

# COUNTRY PROFILE - PART 2 ICELAND

**Current status of progress in implementation of  
corrective actions to recommendations issued by  
the EFTA Surveillance Authority**

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## INTRODUCTION

This part 2 of the Icelandic country profile has been drawn up by the EFTA Surveillance Authority (“the Authority”) to present in a summary format the current status of progress in implementation of corrective actions by Iceland to recommendations issued by the Authority in recent years.

The Authority works to assure that effective and efficient official control systems, related to food and feed safety, animal health and welfare, are in place. This is done mainly by carrying out audits (referred to as missions until 2020) to Iceland and issuing audit reports including recommendations based on main shortcomings identified. Iceland is requested to present plans for corrective actions to each recommendation and these plans are evaluated and their implementation monitored by the Authority through a number of follow-up activities. The information in this part of the country profile has been compiled on the basis of a general review mission which was, due to coronavirus pandemic, carried out remotely by the Authority in co-operation with Icelandic competent authorities in November 2020 and on information received since then from the Icelandic authorities.

This part of the country profile is presented in two chapters:

Chapter 1 contains an overview of missions carried out by the Authority in Iceland from February 2016, including status assessment of all issued recommendations, followed by several sector specific sub chapters detailing status for corrective actions for recommendations reviewed in the general review mission to Iceland in November 2020.

Chapter 2 contains an overview of controls planned by the Authority to Iceland in 2021.

This part of the country profile is to be updated at regular intervals pursuant to the EFTA Surveillance Authority’s audits or additional relevant information being submitted by the Icelandic competent authorities.

Acronyms are used extensively throughout the text for the sake of brevity. A list of acronyms, abbreviations and special terms is given in Annex I.

## 1 Overview of missions and follow-up status of recommendations

The Authority regularly conducts missions to Iceland to evaluate compliance with relevant EEA legislation. In accordance with Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 then repealed and replaced by Regulation (EU) No 2017/625 on official controls performed to ensure the verification of compliance with feed and food law, animal health and animal welfare rules, EEA states are to take appropriate follow-up actions in the light of recommendations resulting from the Authority controls.

In relation to missions carried out by the Authority in Iceland, recommendations are issued in audit reports, addressing shortcomings identified where Iceland is requested to present action plans to the Authority, detailing the actions taken or planned to rectify the identified shortcomings. The Authority evaluates these action plans and systematically monitors their implementation through a number of follow-up activities including regularly conducting general review missions. In the intervening period Iceland shall provide information on progress and, following assessment by Authority, this may result in an update of the follow-up status of recommendations. However, this is not immediately reflected in this Country profile. All Authority audit reports are available on the Authority website ([www.eftasurv.int](http://www.eftasurv.int)).

As Regulation (EU) 2017/625 (the Official Controls Regulation) and related acts are now incorporated in the EEA Agreement the Authority will follow up recommendations related to provisions of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 and of other repealed acts with reference to equivalent provisions of the Official Controls Regulation and related acts.

Table 1 gives an overview of missions carried out by the Authority from February 2016 until March 2020. Table 2 presents an overview of number and status of all issued recommendations from Authority missions conducted in the same period, including assessment of status of progress. The aim is to provide a summary of progress on the implementation of recommendations. In the following subchapters related to specific control systems, only open recommendations addressed during the general review mission in November 2020 are listed indicating the Authority's assessment of actions taken by Iceland.

For the purpose of assessment the following terms are used and defined as follows:

Action taken: Appropriate measures to address the recommendation have been taken.

No longer relevant: For administrative, technical or legal reasons follow-up of the recommendation is no longer appropriate, or for administrative reasons further follow-up is done in relation to a recommendation issued on a more recent mission.

In progress: Appropriate measures to address the recommendation have been initiated but not all of the measures have been implemented.

Action still required: Appropriate measures to address the recommendation have not been initiated.

Incorrect application (INC): Appropriate measures to address the recommendation have not been taken and the follow-up of the recommendation has been referred to an incorrect application case.

Recommendations classified as "In progress" or "Action still required" do not necessarily require any immediate specific legal or administrative action on the part of the Authority but these recommendations will remain the subject of monitoring by the Authority to assess

progress. On the other hand where the Authority considers the situation warrants additional action on its part, it takes appropriate additional measures.

*Table 1: Overview of missions to Iceland from February 2016 until March 2020 where recommendations have been issued.*

<b>Mission ID</b>	<b>Topic</b>
2015/ICE/1	VMP and residues
2016/ICE/9	Post-slaughter traceability
2017/ICE/3	Feed safety
2017/ICE/4	Import and TRACES
2017/ICE/7	Animal by-products
2018/ICE/1	National Audit System
2018/ICE/4	Anti-microbial resistance
2019/ICE/1	Animal health in aquaculture
2019/ICE/3	Organic production and labelling
2019/ICE/4	Hygiene in milk and meat
2020/ICE/2	Ready-to-eat food

*Table 2: Overview of status of recommendations from Authority missions from February 2016 to March 2020 (status after the General review mission in November 2020)*

The individual open recommendations which were addressed in the general review mission carried out by the Authority in Iceland from 9 to 20 November 2020 are presented in the following chapter for each control system. The recommendations which were closed due to appropriate measures taken to address them before the general review mission were not discussed.

A separate follow-up mission was planned in May 2020 for certain recommendations related to official controls of bivalve molluscs. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, this mission was postponed. Iceland was requested to provide written information on the actions taken by May 2020. In addition, Iceland provided further information in October 2020 in the reply to the pre-mission document of the general review mission. This information is included in section 1.2.1 Animal health below.

