJE ESKES"
profiel3	28OCT2019 (AL horen, info, overleg)	"COOL EXPRESO" EG 416503 (VRWR)





# Stimulating compliance

- Compliance assistance – webinars, NVWA website, comprehensive guides (additives, food supplements, labelling,.....)
- Private certification schemes (ketenborging.nl):
  - Stimulate participation of FBOs
  - Investigate possible use in supervision and controls ...**More responsibility where it belongs**
  - Investigate options for data exchange between these schemes and NVWA.
- Transparency: Stimulate compliance by publication and disclosure of inspection results (audits, inspections, sampling and analyses). Long term goal:  
*All inspections results publicly available on the website*



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