### **July Interim Report: Annex A**

Theme NZC Issues/Activities

#### Potential Risk(s)/Benefits

Existing information activity

# Regenerative Farming

This is conservation and rehabilitation approach to food and farming systems. It is not a specific practice itself but uses a variety of sustainable agriculture techniques in combination.

Overall risks:
Zoonoses (ZN),
Foodborne
disease (FBD)\*,
chemical
contamination
(CC), antimicrobial
residue (AMR)

- 1. Mixed arable/livestock
- 2. Rewilding
- 3. Restoration of wetlands / peat lands to store carbon
- Actions for soil health (poultry litter/manure, crop rot)
- Reduced inputs (fertiliser and pesticides) and changing usage.
- 6. Reduced plastics link to Food Contact materials work?
- 7. Anaerobic digestion

- Foodborne disease (e.g. E.coli) in arable.(FBD)
- Tuberculosis in cattle (increase/decrease?)(ZN), Bird Flu (ZN) & livestock eating wild plants.(CC)
- 3. Changes to water runoff.(CC, ZN, FBD)
- 4. Use of poultry litter/manure. (FBD, AMR), Biochar(CC), poor crop rotation management leading to mycotoxins (CC), livestock & crop rotations (FBD, CC), more legumes risk of spoilage in storage (CC).
- 5. Reduced runoff of nutrients and pesticides.
- 6. More prone to spoilage (FBD, CC)
- 7. Pathogens risk if it survives process? AMR in feedstock (FBD, AMR)

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AMR.

#### New Technology Farming

This includes indoor agriculture (IA) and vertical farming -- is a technology-based approach toward food production taking place within an enclosed growing structure such as a greenhouse or plant factory to control growth conditions.

#### Overall risks:

Zoonoses, Foodborne Diseases, Chemical Contamination

- 1. Reuse of water?
- 2. How will systems age?
- 3. Less human contact with crop
- 4. Changes to nutritional profile of crops / plants grown in new systems?
- 5. Do new entrants / micro businesses require advice / support to avoid food safety issues?

- 1. On crops? (FBD & CC)
- Where will there be risks of e.g. biofilms forming. (FBD)
- Improved hygiene? Can automated systems spot disease potential as quickly? (FBD)
- 4. How will this change availability of nutrients for consumers?
- 5. New kind of agriculture which combines traditional farming and industrial design, how do the balance of risks differ from either in alone? (FBD, CC, AMR)

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### Circular Agriculture

This looks to minimise inputs to food production, close nutrient loops and reduce negative discharges to the environment and valorise agri-food waste.

- Recycling food waste: animal feed
- 2. Recycling food waste: composting
- existing systems cope with an amplification of existing risks (botulism, swine fever, foot and mouth)?(FBD)

1. Who regulates? Can

2. Who regulates? What are the new risks? Can existing systems cope with an amplification of existing risks? (FBD), Are recycled additions to compost (such as chitin as a soil conditioner) regulated under existing rule? (CC)

Overall Risks:

Zoonoses,
Foodborne
Diseases,
Chemical
Contamination

- Existing quality on com
- Highly regulat feed hu food was animals

### **Changing** Livestock feed

For animals feed innovations are primarily aimed at reducing the carbon footprint of soy as a feed, but also there are initiatives aimed at using food waste and introducing supplements to reduce methane.

- 1. Replacement proteins (Soy replacement, food waste recycling, insect protein, etc?)
- 2. Supplements in animal feed, e.g. to reduce methane
- 1. Who regulates? Is the existing approvals process working?, Safety issues from the past: BSE, Swine fever, Foot & Mouth, Changed nutritional profile of meat from animals with new feeds / supplements?
- 2. -

Overall Risks:

Chemical contamination

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#### **Aquaculture**

Including active farming of fish and shellfish (salmon farms etc), fishing and harvesting of unfed sea/plants/animals that filter feed.

Overall Risks: Zoonoses, Foodborne Diseases, Radiation(RD), Chemical Contamination, Food Intolerance (FI)

- 1. Fish farming moving away from fishmeal and oil as protein and fat source (respectively) for feed (more source of omega-3).
- 2. Animal products/by products as a feed ingredient?
- 3. Cultivating Seaweed/molluscs/etc

- 1. Industry moved to plant protein concentrates, by-products of other processes. Fish meal is a potential source of salmonella, but this is managed through the feed production process and selection of suppliers.[FBD] Moving from fish meal and oil to other sources for feed reduces risk of heavy metal and POP contamination (CC).
- 2. Outside UK increasingly animal by-products used in feed. (ZN). Antibiotics may be used on land animals who go into feed, but risk reduced if a suitable withdrawal period is allowed before slaughter.(AMR)
- 3. Unfed aquaculture use static locations and feed on nutrients in water. Particularly prone to accumulate pollutants, if they are also in the water.[CC, RD] So location is very important.

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- 1. Novel Proteins in prepacked foods.
- 2. Using product labelling to sell to the consumer as sustainable or green
- If novel proteins cause allergies this should be labelled on the packaging. (AL)
- 2. If consumers use Green labelling to choose food products it should be

implications

Labelling

- Overall Risks:
- Allorgies

# Changes to packaging

Reduced or changes to packaging and food contact materials are aimed at achieving net zero and also at achieving many sustainability objectives.

Overall risks:

- Reduced traditional food packaging materials (e.g. plastic).
- 2. Changes to packaging materials and food contact materials (for example in pipes).
- Reduced packaging may not fully protect food from cross contamination (microbiological, chemical and of allergens)(FBD, CC, AL).
- 2. Alternative food packaging materials may not be as inert or strong so may split and lead to spoilage (FBD, CC), also food contact materials made from allergenic natural sources could

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## Gene Editing / Modification

 Of plants or animals for feed and food

Overall Risks:

Unknown

1. Same as with any modified food or feed: is it safe to eat, is it susceptible to particular diseases etc. Also animal welfare questions.

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1. Poor harvests or disruption due to climate change

methods turn out not to produce enough

Both 1&2 could lead to:

Increased food prices which

may lead to Food Fraud (AL),

Food Poverty(N). It may also

be tempting in extreme cases

to relax safety standards or

quality standards.

2. New net zero food

### **Food Shortages**

Overall Risks: Nutrition, Allergy \* Includes: Campylobacter, Listeria, Salmonella spp, C. botulinum, scrapie and E. coli