

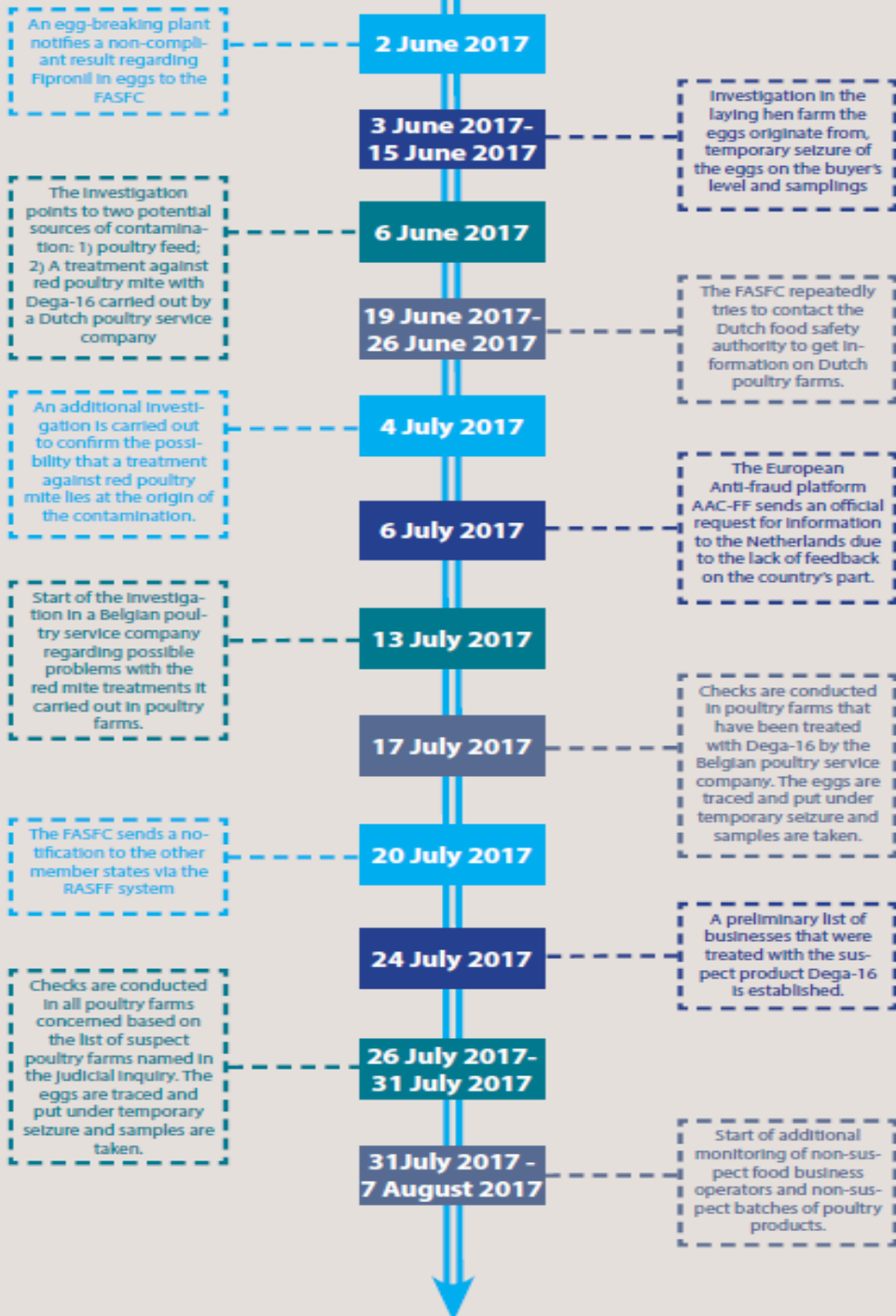


Fipronil Incident State of Play in Belgium

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Facts and Findings Fipronil Investigation



State of play measures on farm level

- 86 suspected poultry farms initially blocked based on information on potential use of Fipronil
- 7 farms additionally blocked based on a monitoring of all non suspected layer farms

	Initially blocked	Currently blocked
Laying hens	48 + 7	20
Breeders and rearing	38	10
Total	86 + 7	30



