

Breakout Group 5A- Risk and Risk-Ranking Method

Question 1) Was our explanation of the risk-ranking method understood? How can we improve its clarity?

- Will political factors influence the risk-ranking process?
- CVM will provide initial risk-ranking, both health & exposure scoring, then open up for public comment.
- Environmental factors will not be considered in risk-ranking.
- Two sets of rankings may occur to cover both human & animal safety scoring.
- Goal of risk-ranking exercise is to evaluate condition of entire feed processing/feeding chain.
- Antibiotic resistance will not initially be a part of the risk-ranking process.
- Examples would help clarify the risk-ranking method
 - Hazards>scoring processes.
 - Will system evaluate risk of imported ingredients? Not now.
 - Improving clarity:
 - Additional public meeting, opportunities for comment
 - Document individual scores that determine final risk-ranking score.

Question 2) Do you agree with the risk-ranking method?

- How is public health exposure addressed through the risk-ranking method? Are consumer concerns factored in?
- Method will not consider economic factors necessary to control risks.
- Method is conceptually sound-need to see it in action.

Question 3) Do you agree with how we plan to use the risk-ranking method?

- Identify priority risks; identify/implement ways to control risk; i.e. inspections, processing intervention, educational initiatives, best use of resources.
- Use of system needs to be based on science, not politics.
- Conceptually agree with use of method.

Question 4) Are there methods other than risk-ranking that should be considered for prioritizing which hazards should be addressed? What are the alternative methods and what are their advantages over risk-ranking?

- State labs should focus more on testing feed safety, instead of economic analysis.
- Current state feed laws need to be evaluated so that FDA can provide support in making these laws more safety and risk-based.
- Did FDA consider a totally quantitative method to assess risk?
Not enough data to support.

- Should FDA set up methods to collect/survey, stakeholders on safety priorities?
- FDA could poll of states/industry to identify feed safety priorities
- FDA could establish feed safety database that states could access.

Question 5) We have modified the definition of risk-based. Is the new definition more understandable?

- Remove last sentence fro definition does not really apply to definition.
- Second sentence of March 2004 draft definition better.

