



Voedsel en Waren Autoriteit
*Ministerie van Landbouw, Natuur en
Voedselkwaliteit*

Ate Jelsma

Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority
Division Veterinary Affairs,
Department of Supervision and Development
The Netherlands

ate.jelsma@vwa.nl



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Pilot projects and modernisation of meat inspection: what lessons to be learned?

- Background
- Pilot project NL risk-based meat inspection pigs and results
- Pilot project poultry NL future
- Conclusions



Risk-based meat inspection pigs

In the past: - high risk, diseases like tuberculosis, older animals

Now: - low risk, young animals, all the same age, new diseases

Basic Hyg. Package, Regulation 854/2004, ANNEX I, section IV, Chapter IV, point B 2:

“the competent authority may decide, on the basis of epidemiological or other data from the holding, that fattening pigs housed under controlled housing conditions in integrated production systems since weaning need, in some or all of the cases referred to in paragraph 1, only undergo visual inspection”

- Implemented in NL and start with pilot project in 2006; results were available for the development of Regulation 1244/2007
- Commission Regulation (EC) No 1244/2007: visual inspection (no palpation, no incisions) possible for fattening pigs



Pork Supply Chain Meat Inspection

Pilot project with different procedures:

- Procedure Food Chain Information (FCI)
- Procedure control of Mycobacterium avium
- Procedure visual p.m. inspection
- Supervision VWA
- Investigation on Salmonella in throat area before and after incision of lymph nodes of the head



Procedure FCI

Based on IKB system of the industry:

- FCI: items of Regulation 853/2004, Annex II, Section III, point 3, a) till h)
- Water, pest control
- Animal health control and animal movements

Additional on top of IKB:

- Central database slaughterhouse
- Feed origin
- Outdoor control management
- Control on compost (not used)
- History of treatment with antibiotics last two months before slaughtering
- Historical data of previous pathological findings at slaughter (pleurisy, pneumonia, liver and skin disorders).



Procedure *M. Avium*

M. Avium is a critical control point on the farm, and is input for Procedure *M. Avium* :

- Blood sera for verification on *M. avium*
- Registration of all the results gives a Risk Profile on farmer level (BRP)
- Results from serology are used to improve the conditions on the farm (targeted follow-up)

Three categories BRP:

- Neutral, low and high with different decisions

Supervision of control is based on:

- Samples are taken under supervision of competent authority



Procedure visual p.m. inspection pigs

Allowed to visual inspection:

- IKB status/FCI information available in the slaughterhouse, 24 hours before slaughtering
- BRP M. Avium is neutral or low
- Selection of pigs from farmers with more than the average of deviations of lungs/pleura for further investigation on antibiotics (VWA)
- Only fattening pigs
- Visual inspection, and for all non-confirmities followed by also “traditional” inspection p.m. carcass in rest with incisions of heart, lung and lymph nodes of the head



Procedure supervision VWA

VWA audit and verification:

- Audit by the competent authority of the private procedures (procedures FCI and *M. Avium*)
- Verification at farm level

Verification by official veterinarian of the VWA at slaughterhouse level

- Check on FCI
- Check on *M. Avium* status with Risc Profil level (BRP)
- Check on program of samples blood-sera and traceability of samples
- Check on decisions made by visual p.m. inspectors



Standard visual inspection

- Same standard as used for traditional inspection
 - Inspection tasks
 - Inspection decisions (pathological defects and hygienic slaughtering)

Results of check on performing the p.m inspection in traditional and visual inspection (pork supply chain meat inspection) during and after pilot: no difference in results and both systems fulfil the standard (inspection task: 5% and path. defects and hyg. slaughtering: both below 2%)



Results risk based investigation on antibiotics during the pilot

Significant more carcasses positive on targeted screening (Z^* level 2,47)

Significant more carcasses positive on post screening (Z^* level 2,05)

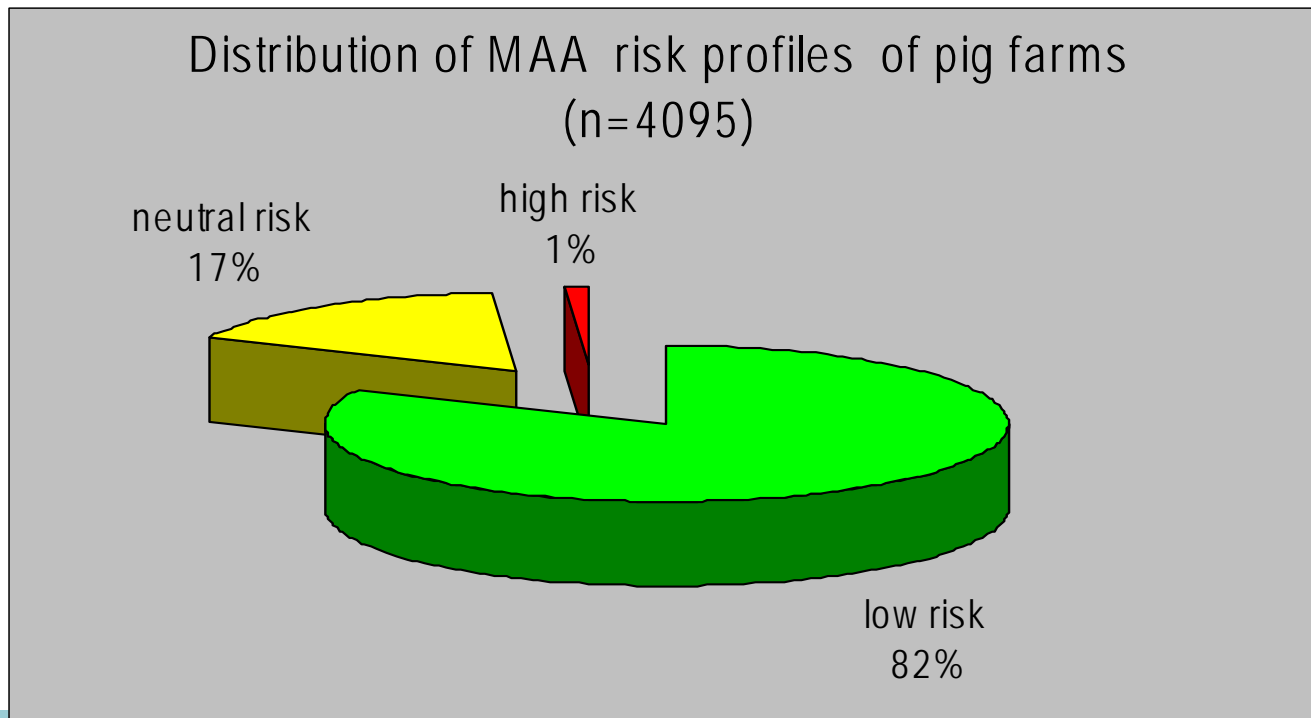
Conclusion:

