

**European Community Comments for the
CODEX COMMITTEE ON RESIDUES OF VETERINARY
DRUGS IN FOODS**

Washington, D.C., 28 - 31 March 2000

CX/RVDF 00/12 and ALINORM 95/11

Agenda item 11: Control of Veterinary Drugs in Milk and Milk products

Milk and Milk products are ingested by susceptible populations. The possible presence of residues may lead to health concerns in these populations. For babies and infants milk and milk products constitute their basic diet and for this reason the control of veterinary drugs in milk and milk products is a serious concern for the European Community.

The European Community acknowledges that the responsibilities of the Milk producer, veterinarian and the Milk industry and the role of HACCP are very important in preventing and controlling the absence of residues.

The European Community believes, however, that an in-depth discussion on a number of issues is needed.

In the Residue Monitoring Programs the need for confirmation of screening test results that do not demonstrate compliance with the standards, prior to initiation of regulatory action, are not only relevant to confirm the results but also for the actual presence of certain veterinary drugs. Those results allow the design of strategies for preventing bad practice at farm and industry level.

Due to the dilution effect the control of MRL should be regulated at the level of individual animals. Therefore Milk samples should be clearly identified with regard of the point of sampling.

The responsibilities of the government authorities should be clearly emphasised, describing their framework of action. Results of monitoring plans should be published yearly and widely available.

Milk from species other than cows should be mentioned and treated in the CODEX document as it was approved on the 11th Session in 1998 (point 118 -ALINORM 99/31).

The European Community therefore proposes a revision by a group of Members of CCRDVF.

EC	CX	Committee	Status	Date
Comments	00/12	CC RDVF	Final	28/03/2000