Control system (Number of missions)	Number and status of recommendations					
	No.	Action taken	No longer relevant	In progress	Action still required	Incorrect application
Animal health (1)	15	8		7		
Food of animal origin (3)	21	11	1	9		
Import controls animals, food of animal origin (1)	12	6		6		
Feeding stuffs and animal nutrition (1)	8	6		1		1
Transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (0)						
Animal by products (1)	12			8	3	1
Veterinary medicines and residues, Antimicrobial resistance (2)	16	15				1
Foodstuffs, food hygiene, imports of food of plant origin, and pesticides (0)						
Animal welfare (0)						
National audit system(1)	2			2		
Organic production (1)	11	6		5		
<b>Total (11)</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>

## HORIZONTAL RECOMMENDATIONS

### 1.1.1 National audit system

In the period from February 2016 to March 2020, the Authority has completed one mission in relation to National audit system. Both recommendations issued in relation to this mission were identified to be addressed in a general follow-up mission in November 2020.

Mission ID 2018/ICE/1 Mission to Iceland from 15 to 19 January 2018 in order to evaluate the national audit system		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
Rec 1: The competent authority should ensure that there is a systematic risk-based approach for the development of the audit programme and the review of the audit process to better achieve the objectives of Article 4(6) of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004.	<p>In response to the draft mission report the MAST informed the Authority that the documented process VLY-010 Internal Audit Programs – MANAP and Yearly Programme, will be reviewed where a systematic risk-based approach of the audit programs will be added in the document. Furthermore, a risk model will be developed which will be used for systematic evaluation of risk when developing Audit Programmes. The risk-based approach will be documented before 1 September 2018 and the model fully developed before 1 February 2019. The review of the audit process will be ensured by necessary revision of the documented guideline, LBE-035 Improvements – holistic process, followed by effective implementation. The revision will be carried out before 1 September 2018 and the necessary implementation will be finished before 1 February 2019.</p> <p>In October 2018 MAST informed the Authority that the documented process VLY-010 Internal Audit Programs – MANAP and yearly programme has been reviewed to include a systematic risk-based approach to the making of the audit programs. The process has been published in the Quality Manual on MASTs website.</p> <p>In March 2019 MAST informed the Authority that a documented model for creating a formal risk-based approach for the development of the audit programme has not been established yet, because of the lack of time and resources. A plan has however been made and accepted by MAST's Quality Council (QC) for increased focus on this task in 2019. MAST's Quality Manager has participated in a Nordic WG of lead internal auditors and information has been collected on different approaches and structures of risk assessment models for audits. MAST is considering to set up a working group to assist in this project. A new deadline was set for 1.1.2020.</p>	In progress

	<p>The procedure LBE-035 has been discussed in the Quality Council but has not been updated. In the coming months the Quality Manager will prepare reports for the QC on internal and external audits carried out by or on MAST in 2018 and also on other parts of the whole quality system described in LBE-035. Thus, the procedure will not be amended but different parts of the system analyzed in a targeted way each year.</p> <p>In August 2019 MAST informed the Authority that MAST's QM has in the past few months cooperated and consulted with representatives from Sweden and Finland on the development of risk based models for internal audits and this work will continue in the next few months. One result of this work is a working plan for the coming months including several steps such as collecting information about different systems in various EU MS and analysing information from DG Sante F report on audits 2018-6810, collecting various documents (MANCP, legislation, reports, etc.), looking into the new OCR, analyzing provisions of other legislation, establishing an in-house WG for risk assessment, collecting information from official inspectors at MAST as well as management, creating a summary/overview of the results of previous internal audits and finally it is foreseen to further describe the risk universe, create the risk based model and prepare working procedure for the whole process. With all other ongoing tasks MAST considered more reasonable to set the deadline for completing all this work for the end of 2020.</p> <p>In June 2020 MAST informed the Authority that the work has progressed in developing a risk-based model for the development of internal audit programmes. A plan is being drafted for various parts of the project such as what data needs to be gathered, which processes to plan for (such as interviews with inspectors and experts in official controls, sending out a survey, creating a working group with different actors etc.). The official controls carried out by MAST and the LCAs have also been listed up and divided into different sectors and the EU Regulation on official control has also been analyzed to document the requirements made by the legislation to the Competent Authorities carrying out official controls on food safety, plant health, feed, animal health and welfare. Various models from different EU States have also been studied to help in the process to create a model that fits the Icelandic system in the best way. Two initial draft documents for the above mentioned work (Plan for developing a risk-based model_DRAFT and Risk Assessment of internal audits-Audit universe and legislation_DRAFT) were attached to the reply. MAST foresee that this project could be completed in 2021.</p>	
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	<p>In October 2020 MAST informed the Authority that further progress has been made in preparing the development of a risk-based model for audits. A survey, consisting of 51 questions, has been created and will be sent out to all personnel carrying out official controls at MAST. The Survey is currently being reviewed by MAST directors. The intended collection of information with interviews will be replaced by this survey. MAST explained that a working group for further development of the model will be established at the end of the year.</p> <p>In January 2021 MAST informed the Authority that a document has now been created in the quality manual of MAST which is intended to describe the work progress in creating a risk based model/matrix for internal audits. A working group will be established in the coming months when the Covid situation has improved. The time limit to respond to the abovementioned survey is end of January. So far 28 replies have been received. The data will be used as an input to the work of the working group.</p> <p><b>Assessment: Actions to address the recommendation are in progress.</b></p>	
<p>Rec 2: The competent authority should ensure that the audits assess whether activities and related results are implemented effectively and are suitable to achieve objectives in line with Article 2(6) of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004.</p>	<p>In response to the draft mission report the MAST informed the Authority that In-house training for internal auditors will be conducted in April 2018. Auditing effectiveness and suitability will be included in the training followed by necessary guidelines revision/development. In 2018 and 2019 the aim is to regard them as a pilot phase for auditing effectiveness and suitability. Audits which are planned in 2018 will all be focused both on compliance and effectiveness. The year after, 2019, audits will also cover suitability together with compliance and effectiveness. 2020 will therefore be the first year to conduct satisfactory audits which fully meet the requirement of Article 2(6) of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004.</p> <p>In October 2018 MAST informed the Authority that the in-house training of five internal auditors took place in May 2018. Auditing effectiveness and suitability was emphasized during the training. Other tasks referred to in the table of corrective actions in the final report of the mission are ongoing.</p> <p>In March 2019 MAST informed the Authority that it should be noted that the deadline for recommendation 2 is 31.12.20 so the work on this part is still in process. However, the agenda for the in-house training of internal auditors carried out in May 2018 and list of training materials which is a set of presentations based on BTSF courses is provided. Guidelines for the verification of effectiveness of official controls are currently being prepared. The text taken</p>	<p>In progress</p>

