

KEYNOTE ARTICLES

GOOD FARMING PRACTICES

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Food Safety is a public health priority that requires a global approach, from production to consumption to optimize the food safety control of animal origin products. Animals and their products are potential causing of food borne illness; their products are good media for growth of pathogenic microorganisms. Animal health status must be assessed with regard to any infectious (bacterial and viral) or parasitic agents, and especially zoonotic agents, that they could be carrying at the primary production stage.

Residues of veterinary drugs, pesticides and other chemical contaminants are potential sources for animal products contamination. Equipment's carry risks of further contamination from man or the environment or growth of inherent pathogens. Implementing proper hygienic control measure on farm to secure animal products throughout the food chain is essential to ensure its safety and suitability for their intended use.

Therefore, implementing the proper hygienic control measures throughout the food chain is essential to ensure the safety and suitability of these foods for their intended use.

The purpose of the presented paper is to provide information on the main international food safety regulatory systems that starts from farm. This would be useful in the development of national and domestic regulations for good farming practices. Special consideration will be given to Codex Alimentarius. Legislation should be based on science and risk management principles that target risks to human and animal health from the consumption or use of animal products and the facilitation of trade of those products.

The following eight key aspects of Good Farming Practices, on the primary production level, will be discussed: Animal health conditions, animal feeding and water, veterinary drugs, environmental control, buildings and other facilities: surroundings & preparation of animals for slaughter, milking hygiene, common measures for record keeping and traceability, animal welfare.