



# Emerging risk identification systems

safe

FOODS

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# Schedule

- EU-initiatives
- International initiatives
- Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed



# EU-initiatives

## EU-initiatives

### ■ SAFEFoodERA

- EU-funded project focused on food safety
- Bringing together national and EU initiatives
- “Emerging risks” is one of the topics
  - Pro-active identification of emerging risks
    - Expert database
    - Strategies for prognosis

### ■ PeriApt and EMRISK: see separate presentation by H. Marvin



# EU-initiatives

## EU-initiatives (contd.)

- European Commission
  - Scientific Committee on Emerging and Newly-Identified Health Risks (SCENIHR)
  - Focuses on emerging health risks in general
  - Documents on website, e.g. nanotechnologies
- EUROSTAT “Food Safety Statistics”
  - Linkage of all kinds of data on food production, trade and safety data from EU and national authorities, as well as public health data
  - Potentially helpful for identification of emerging risks



# EU-initiatives

## EU-initiatives (contd.)

- European Center for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)
  - EU networks for epidemiological surveillance and rapid response
    - Transnational issues
  - Coordination of EU surveillance projects
    - *E.g.*, antimicrobial resistance, EHEC etc.
  - Early Warning and Response System



# EU-initiatives

## EU-initiatives (contd.)

- UK DEFRA Horizon Scanning
  - Department of Environment and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)
  - “Future risks,”
  - Identification of issues (media scan, inputs from the public)
    - Food production one of 5 priority areas
  - Redefinition of strategy soon to come



# International initiatives

## International initiatives

### ■ WHO

- INFOSAN (National Food Authorities)
  - Global Alert Outbreak and Response Network
  - Disease relevant for international public health
  - Expert advice, emergency response, lab support
- Global Public Health Intelligence Network
  - Screening Internet sites for information on outbreaks



# International initiatives

## International initiatives

- (WHO, contd.)
  - FOODWEB (linking surveillance networks)
  - Surveillance Program for the Control of Food-borne Infections and Intoxications in Europe
  - Mediterranean Zoonoses Control Program
  - Global Salm Surv (Salmonella)





# International initiatives

## International initiatives

- OIE – International Animal Health Organization
  - Animal Health Codes
    - Terrestrial, aquatic
    - Outbreaks of animal diseases with possible consequences for other member states
    - Including emerging diseases besides listed diseases
  - Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TAD)
    - In preparation with FAO and WHO
    - Exchange of information with each other and other authorities
    - Early warning, e.g. in developing countries



# International initiatives

## International initiatives

### ■ FAO

- Global Information and Early Warning Service (GIEWS)
  - Food security
  - Various information sources, e.g. trade, satellite
  - Cooperation with authorities and FAO FIVIMS (Food Insecurity and Vulnerability Information Mapping Systems)
  - Emergency response teams



# Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF)

- Centralized system
  - Required by General Food Law 178/2002/EC
  - Members: EU, EFTA, Commission,
- Notifications
  - “Alerts” of importance for other member states
    - Actions can be taken
  - “Information” that can be contained by member
  - Weekly and annual reports on website
  - Reported hazards are known

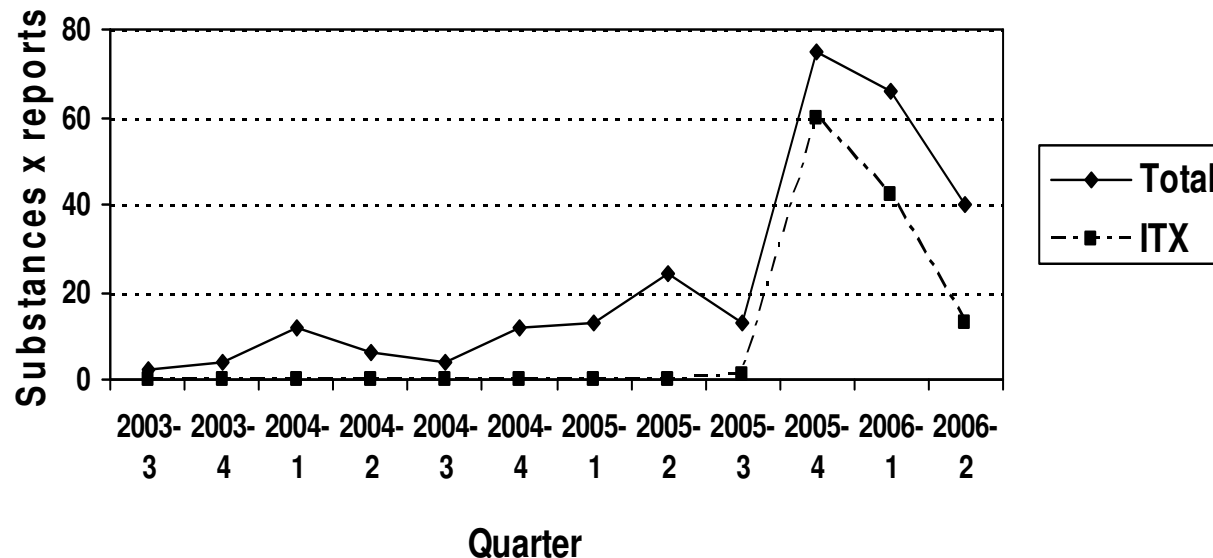


# Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF)