Selection of pigs from farmers with more than the average of deviations of lungs/pleura gives for further investigation on antibiotics more positive results



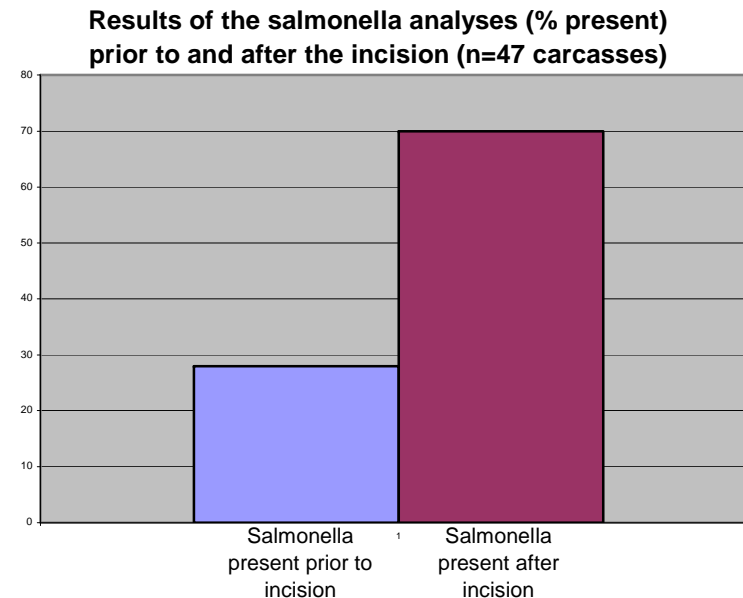
Risk profiling farms for MA after the pilot (2007)

- High risk farms
- >> traditional inspection
 - >> control program at farm
 - >> access to supply chain inspection after repeated negative testing





Effect on incision In. nodes on cross contamination during the pilot





Pilot in poultry sector in NL

Structure poultry slaughterhouses in NL:

- Big slaughterhouses: 15 (95 % of the production), they will not be a part of the pilot.

Pilot target group:

- Medium sized slaughterhouses: 8 (4,9 % of the production)
- Small sized slaughterhouses 5 (0,1 % of the production)



Pilot-idea

Medium sized slaughterhouses:

- Ante mortem: FCI check - *OV* and physical check – *OA* (*under supervision of the OV*).
- Post mortem: *Staff of the company*;
Check on performance of Post mortem inspection will be done by *OA, several hours a day (under supervision of the OV)*
- Integrated quality system of Industry (IKB): Question is if IKB (private quality system) system can be the basis for a risk based system.
IKB will be tested by an audit during the pilot in relation to FCI and Salmonella/Campylobacter as basis for information from the primary sector.



Pilot-idea

Small sized poultry slaughterhouses

- Ante mortem: FCI check - *OV* and physical check – *OA* (*under supervision of the OV*)
- Post mortem: *Staff of the company*
Check on performance of Post mortem inspection will be done by *OA, regular (under supervision of the OV)*.
- Role of IKB for risk based system questionable! IKB probably not used and cannot be the basis for a risk based system.
Interview-technique of FBO's will be followed: a risk based approach directly to the owners of this establishments.

Pilot-idea will not have changes in supervision on animal health and animal welfare.



Pilot

Start of the pilot foreseen at 1-1-2011:

Notification procedure first, pilot on 4 selected poultry slaughterhouses: there is enough interest from the industry.

Questions during and after the pilot:

- Results from VWA audits on HACCP/ inspections in relation to approval/ results ante- and post mortem inspection: results of 2011 will be compared with results of 2006-2010
- Can IKB improve risk control system primary sector?
- Study at small establishments to assess whether a specific method of production is possible that could lead to a product with less microbiological risk (sampling during the pilot)



Lessons learned and conclusions

Pilot project visual inspection

- Risk analysis on EU, national, slaughterhouse and farm level
- Risk profiling, information used from farm history
- Risk based investigations on antibiotics
- Tasks of OV are changing from inspections to auditing
- Implications for export third countries; scientifically based important!

Pilot project poultry for the future:

- More attention on the farm: can IKB improve the food safety system?
- Delegate tasks from *OV* to *OA* (*OV* has supervision)
- Results of the pilot: arguments for further change?



Lessons learned and conclusions

General lessons:

- Good cooperation government and industry necessary: shared responsibilities!
- Open mind!
- Global world: can make it complex.

But pilots can lead to:

- better ideas for the future
- conclusion that new systems can show that they have an advantage in terms of food safety ----- like visual inspection.



Thank you!

ate.jelsma@vwa.nl