	<p>from the audit plan for 2019 shows that assessment of the effectiveness of official controls is always included in the audit objectives.</p> <p>In August 2019 MAST informed the Authority that no further work has been carried out regarding this task and it is a bit difficult to see how this recommendation could be closed on MAST's behalf since this is a continuous task in internal audits.</p> <p>In June 2020 MAST informed the Authority that to further support audits to assess the effectiveness and suitability of control systems and activities draft guidelines have been prepared to support the auditors and to ensure the coordination of their work even further. The draft has recently been distributed to auditors for comments and feedback and further work on the document will continue in the next few months. They should be finalized before the end of the year but could be support material in the two internal audits to be carried out in the second half of this year. This could be used to further improve the document. A document 'Evaluation of effectiveness and suitability of control systems_DRAFT' is attached.</p> <p>In October 2020 MAST informed the Authority that the draft guidelines on auditing effectiveness and suitability have been updated but further comments are awaited from all auditors. The Covid situation has severely affected the internal audit programme this year with only one audit to be carried out (probably) and thus no training or team work of auditors has taken place this year.</p> <p>In January 2021 MAST informed the Authority that the guidelines for internal auditors regarding the verification of effectiveness and suitability have been updated and published in MAST QM (LBE-192). No additional training of auditors has taken place in the past few months and no audits carried out.</p> <p><b>Assessment: Actions to address the recommendation are in progress.</b></p>	
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## SECTORAL RECOMENDATIONS

### 1.1.2 Animal health

In the period from February 2016 to March 2020, the Authority has completed one mission in relation to Animal health. Out of a total of 15 recommendations issued in relation to this mission, 15 were identified to be addressed in a general follow-up mission in November 2020. A separate follow-up mission was planned in May 2020 for the recommendations related to official controls of bivalve molluscs. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, this mission was postponed. The recommendations No 2, 11, 12, 14 and 15 were not discussed during the General review mission, however, additional information provided by Iceland is included in the table below.

Mission ID 2019/ICE/1 Mission to Iceland from 11to 20 March 2019 in order to evaluate the animal health controls in relation to aquaculture animals and official controls of live bivalve molluscs		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
Rec 1: The competent authorities should ensure that all the relevant legislation concerning aquatic animal health is made part of its legal order, pursuant to Article 7 of the EEA Agreement.	<p>In May 2020 MAST informed the Authority that the Ministry's stance regarding EU decisions is as follows: EU decisions are generally not implemented into the national legislation unless upon a specific request from MAST. Naturally it is necessary to implement rules if authorities intend to make decisions that are directed at individuals or legal entities based on those rules. Such rules are generally found in directives and regulations. However, if a decision concerns the organization of supervision or relations with the EU (ESA), then it is generally considered that MAST can act in accordance with that decision and organize its work accordingly, without the need for implementation into the national legislation.</p> <p>In May 2020 MAST informed the Authority that they sent a formal letter on 17 November 2020, to the Ministry of Industry and Innovation requesting that the ministry will make necessary arrangements to implement Decision EU No. 2015/1554 into Icelandic legislation.</p> <p>As per information forwarded to the Authority during the General review mission in November 2020 a formal letter was sent to the National Reference Laboratory at Keldur on 13 November 2020, with instructions that Keldur must comply with the requirements set out in Decision EU No. 2015/1554 as regards diagnostic</p>	In progress

Mission ID 2019/ICE/1 <b>Mission to Iceland from 11 to 20 March 2019 in order to evaluate the animal health controls in relation to aquaculture animals and official controls of live bivalve molluscs</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
	<p>methods etc.</p> <p><b>Assessment: Actions to address the recommendation are in progress.</b></p>	
<p>Rec 2 :The competent authority should ensure that staff in charge of official controls receive appropriate training, and are kept up-to-date in their areas of competence in line with the requirements of Article 6 of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004.</p>	<p>In May 2020 MAST informed the Authority that inspectors have been designated for official control of dispatch centres and production areas. In house training of the inspectors is planned in June 2019. Training in sampling of seawater will be included in the training.</p> <p>In October 2019 MAST informed the Authority that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a three-person team from MAST did receive sample training for LBM, managed by specialist from Hafró and MAST. One producer attended the training.</li> <li>• a team of two inspectors will and have been performing inspections in production areas, one responsible for the food safety/hygiene part and one responsible for official controls of LBM.</li> <li>• a specific guidance has been made to assist inspectors in inspection of production areas and LBM establishments. The guidance is based on relevant legislation concerning LBM.</li> </ul> <p>In June 2020 MAST informed the Authority 06/2020 that the senior officer responsible for official control of LBM in production areas is also responsible for official control of the dispatch centres. He will check the establishment, documentation, sampling and monitoring. Inspectors within MAST have been designated for official control of dispatch centres and production areas for LBMs. In June 2019, a course was held in Reykjavik Harbour where they were trained in how to take sea samples with a dipnet (extractor hood) and a hose to detect and count algae. An algae Scientist from the Marine Research Institute (MRI) conducted the course assisted by the LBMs Senior Officer from MAST. Total number of participants in the course were five of which three inspectors from MAST, one researcher from the MRI and one producer of blue mussels. Part of the course was recorded on video in order for LBM producers and other interested parties to learn how to take sea samples representative of the water column (via self-study).The videos are available on MAST website.</p>	<p>In progress</p>