- Research study:
  - Can data be used for trend analysis
    - Early recognition of trends possible?
  - Links between hazards and other parameters?
    - Certain regions of origin?
    - Certain products ?
  - Three-years data, 8416 records (next slides)



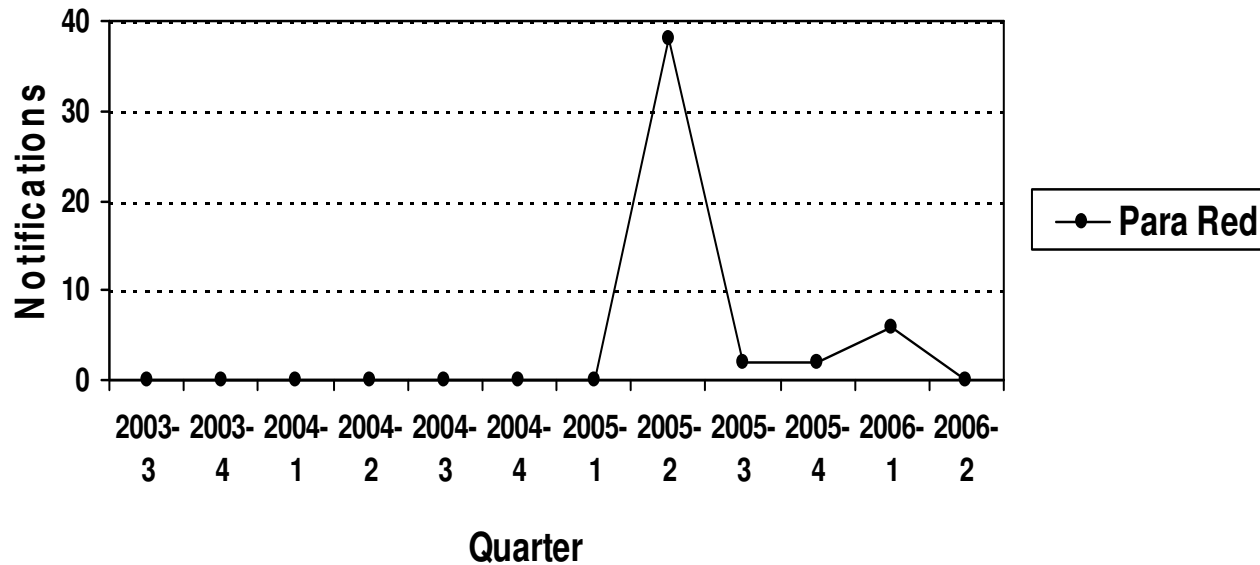
# Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF)



- Increasing trend towards reports on food contact substances
  - Cutlery and other kitchenware, particularly from China
  - ITX reports (packaging of juices etc., EU)

