

EXCELLENT NEWS FROM THE EP ON ANIMAL CLONING



ACRYLAMIDE IN FOOD IS A PUBLIC HEALTH CONCERN



THE VOTE ON TTIP POSTPONED: NEGOTIATIONS FAILURE



VOTE ON NOVEL FOODS

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

NEWSLETTER

Dear Members,

In our June Newsletter we share with you latest news from the **European Parliament on animal cloning**, the concerns of **acrylamide in food**, and two votes in the European Parliament: the **postponed TTIP vote** and the one on **Novel Foods**.

On the last pages you'll find again an overview of **EU projects & events**.

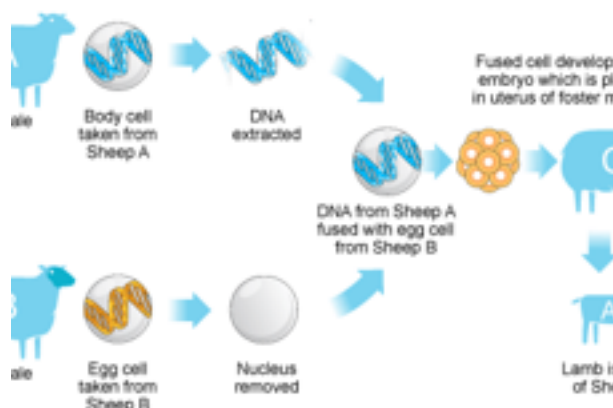
Enjoy reading. We are looking forward to receiving your feedback.

Yours,

Floriana Cimmarusti
Secretary General of SAFE

Excellent news from the European Parliament on animal cloning

On 17 June 2015 the environment, public health and food safety Committee (ENVI) together with the Agriculture and rural affairs (AGRI) Committee of the **European Parliament** voted on Commission Directive proposals concerning the ban of cloning



animals kept and reproduced for farming purpose and the prohibition of placing on the market of food from animal clones. In particular, in **December 2013 the European Commission** published two Directive

proposals concerning “the suspension of the use of the cloning technique in the EU for farm animals, the suspension of placing on the market of animal clones and embryo clones and the suspension of marketing any meat or milk from animal clones”.

The co-rapporteurs **Giulia Moi** and **Renate Sommer** have done a fantastic job with their excellent Draft Report on animal cloning. Both AGRI and ENVI committees have taken a serious stand against animal cloning for food. Here below you find the main modifications proposed and voted concerning the Commission Proposals on animal cloning:

- ▶ To change the Commission legislative proposal from a Directive, that would require transposition into Member States' national law, into a Regulation which is directly applicable to all EU Member States;
- ▶ To extend the ban to all species of animals kept and reproduced for farming purpose (in the Commission Proposal only bovine, ovine, caprine and equine species were included);
- ▶ The prohibition of placing on the market of food not only from animal cloning but even from their descendants;
- ▶ To ban the import of food from the descendants of animal cloned.

The committee's text was approved by 82 votes to 8 with 8 abstentions. In the text of the draft report, the co-rapporteurs have proposed to “draft a law to ban the cloning of all farm animals, their descendants and products derived from them, including imports.”

ENVI co-rapporteur **Renate Sommer**, said, *“Due to the negative effects on animal welfare, cloning for farming purposes is rejected by a large majority of consumers. Furthermore, we do not need cloning to ensure meat supplies in the EU.”*

Co-rapporteur **Giulia Moi** declared *“The ban on placing animal clones or their offspring on the EU market is a red line for us. We are well aware that cloning is allowed in certain third countries that [the] EU trades with, but we cannot allow these products to be placed on the EU market.”*

MEP **Bart Staes** (Greens) said, *“MEPs have voted for robust EU rules to address the very serious concerns with cloning and the use of clones and their descendants in food production. The committee voted to significantly strengthen the draft law proposed by the EU commission upgrading the proposed provisional moratorium to an outright ban and, crucially, ensuring it applies not just to food from clones but also from their descendants, which is where the real threat lies. To ensure the rules can be properly enforced, MEPs also voted to introduce provisions on the traceability of these foods.”*

Different stakeholders have given their opinion on the topic:

- ▶ **BEUC** (The European Consumer Organisation) has reckoned that a **traceability system would be necessary as concerns semen and embryos from cloned animals** and for the offspring of cloned animals. The BEUC also thinks that **labelling for meat and milk** should be implemented.
- ▶ **EFSA** (European Food Safety Authority) conducted a report on animal cloning issue from 2008 to 2012, these are their conclusions: even though EFSA did not really stress on the bad impact on grown cloned animals, the organisation admitted that **the death rate of cloned animals was high at each stage of their development (foetal, perinatal, juvenile)**. It also observed epigenetic dysregulation and incomplete cellular reprogramming of the species, which gives several good reasons to avoid cloning techniques for animals' welfare.