Mission ID 2019/ICE/1 <b>Mission to Iceland from 11 to 20 March 2019 in order to evaluate the animal health controls in relation to aquaculture animals and official controls of live bivalve molluscs</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
	<p>In October 2020 MAST informed the Authority that the mussel production in Iceland has been steadily declining in recent years. In 2019, only 85.7 tonnes were produced, and it seems to be declining more this year. There were three producers in 2019, and one of them produced only 0.5 tons (406 kg). The inspection manual for official control of dispatch centres was revised in 2019 and new chapter (chapter 8.7) with requirement on LBM was added. Despite certain inspectors (MAST) have been designated for official control of dispatch centres and production areas for LBMs, the senior officer has been responsible for official control of LBM in production areas and also for official control of the dispatch centres in 2020 and in 2019 with a exception of one dispatch centre were other inspector has been responsible, as the majority of production is fish products.</p> <p><b>Assessment: Actions to address the recommendation are in progress.</b></p>	
<p>Rec 3: The competent authorities should ensure that all aquaculture production businesses are duly authorised by the competent authority, in accordance with Article 4(1) of Directive 2006/88/EC, and that information included in the publicly available register required by Article 6 of Directive 2006/88/EC is in accordance with Annex II of that Directive as well as Annex I and II of Commission Decision 2008/392/EC.</p>	<p>In May 2019 MAST informed the Authority that all new and renewed operation licenses issued by the Icelandic Food and Veterinary Authority for aquaculture businesses will hereafter be issued in accordance of Directive 2006/88/EC.</p> <p>In January 2021 MAST informed the Authority that aAs regards operations licences already issued, the Icelandic Food and Veterinary Authority will issue an Annex to the licences. The annex will contain references to the relevant requirements in Directive 2006/88/EC (IS no.1254/2008) and the legal obligation on the entities to comply with the requirements. This work will be finished by 31.04.2021.</p> <p><b>Assessment: Actions to address the recommendation are in progress.</b></p>	<p>In progress</p>

Mission ID 2019/ICE/1 <b>Mission to Iceland from 11 to 20 March 2019 in order to evaluate the animal health controls in relation to aquaculture animals and official controls of live bivalve molluscs</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
<p>Rec 4: The competent authorities should ensure that all aquaculture production businesses are subjected to regular official controls, as required by Article 7 of Directive 2006/88/EC.</p>	<p>In May 2019 MAST informed the Authority that The Icelandic authority is aware of lack in the official health controls by means of visiting the mollusc farms and transporters followed up with an inspection report. The health surveillance of mollusc farms have been based on passive control with focus on taking the necessary samples for testing of the listed diseases in the Directive 2006/88/EC. Due to lack of veterinarians in the field of aquaculture animals the CA has prioritized the surveillance activity with focus on fish diseases. MAST is working on this matter in cooperation with the Ministry and will improve the inspection activity of the mollusc farms and transporters in the future. During regular official controls of dispatch centre it will be also checked if the FBO has procedures in place regarding reporting signs of disease in mollusc.</p> <p>In October 2019 MAST informed the Authority that a three-person team from MAST did receive sample training for LBM, managed by specialist from Hafró and MAST. One producer attended the training. A team of two inspectors will and have been performing inspections in production areas, one responsible for the food safety/hygiene part and one responsible for official controls of LBM. A specific guidance has been made to assist inspectors in inspection of production areas and LBM establishments. The guidance is based on relevant legislation concerning LBM.</p> <p>In June 2020 MAST informed the Authority that MAST and the Ministry have already taken an important step to meet this requirement. Following a financial support from the Ministry, MAST advertised a post for a new veterinarian in April and again in May 2020. The main task, among other things, is general surveillance and health monitoring of shellfish in the country. This new position will take effect on 1 September 2020, provided that any qualified veterinarian applies. A Senior Veterinary Officer for Aquaculture Animals has already visited one-third of the operating mollusc companies. Currently there are just three operating blue muscle companies in Iceland. In May 2020, the biggest blue muscle area was visited and inspected with focus on health aspects. At the same time an appropriate sample for disease testing was taken from the same harvesting area, i.e. 30 animals for <i>Marteilia refringens</i> examination by</p>	<p>Action taken</p>

Mission ID 2019/ICE/1 <b>Mission to Iceland from 11 to 20 March 2019 in order to evaluate the animal health controls in relation to aquaculture animals and official controls of live bivalve molluscs</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
	<p>histopathology. In addition, the same number of animals were also taken from the other main area for the same testing.</p> <p>In October 2020 MAST informed the Authority that as mentioned in June 2020, MAST advertised for a new veterinarian who shall e.g. monitor mollusc farming and transporters of live aquatic animals. This attempt failed and no qualified person applied for the position. The advertisement is under review and will be repeated as soon as possible. Lack of professional manpower is our main problem. Until MAST will get an additional fish health veterinarian, among other things to controls transporters and mollusc farms, the Senior Veterinary Officer for Aquatic Animals will conduct monitoring of these things.</p> <p>In January 2021 MAST informed the Authority that action has now finally been taken. From January 2021 an aquaculture veterinarian has been appointed to perform all necessary obligations for official controls and animal health surveillance in relation to mollusc farming. MAST considers that this gives MAST the opportunity to meet the set conditions and all aquaculture production businesses will be subjected to regular official controls, as required by Article 7 of Directive 2006/88/EC.</p> <p><b>Assessment: The actions taken have satisfactorily addressed the recommendation</b></p>	
<p>Rec 5: The competent authorities should ensure that mollusc farms are inspected in line with the indicated frequencies, as required by Article 10 of Directive 2006/88/EC.</p>	<p>In May 2019 MAST informed the Authority that The Icelandic authority is aware of lack in the official health controls by means of visiting the mollusc farms and transporters followed up with an inspection report. The health surveillance of mollusc farms have been based on passive control with focus on taking the necessary samples for testing of the listed diseases in the Directive 2006/88/EC. Due to lack of veterinarians in the field of aquaculture animals the CA has prioritized the surveillance activity with focus on fish diseases. MAST is working on this matter in cooperation with the Ministry and will improve the inspection activity of the mollusc farms and transporters in the future.</p> <p>In August 2019 MAST informed the Authority that MAST is working on this matter in cooperation with the Ministry and will improve the inspection activity of the</p>	Action taken