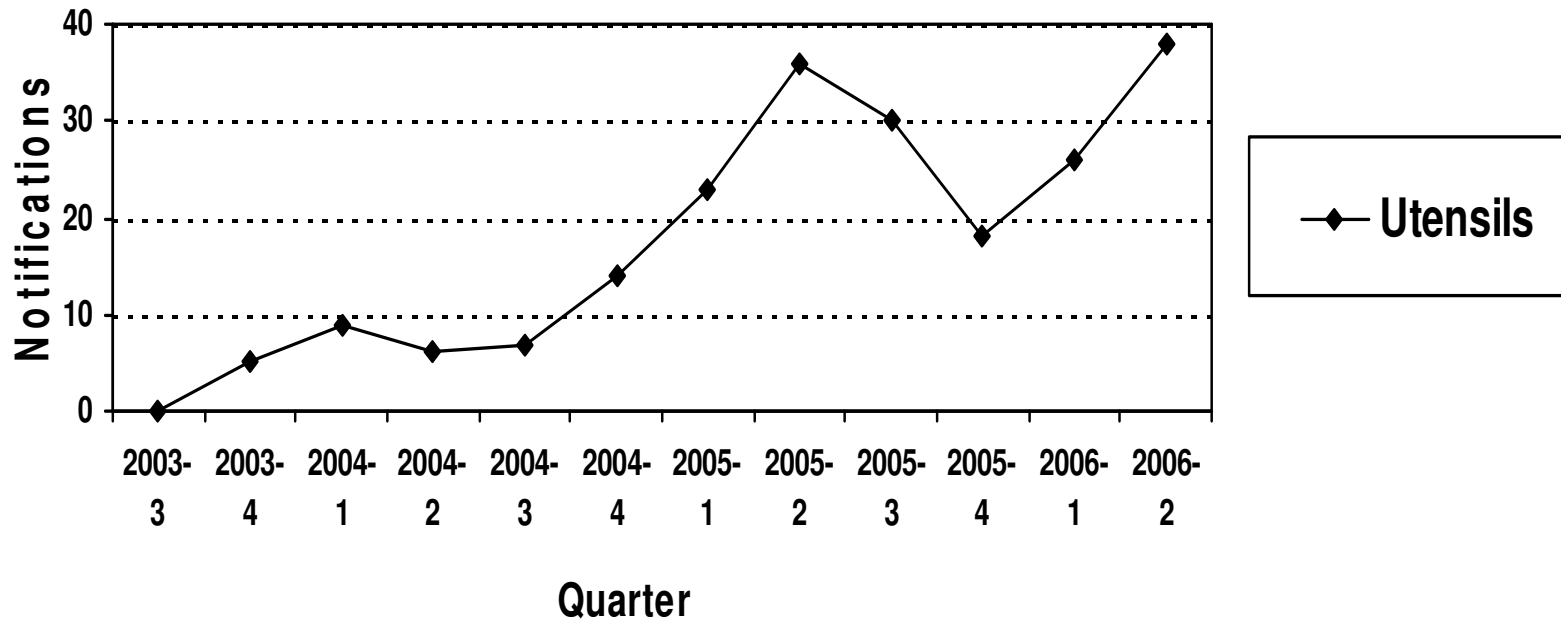


# Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF)



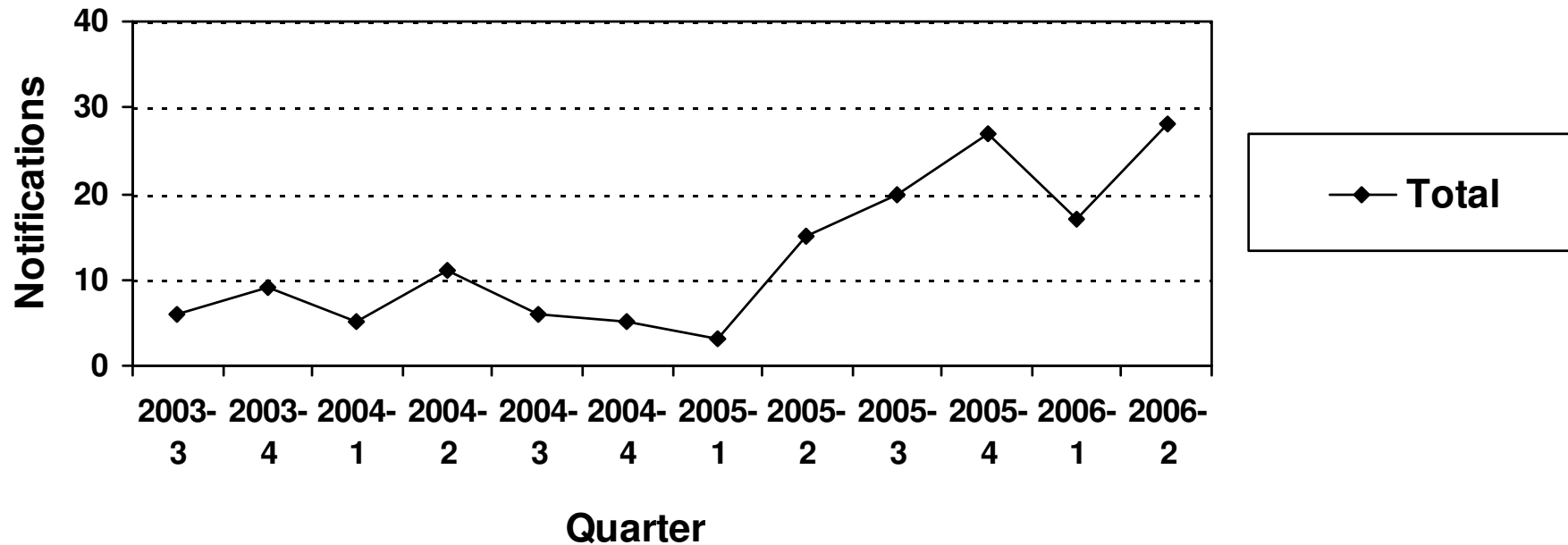
- Blip in occurrence of dye Para Red
  - Mainly in spices and condiments from European countries (EU and non-EU)

# Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF)



- Increasing trend in reports on utensils
  - Migration of heavy metals or organic substances used in plastic production, from utensils originating from China

# Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF)



- Increasing trend in reports on fraudulent issues
  - Mainly lack of authorizations, illegal import
  - Sometimes multiple reports on same type of product



# Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF)

## Conclusions on RASFF:

- In most conspicuous cases, the reports had already given rise to measures
- Combination with other data would be useful, such as strived for by EuroStat



**Thanks!**  
**Any questions?**

