Horizon Scanning 2023

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Changes in methods of food production and new food technologies

Direct challenges from climate change:

Challenge	Possible actions

	Novel Foods	The FSA should consider the follo evidence through commissioned r assessment and/or review of risk r
1.	The novel foods sector is growing rapidly, which has in part been driven by a sustainability agenda triggered by increased awareness of climate change as well as, in the UK, by factors such as EU Exit. Novel foods such as alternative proteins may carry a lower risk of some hazards typically considered for meat, such as *Salmonella* or *Campylobacter*. However, it is not always clear what new or increased risk may be associated with such novel foods or novel processes. Robust processes for approval will mitigate this challenge, but novel foods approved in other regions by local competent authorities may be sold illegally and promoted via social media. Furthermore, new business entrants with less experience of safe food production may be less aware of safety measures they need to comply with.	1.1 Ways to generate evidence to sup assessment and associated regula food production processes e.g., cu plant-based foods.
		1.2 Take action to maintain and impro ACMSF and ACNFP to identify co microbiological safety of dossiers novel foods and processes.
		1.3 Ensure that exposure data and ha foods and processes is considered pathogen growth.
		1.4 Consider the potential microbiolog products that are produced using
		1.5 Improve data capture during outbr processes, not just food type.
		Manufacturer regulation
		9.6 FSA should consider developr manufacturers on validation for ne current guidance if already in plac

New Farming/Fertilisation Methods 10 Various changes in farming practices to cope with increasing challenges associated with climate change may affect the microbiological safety of food. For example, the increased use of biodigesters and resulting impact on microbiological safety of wastewater and fertilization. Similarly, the development of vertical farming may be of concern due to the closed loop nature of its operation and especially with the recycling of irrigation water (e.g., Listeria risk). Also, the impact on need, and availability, of artificial fertilizers is driving an increased use of natural fertilizers. This may result in more animal waste runoff on agricultural crops and water during flooding. The use of animal by-products for use in animal feeds is also a concern.	10.1 FSA should consider estab with OGDs to learn about pro treatment and commission wo impact on food safety. 10.2 The FSA should consider c for indoor and vertical farming recommendations for proactiv 10.3 The FSA should consider o stakeholder exercise to map p farming