Mission ID 2019/ICE/1 Mission to Iceland from 11 to 20 March 2019 in order to evaluate the animal health controls in relation to aquaculture animals and official controls of live bivalve molluscs		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
	<p>mollusc farms in the future. MAST has been aware of not meeting the required official health control by means of active visits of the mollusc farms for a while, but the reason has been lack of specialized veterinarians. The health surveillance of mollusc farms has therefore been based on passive control with focus on taking the necessary samples for testing of the listed diseases in the Directive 2006/88/EC. Due to lack of veterinarians in the field of aquaculture animals the CA has prioritized the surveillance activity with focus on fish diseases.</p> <p>In June 2020 MAST informed the Authority that they advertised a post for a new veterinarian (see also recommendation 4) who will have the responsibility to inspect all active mollusc farms in line with the appropriate frequencies, as required by Article 10 of Directive 2006/88/EC.</p> <p>October 2020 – MATS made reference to reply to recommendation number 4.</p> <p>In November 2020 MAST informed the Authority that according to MAST's list of the "Risk-based animal health surveillance schemes" (last updated on 24 June 2020) the mollusc farms shall be inspected once every 2 years (Category III, low risk). This will be rectified in the published "Official list of aquaculture farms in Iceland" with next updating on the MAST's website in the end of the year.</p> <p>01.2021: In January 2021 MAST informed the Authority that action has now finally been taken. From January 2021 an aquaculture veterinarian has been appointed to perform all necessary obligations for official controls and animal health surveillance in relation to mollusc farming. MAST considers that this gives MAST the opportunity to meet the set conditions and all aquaculture production businesses will be subjected to regular official controls, as required by Article 7 of Directive 2006/88/EC. According to the list of the "Risk-based animal health surveillance schemes" (last updated on 6 January 2021) the mollusc farms shall be inspected 1 every year (Category III, low risk). This has been rectified in the published "Official list of aquaculture farms in Iceland".</p> <p><b>Assessment: The actions taken have satisfactorily addressed the recommendation</b></p>	



Mission ID 2019/ICE/1 <b>Mission to Iceland from 11 to 20 March 2019 in order to evaluate the animal health controls in relation to aquaculture animals and official controls of live bivalve molluscs</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
<p>Rec 6: The competent authorities should ensure that harvesting and disposal of carcasses in case of disease outbreaks are carried out in accordance with Article 33 and 34 of Directive 2006/88/EC respectively. Furthermore, processing establishments slaughtering aquaculture animals for disease control purposes in accordance with Article 33 must be equipped and authorised under Article 4(2) of Directive 2006/88/EC.</p>	<p>In May 2019 MAST informed the Authority that general improvements have been done in the field of animal by-products and in the spring 2019 a special veterinarian was hired by MAST working entirely on animal by-products. All necessary actions will be taken to improve the handling of disposals. New regulation no. 300/2018 requires disinfection of all effluent water from slaughterhouses and well-boats slaughtering farmed fish in the areas of fish farming from September 2019. Currently there are only two slaughterhouses and harvesting plants in the areas of sea-cage farming, one in the Westfjords and one in the Eastfjords. Both are now constructing a new ozone-based disinfection system. This will be followed up by MAST and approved before the time limit run out.</p> <p>In June 2020 MAST informed the Authority that the processing establishments in question have both acted in line with the requirements. Since autumn 2019 the one in the Westfjords has operated a new water treatment system based on filtering of the processing water followed by an ozone disinfection. The other slaughtering plant the Eastfjords, has also established a similar filtering system, but the disinfection is based on UV.</p> <p>In October 2020 MAST informed the Authority that one new processing plant slaughtering aquaculture animals has built up a new facility with required installation of blood water treatment system. The water treatment system is based on filtering of the processing water followed by an ozone disinfection.</p> <p><b>Assessment: The actions taken have satisfactorily addressed the recommendation</b></p>	<p>Action taken</p>

