Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs

AUTHENT NET

What will I get from Authent-net: A funder's perspective

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Defra

Forestry Commission England | NATURAL ENGLAND | Environment Agency

Misdescription of food

Basmati adulterators in UK pay heavy price

● Local Court Slaps Fine Of £8,000 On Two Cos

'Wild' fish found to be farmed

Ten per cent of samples wrongly labelled

Food labelling remains 'disturbing' a year after horse-meat scare

TAKEAWAY CHICKEN INJECTED WITH PORK

Burgers scandal: Meat found to contain 80% horsemeat found in latest sample

New tests reveal highest level of contamination found in the ongoing investigations

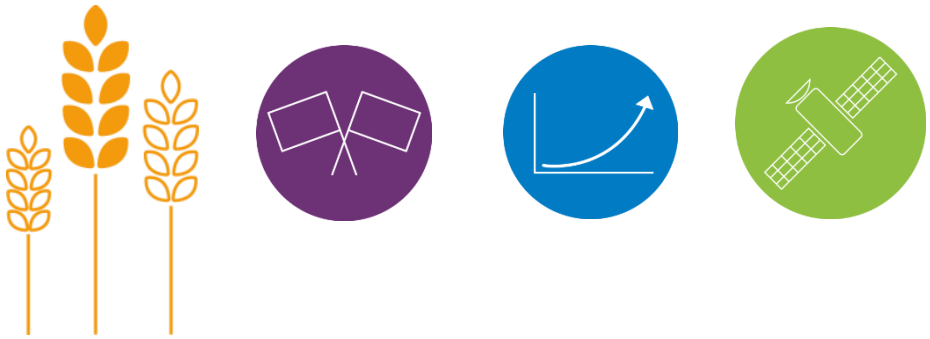
MARTIN HICKMAN

TUESDAY 05 FEBRUARY 2013

Fake vodka and Basmati rice seized in UK in food fraud crackdown

Policy drivers for the UK food authenticity programme

- Addressing H2020 societal challenges – ***Food security***, *sustainable agriculture and forestry, marine and maritime and inland water research, and the Bioeconomy.*
- *A food and farming sector that is competitive and productive, in global demand, **resilient**, sustainable and **trusted**.*
- Food that is trusted by the consumer
- Productivity, data and working internationally

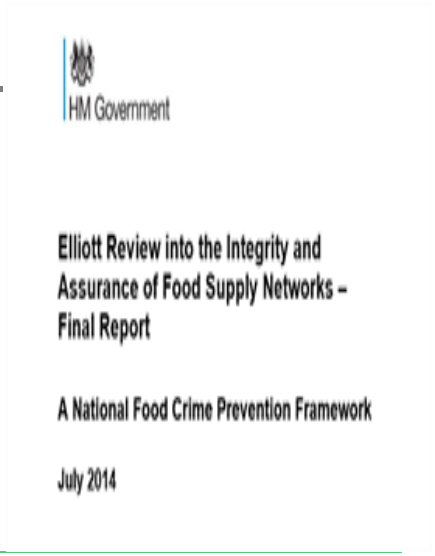


Policy drivers for the UK food authenticity programme

- Following **horsemeat** a number of recommendations were made for UK government (Elliott review). These included **supporting opportunities for greater pan-European co-ordination and collaboration to tackle food fraud.**
- We have complex, changing **global food chains**
- **consumers preferences** are **changing**
- driving **new types** of **food fraud**.
- We need to stay ahead of the curve and work together.
- Need to **maximise use /impact of budgets**

…..against a backdrop of decreasing resources

and increased globalisation



FoodAuthenticity
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Michael Walker weighs in on latest #foodallergy news and calls for an increase in actions taken
Food Authenticity Network
The Food Authenticity Network is a Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) initiative to help bring together those involved in food authenticity testing.
The network, recommended by the Elliot review "Integrity and Assurance of Food Supply Networks", aims to raise awareness of the tools available to check for mislabelling and food fraud and to ensure that the UK has access to a resilient network of laboratories providing fit for purpose testing to check for food authenticity so consumers can have confidence in the food they buy.
Food Authenticity Library
A library for food authenticity related documents is being developed. In the mean time, go to 'Research' to find links, where available, to research reports, authenticity surveys and standard
New to FoodAuthenticity?
Check out who can join and our terms of use and then
Sign Up Here
Problems signing up?
Check out this short guide.
Forthcoming Events
Government Chemist conference

Previous collaborative research

- EU framework projects (TRACE and FOOD INTEGRITY) and on a small number of individual projects.

Case study – gelatine in meat

- EU problem
- inter-laboratory trial to validate a new proteomics method to determine the species origin of gelatine injected into meat
- involved labs in six countries and EU Commission
- Challenging - to find these other labs and secure support from the relevant government department/ministry
- There needs to be a simpler, more effective way to do this type of collaborative research across countries

How does Authent-net help?

- The landscape for food fraud research across the EU is currently complex to understand, fragmented and inaccessible

- As a funder of authenticity research we don't know:
  - which countries have a research programme/funding on food authenticity,
  - how that funding works on a national level
  - what areas they are funding
  - what their future strategic priorities are
  - what their lab capabilities/areas of expertise are
  - if they would be interested in working collaboratively on issues.

- Before authent-net we didn't have a clear picture of who our counterparts were in other MS (other funding bodies) or have any established mechanism for contacting them

What are the benefits to me from being involved in Authent-net ?

- Know who my counterparts are –
- link to the right people with the right knowledge
- A ‘safe space’ to share information, partner
- Be part of a network to collaborate on research
- co-ordinate with other funders with similar priorities
- maximise investment and impact
- Avoiding duplication
- Aligning research priorities to support food labelling law

Authent-net will provide a shared approach, knowledge and the tools to help deliver collaborative research to better tackle food fraud

- **Network hub**
- to understand what the priorities are in other countries, who funds what, how they prioritise, where their expertise lies, what commodities the are interested in.
- Brings together people to align strategic priorities and development of a common understanding of the issues.
- Have the opportunity to shape a strategic research agenda for Europe on food authenticity research.

Preliminary funder discussions, Prague 2016
Funder priorities

- Who are the funders in this area? (Gov, institutes, other?)
- How does funding works at a national level?
- Building not duplicating – bring together Food Integrity outputs into one place
- Safe space to network, collaborate, partner
- WPs need to connect – ‘golden thread’ focussed on aligning research priorities
- Connectivity between funder priorities, researchers and gaps
- Strategic Research Agenda a priority

Funder discussion

WP ‘asks’

- WP1 – mapping capability a priority (rapid access to methods/expertise); less focus on mapping legislation
- WP2 – need to know who we are, national funding priorities and gaps
- WP3 – funders need a safe place/separate platform to network, build partnerships and collaborate; and shape SRA; build a ‘funder network’
- Workshops – funders/policy makers – can be the same!
- WP5 – target audiences for dissemination?

WP ‘asks’ - FARNH

- WP4 – FARNH
- stick to being a data-base!
- Needs to be simple/user friendly for funders
- It needs to add value /bring existing databases together - not create a new one (‘one stop shop’).
- Credible and trusted source of information
- Like commodity reports
- Include info on lessons learned from previous enforcement cases?
- Accessing intelligence? Coordinated links to existing info
- Long term sustainability - keeping it up to date after the project?