Official Controls to protect the authentic honey supply chain

Bees & Biodiversity: new cooperations
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Andrea Gavinelli, Head of Unit DG SANTE G.3
Official Controls and eradication of diseases in animals
European Commission
Replacing Regulation 882/2004

15 June 2016: Political agreement

19 December 2016: Council common position

15 March 2017: European Parliament adoption

7 April 2017:
Entry into force: 27 April 2017

Main date of application: 14 December 2019
Risk based approach today: 882/2004

- Regularly
- Identified Risks
- Operators past record
- Reliability of own checks

OFFICIAL CONTROLS to be performed... & taking into account

Risk Basis

Appropriate frequency
The risk based approach in the new Reg:2017/625

Controls to be performed "regularly, on a risk basis and with appropriate frequency"

- Own controls, including private quality schemes
- Risks associated with animals and goods, activities, location...and the likelihood that consumers might be misled
- Operator's past record
'Food fraud' controls today: 882/2004

OFFICIAL CONTROLS to:

- Verify compliance with rules
- Guarantee fair practices
- Protect consumer interests
Food fraud control in new Reg: 2017/625

A new key element: Likelihood of food fraud must be taken into account when deciding the appropriate frequency of controls, including on imports

ADVANTAGE FOR COMPLIANT PRODUCERS (Conventional & e-commerce)

Protection against unfair trade and unsafe products, including on-line sales
Food authenticity and integrity

REFERENCE CENTRES (possibly)
to provide specialised knowledge on detection methods and identification of vulnerable market segments

PENALTIES
to reflect operator's economic advantage or turnover
Coordinated Control Plans today: 882/2004

- To establish the prevalence of hazards in feed, food and animals & the extent of fraud in a sector...

  E.G. 2015: CCP to establish the prevalence of fraudulent practices in the marketing of honey.

- All MS participated;
- 2000+ samples collected;
- Additional analysis by JRC in 2017.

- Data gathered on extent & nature of fraud in honey;
- New analytical method tested;
- Recommendations being considered.
Coordinated Control Programmes in new Reg: 2017/625

Objective:
Targeted assessment of the application of the rules to establish the prevalence of certain hazards

Coordinated control programmes in all areas of OCR's expanded scope, i.e. plant protection products and plant health...

The organisation of the collection of data & information
Conclusions: benefits for compliant producers (new Regulation)

- More harmonised controls along the whole agri-food chain (all actors in all Member States subject to same rules);
- Stronger legal basis to fight fraud:
  - Strengthening cooperation between Member States,
  - Dissuasive sanctions > $ economic gains from fraud.
- Greater transparency: outcome of controls will be made public by National Authorities;
- More efficiency: digital & integrated communication systems across EU.
Thank you for your attention!

For more information

DG Health and Food Safety website:
http://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/official_controls/legislation_en

Questions & answers: