



# EFSA LAUNCHES WEB-BASED REPORTING OF EU ZONONOSES MONITORING DATA

## FROM SPRING 2005

### ZONONOSES

Zoonoses are defined by the World Health Organisation as diseases and infections which are transmitted naturally between vertebrate animals and man. Zoonoses have emerging importance due, in part, to increasing public awareness of the danger of infections introduced in foods of animal origin.



### REPORTING : NEW REQUIREMENTS

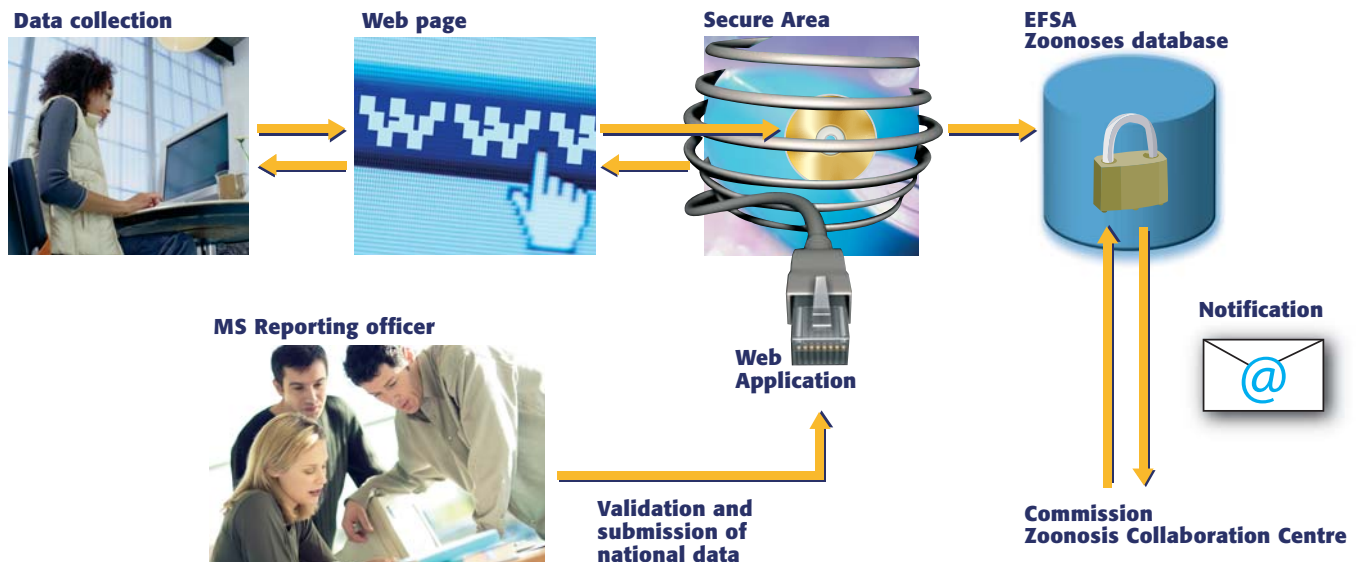
In the EU, trends and sources of zoonoses are assessed annually\*, since a decade. In June 2004 a new zoonoses Directive (Dir. 2003/99/EC) has come into force. It has entrusted the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), which is the keystone of EU risk assessment regarding food and feed safety, with examining the zoonoses monitoring data and publishing the annual zoonoses Community report. The Directive stipulates that data must be collected on the occurrence of zoonoses, zoonotic agents, antimicrobial resistance in zoonotic agents and food-borne outbreaks in the EU Member States and European Economic Area countries. It makes data collection mandatory for the following 8 zoonoses: Brucellosis, Campylobacteriosis, Echinococcosis, Listeriosis, Salmonellosis, Trichinellosis, Tuberculosis due to *Mycobacterium bovis*, and verotoxigenic *Escherichia coli*. Other zoonoses are covered based on the epidemiological situations in Member States.

\* [http://europa.eu.int/comm/food/food/biosafety/salmonella/zoonoses\\_reps\\_2002\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/comm/food/food/biosafety/salmonella/zoonoses_reps_2002_en.htm)

### EFSA'S OBJECTIVES

In taking up this zoonoses mandate, EFSA will focus on the harmonisation of the zoonoses monitoring schemes and on the comparability of data. Furthermore, EFSA will conduct a descriptive analysis of the zoonoses monitoring data by means of Member States specific and Community weighted averages and will investigate zoonotic risks.

## WEB-BASED DATA COLLECTION & REPORTING



To meet these objectives, EFSA has started to build up a web-based system for data collection and reporting that will be operational from Spring 2005. This application aims at:

- Simplifying the zoonoses monitoring data collection procedure between parties,
- Avoiding repetitions in the data collection process to reduce the workload of each party,
- Automating the creation of the zoonoses Community report as well as assisting the Member States in creating their own report,
- Facilitating data exchange (standard exchange format .xml) and data reusability,
- Providing all parties with a common access point to the zoonoses data.

Furthermore, EFSA has set up a 'Zoonoses Monitoring Team' and a 'Zoonoses Task Force'. The latter comprises national contact points and advises EFSA in all practical and scientific matters related to the collection and reporting of zoonoses monitoring data.

### Zoonoses Collaboration Centre

EFSA contracted a temporary Zoonoses Collaboration Centre, the Danish Institute for Food and Veterinary Research, to prepare the draft Community report, according to EFSA's instructions.

[http://www.efsa.eu.int/science/monitoring\\_zoonoses/catindex\\_en.html](http://www.efsa.eu.int/science/monitoring_zoonoses/catindex_en.html)