Mission ID 2019/ICE/1 <b>Mission to Iceland from 11 to 20 March 2019 in order to evaluate the animal health controls in relation to aquaculture animals and official controls of live bivalve molluscs</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
<p>Rec 7: The competent authorities should ensure that the operators have appropriate arrangements for the cleaning and disinfection of containers in place to avoid risk of contamination, as required by Article 25 (e) of Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009.</p>	<p>In May 2019 MAST informed the Authority that action was taken on the spot of the particular finding and will be followed up by MAST.</p> <p><b>Assessment: The actions taken have satisfactorily addressed the recommendation</b></p>	Action taken
<p>Rec 8: The competent authorities should ensure that only measures notified to the Authority for approval as required by Article 43 of the Directive 2006/88/EC are applied to prevent introduction of diseases not listed in Part II of Annex IV to Directive 2006/88/EC.</p>	<p>In May 2019 MAST informed the Authority that they will take notice of that.</p> <p>In October 2019 MAST informed the Authority that action has been taken and in the future MAST will only use measures already notified to the EFTA Surveillance Authority in accordance with Article 43 of the Directive 2006/88/EC when processing imports of live aquatic animals into Iceland.</p> <p>In January 2020 MAST in response to the Authority email to MAST informed the Authority that Iceland is not applying administrative measures regarding (Bacterial Kidney Disease (BKD) when introducing live aquatic animals from other EEA countries or importing from third countries. MAST is still running its own national BKD eradication program, and has no intention to notify or apply for an approval in accordance with the Article 43(2) of Directive 2006/88/EC in the near future. Therefore, Iceland will not apply administrative measures regarding BKD when importing live aquaculture animals.</p> <p>In June 2020 MAST informed the Authority that MAST have not notified any measures to ESA for approval in accordance with Article 43 of the Directive 2006/88/EC, meaning that MAST does not apply such measures or restrictions due to imports of live aquaculture animals. So far this year, some imports of live Senegal sole from Spain, Rainbow trout eggs from Denmark and white leg shrimp (<i>Litopenaeus vannamei</i>) from UK have found place without any use of such measures or requirements.</p>	Action taken

Mission ID 2019/ICE/1 <b>Mission to Iceland from 11 to 20 March 2019 in order to evaluate the animal health controls in relation to aquaculture animals and official controls of live bivalve molluscs</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
	<b>Assessment: The actions taken have satisfactorily addressed the recommendation</b>	
Rec 9: The competent authorities should ensure that aquaculture animals are only imported if they fulfil the conditions laid down in Chapter IV of Regulation (EC) No 1251/2008, including the requirement that they come from third countries, territories, zones or compartments listed in Annex III Regulation (EC) No 1251/2008.	<p>In May 2019 MAST informed the Authority that only one small import of abalones was made from Hokkaido in Japan which showed not to fulfil the mentioned conditions. The animals were put into a quarantine facility under a strict health control. MAST will take notice of this and prevent all such imports in the future.</p> <p>In August 2019 MAST informed the Authority that action has been taken and in the future MAST will never again allow imports of aquaculture animals unless they fulfil the conditions laid down in Chapter IV of Regulation No. 1251/2008, including the requirement that they come from third countries, territories, zones or compartments listed in Annex III of the same Regulation.</p> <p>In October 2020 MAST informed the Authority that a new step has been taken. A working document has been made with necessary instructions on how the Fish Disease Committee prepare a comment for MAST before an import license of live aquatic animals from third countries can be permitted.</p> <p><b>Assessment: The actions taken have satisfactorily addressed the recommendation</b></p>	Action taken
Rec 10: The competent authorities must ensure that certifying officers are informed of the rules to be followed for drawing up and issuing certificates to prevent false or misleading certification.	<p>In May 2019 MAST informed the Authority that the Icelandic authorities are fully aware and well informed of the rules according to issuing health certificates. The veterinary officers for fish diseases issue several hundred certificates each year to all over the world and have a faultless record through over 25 years. The referred finding and conclusion is one particular veterinary certificate on live lumpfish (cleaner-fish) exported to the Faroe Islands on the first active day in 2019 (Wednesday 2 January). Because of the Holidays by the New Year the receiver of the lumpfish asked the exporter and the MAST to issue the health certificate on the last working day of the year 2018 (Friday 28 Dec.). Taken the special timing and conditions into account the veterinary officer for fish diseases could meet this request and issued the certificate on the last working day. The receiver of the fish must apply to the Faroes authorities for every single import and that was the only way to do it for getting an import license in time. It must</p>	Action taken

Mission ID 2019/ICE/1 <b>Mission to Iceland from 11 to 20 March 2019 in order to evaluate the animal health controls in relation to aquaculture animals and official controls of live bivalve molluscs</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
	<p>also be underlined that all parentfish of the lumpfish juveniles exported are routinely sampled and screened thoroughly for all known pathogens, as well as the offsprings. 2-3 containers are being shipped over to the Faroes every Wednesday all year around and in the light of this, the Faroes authority accept and approve clinical inspections of the juveniles in a little bit more than 3 days in advance in some cases. MAST is taken the task of issuing health certificates very seriously and no exception is made without fully cooperation with the receiving farms and related authorities.</p> <p>In October 2020 MAST informed the Authority that a new step has been taken. A working document has been made with necessary instructions on how the certifying officers prepare the issue of the health certificates prior to exporting of live aquatic animals.</p> <p><b>Assessment: The actions taken have satisfactorily addressed the recommendation</b></p>	
<p>Rec 11: The competent authorities should ensure that monitoring and sampling to detect marine toxins, microbiological risks and presence of heavy metals relating to LBMs is performed as required by Chapter II, B.1 of Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 854/2004.</p>	<p>In May 2019 MAST informed the Authority that samples will be analysed according to official sampling plan for LBM. The frequency of sampling will be according to MAST's revised risk assessment. The revised document will be published on MAST's website latest 31.07.2019</p> <p>In August 2019 MAST informed the Authority that revised risk assessment was published on MAST website.</p> <p>In June 2020 MAST again informed the Authority that T's risk assessment was revised 2019 and it is published on MAST'S website. The design and frequency of the Official sampling plan is based on the risk assessment and performed as required by Chapter II, B. 1 of Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 854/2004. This official sampling plan includes both plan for production areas and sampling on the market. In 2020 samples will be taken according to the Official sampling plan.</p> <p>In October 2020 MAST informed the Authority that an official sampling plan was made in spring 2019 for LBM classified relaying and production areas. Sampling has been implemented according to that plan ever since. According to MAST's</p>	In progress

