



FOOD FROM ANIMAL
CLONING



ANIMAL CLONING
DIRECTIVES: HEARING
IN THE EUROPEAN
PARLIAMENT



FOOD WASTE IN THE
EUROPEAN UNION



NEW EU GMO
DIRECTIVE

SAFE Safe Food
Advocacy Europe
Striving for Safer Food for European Consumers

NEWSLETTER

Dear Members & Friends,

In our March Newsletter we share with you latest news and developments from Animal Cloning, the fight against wasting food and the new GMO directive of the European Union.

On the last three pages you'll find an overview of EU projects and upcoming events.

And last but not least, thank you for the very positive feedback that we have received for

our last (and first) SAFE Newsletter. It is a great encouragement for us knowing that many people find this newsletter important & useful.

Enjoy reading. We are looking forward to receive your feedback.

Yours,

Floriana Cimmarusti
Secretary General of SAFE

Food from animal cloning

On 18 December 2013 two Directive Proposals on animal cloning were published: the first concerns the ban on cloning animals kept and reproduced for farming purposes and the second is about the prohibition of the placing on the market of food from animal clones.

Food derived from animal clones is



considered novel food and is regulated under the EU Regulation n. 258/97, which provides a mandatory pre-market approval before

placing novel foods on the market. In the EU, food from animal clones is not on the market and until now there are no EU companies that have asked for pre-market approval to sell food from animal clones. In countries like the USA, Canada and Argentina it is authorized and the cloning technique for farming purposes and the commercialisation of food from animal clones are regulated.

On the contrary, descendants of animal clones, their semen and embryos can be imported to the EU market and EU consumers are not informed. Indeed, in the European Union, it is not mandatory to label progeny of animal clones; consumers are already eating descendants of animal cloning without being informed.

SAFE really welcomes the ban on cloning animals as has several concerns regarding the use of the cloning technique for the welfare and health of animals. Surrogate dams (carrying the clones) and the clones themselves suffer during the application of the technique. SAFE believes that consumers should be informed if they eat products derived from offspring of cloned animals as those animals have a very weak immune system and are very often victims of serious infections. In addition, during the cloning technique the animal is administered a lot of hormones, medicines and antibiotics. No serious and extensive research concerning potential consumer health problems resulting from the consumption of this type of novel food exists. EU citizens have a very negative perception of foods from animal clones and they need to be informed about the origin of the food they buy and eat.

Unfortunately, the issue of cloned animal offspring is not yet regulated. In fact, nothing is provided in the text of the Directive Proposals on animal clones. For this reason, SAFE is proposing to the European Parliament and the Council to add in the text of the Directive Proposals mandatory labelling indicating the food derived from cloned animal offspring. It is very important to create a traceability system for semen and embryos from cloned animals and for the live offspring of cloned animals. In this way, consumers will be informed about what they are eating and this will give them the freedom to making informed choices.

Here below you find the two legislative proposals: <http://bit.ly/1LRTyFF>

Key persons involved in the EU legislative process.

European Parliament

- Rapporteur: **Renate Sommer** (PPE);
- Shadow Rapporteur: **Giulia Moi** (EFDD);

Responsible committees: Agricultural and Rural Development (AGRI) and Environment, Public health and Food Safety (ENVI).

Council of the European Union: meeting of Agriculture and Fisheries (AGRIFISH) under the Latvian Presidency.

European Commission Directorate General AGRI: **Commissioner Phil Hogan**

Timeline to conclude legislative procedure: Indicative plenary sitting date is **8 September 2015**.