

Food Safety Control System: Past, Present and Future in China

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Abstract

The implementation of the Food Safety Law of the People's Republic of China since 2009 greatly promoted the application of the risk analysis framework in China. This paper is intended to review the evolution in China national food safety control system and nationwide progresses in risk monitoring/surveillance and risk assessment works, in which China National Centre for Food Safety Risk Assessment (CFSA, established in 2011) has played the role of technical support and guidance. The contribution of monitoring/surveillance and risk assessment to the development of risk management in China, including food safety standard system development, is described. However, in comparison with risk management needs and practices in developed countries, China should further strengthen capacity building in food safety monitoring/surveillance and risk assessment. Progress is particularly evident in carrying out food safety risk monitoring/surveillance and risk assessment work. Risk management work has somewhat improved, especially a step-wise approach was followed in reviewing, simplifying and integrating food safety standard based on risk assessment, leading to the integrated National Food Safety Standard (NFSS) framework, which anchored China NFSS in scientific evidence and created the sky for their future evolution.

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