Mission ID 2019/ICE/1 <b>Mission to Iceland from 11 to 20 March 2019 in order to evaluate the animal health controls in relation to aquaculture animals and official controls of live bivalve molluscs</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
	<p>sampling plan samples were taken on the market from two producers. As previously stated, mussel production has been steadily declining in recent years and as a result, market samples were found only from two out of three producers.</p> <p><b>Assessment: Actions to address the recommendation are in progress.</b></p>	
<p>Rec 12: The competent authorities should ensure that a control system is put in place comprising laboratory tests to verify food business operators' compliance with requirements for end products at all stage of production, processing and distribution molluscs as required by Regulation (EC) No 854/2004, Annex II, Chapter II, D.2. It should also ensure that checks are performed to verify if the FBO is placing mussels on the market when authorisation is not granted, as required by Regulation 854/2004 Annex II, Chapter II.D.1.</p>	<p>In May 2019 MAST informed the Authority that according to MAST's sampling plan one sample from each producer will be taken on the market for analysis of marine biotoxins, E.coli and salmonella. Meeting with the LCAs will be in the beginning of June. Control on the market will be discussed and a procedure regarding communication between MAST and the LCAs will be discussed.</p> <p>In June 2020 MAST informed the Authority that MAST and the Ministry have already taken an important step to meet this requirement. Following a financial support from the Ministry, MAST advertised a new post for a veterinarian. The main task, among other things, is general surveillance and health monitoring of shellfish in the country. This new position will take effect on 1 September 2020, provided that any qualified veterinarian applies. The Senior Veterinary Officer for Aquaculture Animals has already visited one-third of the operating mollusc companies. Currently there are just 3 operating blue muscle companies in Iceland: two in Breiðafjörður in the West Iceland and one in Steingrímsfjörður in the North Iceland. In May 2020, the biggest blue muscle area (Breiðafjörður) was visited and inspected with focus on health aspects. At the same time an appropriate sample for disease testing was taken from the same harvesting area, i.e. 30 animals for <i>Marteilia refringens</i> examination by histopathology. In addition, the same number of animals were also taken from the other main area, Steingrímsfjörður, for the same testing.</p> <p><b>Assessment: Actions to address the recommendation are in progress.</b></p>	In progress
<p>Rec 13: The competent authorities should ensure that the National Reference Laboratory for aquatic animal diseases uses methods for surveillance and diagnosis of VHS and</p>	<p>In May 2019 MAST informed the Authority that the cell culture method is accredited; that includes isolation of VHS and IHN. In case of suspicion of a notifiable disease, such as VHS or IHN, the Institute for Experimental Pathology at Keldur (the NRL) has an agreement with the European Union Reference Laboratory for fish diseases (EURL: DTU – National Veterinary Institute,</p>	Action taken

Mission ID 2019/ICE/1 <b>Mission to Iceland from 11 to 20 March 2019 in order to evaluate the animal health controls in relation to aquaculture animals and official controls of live bivalve molluscs</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
IHN, as required by Regulation (EC) No 882/2004, Article 12, point 2 (a) and Article 56(5) of Directive 2006/88/EC and Points 1(i) and 2 of Part II of Annex VI of the same Directive.	<p>Denmark) for assistance. Therefore, samples would in all such uncommon cases be sent for diagnosis and confirmation to the EURL.</p> <p>In August 2019 MAST informed the Authority that MAST has ensured that the National Reference Laboratory at Keldur in Reykjavík only use accredited methods for surveillance and diagnosis of VHS and IHN, as required by the Regulation No. 882/2004 and the Directive No. 2006/88/EC. The official surveillance program for VHS and IHN in Iceland is based on the cell culture method (BF-2 and EPC cell lines) when documenting the absence of VHS virus and IHN virus in farmed salmonids in order to maintain Iceland's VHS and IHN free status. The cell culture method for VHS and IHN have been accredited at the National Reference Laboratory at Keldur by SWEDAC in Sweden for many years.</p> <p>In June 2020 MAST informed the Authority that MAST has already sent a formal letter to The National Reference Laboratory at Keldur where accreditation is also required for the RT-qPCR method in regards of VHSV and IHNV testing.</p> <p>In October 2020 MAST provided evidence that the accreditation process has been initiated.</p> <p><b>Assessment: The actions taken have satisfactorily addressed the recommendation</b></p>	
Rec 14: The competent authorities should ensure that the national reference laboratory for LBMs is accredited and adopts methods and procedures which would enable reliable results on lipophilic, PSP and ASP toxins, as required by Regulation (EC) No 882/2004, Article 12, point 2 (a).	<p>In May 2019 MAST informed the Authority that the laboratory will apply for accreditation if it is foreseen that the production of LBM will continue in Iceland and the number of sample runs will be enough to get accreditation. MAST have demanded a plan for PT tests, reports from PT tests, Matis's evaluation of performance in PT test and deviation reports for all analysis where errors are discovered. MAST will also perform regular audit of Matis's procedures regarding analysis of Marine biotoxins.</p> <p>In August 2019 MAST informed the Authority that MAST has requested a plan for PT tests, reports from PT tests. Matis has already submitted results for DSP and PSP in the EURL Comparative test 2019. It was done at the end of June.</p>	In progress