Release of farms only in case of analysis results compliant with MRL
Tests are required on new laying hens before production (since 31/7/2017)

BE egg production is under control



State of play measures processing, retail and ABP

- Egg processing plants : informed of non compliant results at farm level. Measures are taken on non compliant eggs and egg products (destruction, withdrawal) based on analytical results or risk analysis (taking into account processing factors). Traceability exercise downstream.
- Slaughterhouses layers : 15 lots/5 days of slaughtering and controls at random, all compliant.
- Food processing plants : informed of non compliant results through traceability exercise. Measures are taken on non compliant products (destruction, withdrawal) based on analytical results or risk analysis (taking into account the egg incorporation rate and processing factors). Traceability exercise downstream. On the spot visit of FASFC to verify if appropriate measures have been taken. Verification of own-checks, records.
- Retail : informed of non compliant results through traceability exercise. Screening based on random sampling by FASFC of foodstuffs for analysis on fipronil. More than 1500 on the spot checks by FASFC to verify if appropriate measures have been taken in case of contaminated products (destruction, withdrawal).
- NC eggs, animals, products: animal by products of category 1 (destruction).



Risk assessment and management

- **Use of PRIMo model for safety threshold in eggs and meat**
 - 0,72 mg fipronil / kg eggs
 - 0,77 mg fipronil / kg meat
- **Worst case scenario (children 8,7 kg, meal 500 g) for safety threshold* in processed products**
 - 0,15 mg fipronil / kg processed products
- **MRL 0,005 mg fipronil / kg for all products to assess compliance**
 - Use of measurement uncertainty
 - Recalculation for egg yolk taking into account of the fat solubility of fipronil : 0,016 mg fipronil/ kg egg yolk
 - Recalculation for egg products as powder using standard processing factor
 - Whole egg powder : 0,021 mg fipronil / kg (dehydration factor of 4,28)
 - Egg white powder : 0,041 mg fipronil / kg powder (dehydration factor of 8,23)
 - Egg yolk powder : 0,036 mg fipronil / kg powder (dehydration factor of 2,26)

* Threshold for notification to the FASCF which will carry out a risk assessment in view of a recall in case of acute risk.



Risk assessment and management

Raw materials	Analysis result \leq MRL (0.005 mg/kg)	MRL (0.005 mg/kg) < Analysis result \leq Safety threshold	Analysis result > Safety threshold
Eggs	No action	Withdrawal (safety threshold: 0.72 mg/kg)	Recall (safety threshold: 0.72 mg/kg)
Egg products	No action	Withdrawal (safety threshold: 0.72 mg/kg)	Recall (safety threshold: 0.72 mg/kg)
Poultry Meat	No action	Withdrawal (safety threshold: 0.77 mg/kg)	Recall (safety threshold: 0.77 mg/kg)
Processed Foodstuffs	No action	Withdrawal (safety threshold: 0.15 mg/kg)	Withdrawal or Recall* (safety threshold: 0.15 mg/kg)

Use of a measurement uncertainty to verify compliance analytical result with MRL

* Threshold for notification to the FASCF which will carry out a risk assessment in view of a recall in case of acute risk.



Communication on non compliant products in case of fipronil incident

BE has mainly applied normal procedures in case of withdrawal/recall of products

In case of recall

- Information to consumers (normal way of working)

In case of withdrawal from the market

- No information to consumers (normal way of working)
- FBO needs to inform FASFC of withdrawn products (exceptional procedure)



Encountered difficulties

- Confidentiality in case of judicial investigation versus transparent communication
- Need for EU harmonised approach between MS on risk analysis, action levels and measures taken on processed products
- Need for EC clarity and coherence on use of communication channels



RASFF



AAC-FF

- EC goes beyond RASFF SOP (PSTI > ARfD) in case of this incident.
- Belgium notification on 20/07/2017 : 2017.1065. Over 400 follow-up on 29/08/2017 and also new initial notifications from MS. Difficult to manage.

Thank you for your attention



More info on Fipronil incident:

<http://www.afsca.be/businesssectors/foodstuffs/incidents/fipronil/>

<http://www.afsca.be/professionnels/denreesalimentaires/incidents/fipronil/>

<http://www.afsca.be/professionelen/levensmiddelen/incidenten/fipronil/>

