

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE MICROBIOLOGICAL SAFETY OF FOOD

CAMPYLOBACTER WORKING GROUP

Meetings of the Working Group

1. Since its last progress report to the full Committee (ACM/580), the Working Group has held one meeting. At that meeting, a representative from Marks and Spencer provided the Group with information on that company's approach to the control of *Campylobacter*. In addition, a representative from the British Poultry Council offered thoughts on the feasibility of controlling *Campylobacter* on-farm.
2. The Group also considered the benefits of a system of farm assessment scores, and the views of Assured Chicken Production Ltd (ACP) on how best to tackle the problem of *Campylobacter* in chicken.

Future work programme

3. The Working Group next meets on 24 October 2002. It expects at that meeting to receive information about how the *Campylobacter* problem is being addressed in Northern Ireland. Evidence may also be considered from ACP, the Institute of Animal Health, and the Food and Drink Federation.
4. The Group is also hoping to make progress on 24 October on the formulation of advice on *Campylobacter* detection and typing.
5. The Group is also scheduled to meet on 11 December 2002 when it hopes to hear evidence about work being carried out at the University of Nottingham on *Campylobacter*.

First tranche of advice to FSA

6. The Working Group has agreed draft preliminary advice to the Food Standards Agency on the on-farm control of *Campylobacter* in chickens. This is now submitted for approval by the full Committee (see ACM/597).

**Secretariat
September 2002**