

Monthly FAEA Report (09/26/2020)

Highlights

BFSA: Bangladesh Food Safety Authority has made arrangements to conduct a foundation training program for its newly recruited food safety officers. In-addition, the food safety regulation drafting committee is preparing regulations on product recalls & withdrawals and on Hotel & Restaurant food Hygiene. They have compiled comments and feedback received from all the stakeholders for review and consideration in revising the regulations.

DLS: Department of Livestock Services (DLS) organized a four-day training session on the Upazila-to-Community (U2C) and Bangladesh Animal Health Intelligence System (BAHIS) for 72 officers.

Codex: BSTI attended the first ever virtual sessions of CAC43 as national codex contact point for Bangladesh.

Monthly Developments

Food Safety

Bangladesh Food Safety Authority (BFSA):

BFSA has made arrangement to conduct 45 days of a foundation training program for its newly recruited food safety officers. Foundation training modules were developed and include both administrative and technical content. The technical training component includes basic food safety protocols and food safety legislation, HACCP, food safety management system, Food safety regulatory control frameworks, Food safety acts, rules and regulations covering: Food Hygiene, Use of Food additives, sampling, testing, analysis, food labelling, toxins, contaminants, MRL's, and risk-based inspection systems. The Kansas State University and Alcumus team supported BFSA in developing the training program and technical training modules.

The Food Safety Regulation drafting committee is developing regulations on product recalls and withdrawals as well as on Hotel & Restaurant Food Hygiene. They sent the draft regulations to stakeholders and have received/compiled all the comments and feedback. They are now conducting a technical review of all the feedback for consideration in revising and finalizing the regulations.

Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institution (BSTI):

The proposed revised BDS 860 standard will repeal the existing national standard for Milk Powder and Cream Powder standard (BDS CAC 207:2008).

As background, the standard for "whole milk powder and skimmed milk powder" was first published in 1964 and subsequently revised in 2001. In 2008, the Codex standard (CXS2007:1999) for milk powder and cream powder was adopted as the Bangladesh standard superseding BDS 860:2012- whole milk powder and skimmed milk powder. However, based on comments from testing experts, the adopted standard was not suitable to confirm some safety parameters such as chemical, microbiological, agrochemicals, and veterinary drug residues. Thus, in order to address these inadequacies, the technical committee decided to re-adopt the previous standard BDS 860 as the current standard for Bangladesh.

Animal Health and Production

Department of Livestock Services:

The Department of Livestock Services (DLS) organized a four day training on the Upazila-to-Community (U2C) and on the Bangladesh Animal Health Intelligence System (BAHIS) for 72 Livestock officers.

- The Upazila-to-Community (U2C) is a strategic tool to empower communities of small farmers, including women who are often the custodians of backyard and small-scale livestock, by providing them with door to door animal healthcare services leading to the prevention of animal diseases, improved productivity, and safer food.
- The BAHIS is an evidence-based information system (under supervision of the DLS) that will be used as a management tool in controlling and preventing emerging and re-emerging animal diseases and other public health threats. The main goal of this BAHIS system is to collect and analyze data for making food and animal health safety decisions for both domestic and imported livestock products. (e.g: beef, pork, dairy products, etc.)

Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE):

No significance changes to report in DAE or PQW (Plant Quarantine Wing) regulations or policies.

Codex:

As the officially designated codex contact point for Bangladesh, BSTI formally attended the first ever virtual sessions of CAC43. Bangladesh gave their consensus to the Commission for adopting the ten standards and six new work proposals.

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