Mission ID 2019/ICE/1 <b>Mission to Iceland from 11 to 20 March 2019 in order to evaluate the animal health controls in relation to aquaculture animals and official controls of live bivalve molluscs</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
	<p>The results will be announced in October. Comparative tests are held once a year at EURLina.</p> <p>In June 2020 and again in October 2020 MAST informed the Authority that it was expected in spring 2019 that production of LBM would be sufficient to justify the accreditation of Matis, but in reality, the production is less than expected. Matis has not been able to analyse toxins since March 2020 due to some problem with the equipment and due to lack of sample frequency. All samples have been sent to the Marine Institute, an accredited laboratory in Ireland, since March 2020 and this might be the case also in the future.</p> <p><b>Assessment: Actions to address the recommendation are in progress.</b></p>	
<p>Rec 15: The competent authorities should ensure that procedures put in place in the laboratory for phytoplankton ensure that results are representative for the water column, as required by (EC) No 854/2004, Annex II, Chapter II, B, point 7.</p>	<p>In May 2019 MAST informed the Authority that at the meeting with the producers in April 2019 the sampling procedure for seawater was presented and discussed and that on the spot training of sampling will be arranged in June 2019. The aim is to ensure and verify that the samples are representative for the water column. Both net samples and water samples have been analysed since April 2019. Sampling methods of sea water will be checked by MAST's inspectors during official control in June and July.</p> <p>In June 2019 MAST informed the Authority that at a meeting with the producers in April 2019 with the producers the sampling procedure as required by (EC) No 854/2004, Annex II, Chapter II, B, point 7, for seawater sampling was presented by MRI and MAST, and discussed. A spot training of the sampling methods with a dipnet (extractor hood) and a hose, was implemented at the harbour of Reykjavik on June 2019. The aim was to ensure and verify that the samples are representative for the water column. Both net samples and water samples have been analysed since April 2019. Sampling methods of sea water will be checked by MAST's inspectors during official control in June-August every year. Sampling methods were verified during official control of two producers in 2020. It was not possible to verify sampling methods in Steingrimsfjordur since there was no production from the middle of July 2019. This producer attended the training organised on June 2019. MAST decided to review all procedures regarding training, sampling methods, monitoring, etc. and make a 5-year plan for Official Sampling. At a meeting with the producers in April 2019 reviewed sampling</p>	<p>In progress</p>

Mission ID 2019/ICE/1 <b>Mission to Iceland from 11 to 20 March 2019 in order to evaluate the animal health controls in relation to aquaculture animals and official controls of live bivalve molluscs</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
	<p>procedure for seawater was presented and discussed as required by (EC) No 854/2004, Annex II, Chapter II, B, point 7. Methods for seawater sampling was presented by Hafrannsóknastofnun (MRI) MRI and discussed.</p> <p>In October 2020 MAST informed the Authority that senior officer in charge of the shellfish division, visited all shellfish production areas in both 2019 and 2020 and took samples and instructed producers on how to take samples (sampling methods with a dipnet, extractor hood, and a hose,. This happened in June, July, and August 2019 and during the same period in 2020, see Annex I.</p> <p><b>Assessment: Actions to address the recommendation are in progress.</b></p>	

### 1.1.3 Food of animal origin

In the period from February 2016 to March 2020, the Authority completed three missions in relation to Food of animal origin. Out of a total of 21 recommendations issued in relation to these missions, 15 were identified to be addressed in a general follow-up mission in November 2020.

Mission ID 2016/ICE/9 <b>Mission to Iceland from 28 November to 7 December 2016 on Post-slaughter traceability of meat, meat products and preparations, composite products.</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
<p>Rec 3: The competent authority should ensure that official controls include the conditions of use of additives and that food business operators comply with the requirements laid down in Part E of Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 1333/2008.</p>	<p>In February 2017 MAST informed the Authority that the Guidance on food additives has been updated and published on MAST homepage in December 2016. It includes guidelines on how to convert different forms of additives to the active forms listed in Annex II, such as phosphates, sulphur compounds and nitrates and nitrites. It also contains a list of key questions that should be considered when performing controls on food additives. MAST will emphasize control on the use of additives and that it is in accordance with the rules in Annex II E of Regulation 1333/2008. MAST will focus on controlling the use of additives</p>	<p>Action taken</p>



Mission ID 2016/ICE/9 Mission to Iceland from 28 November to 7 December 2016 on Post-slaughter traceability of meat, meat products and preparations, composite products.		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
	<p>in establishments under its control, such as meat processing plants and dairies. Efforts will be made, by MAST experts on additives, to guide MAST and LCA inspectors on the use of the new guidelines on food additives. Emphasis will also be on corrective understanding and use of definitions of e.g. food categories to ensure correct use of additives.</p> <p>In November 2018 MAST informed the Authority that the use of additives is part of the ongoing labelling project. A representative from MAST (expert on additives) attended a Nordic seminar on additives in October 2018. Training of MAST and LCA inspectors regarding control of additives is planned in January 2019. A correct understanding and definitions of food categories will be included as well as training on calculations on amounts. A guidance text on the definition of meat products and meat preparations as well as examples of each is being prepared and will be placed on MAST's homepage.</p> <p>In November 2019 MAST informed the Authority that training has not taken place but it's scheduled for January 2020, date of completion end of February 2020</p> <p>In October 2020 MAST informed the Authority that the emphasis has been laid on controlling additives use. General training of all inspectors is yet to be performed and is planned by 15.12.20. MAST's expert on additives has trained/assisted individual inspectors in several cases. An explanatory text about the definition of meat products and meat preparations has been placed on MAST's homepage.</p> <p>In January 2021 MAST informed the Authority that training on additives was delivered to MAST and LCA officers on 17/12/20. Agenda, training material and a list of attendees provided.</p> <p><b>Assessment: The actions taken have satisfactorily addressed the recommendation</b></p>	

Mission ID 2019/ICE/4 <b>Mission to Iceland on Hygiene in milk and meat, and their products from 14 to 23 October 2019</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
<p>Rec 1: The CA should ensure that post-mortem inspection of sheep, cattle and horses is carried out in accordance with the specific requirements of Annex I, Section IV, Chapters I - III of Regulation (EC) No 854/2004.</p>	<p>In December 2019 MAST informed the Authority that the CA will reconstruct instructions on post-mortem inspection of sheep, cattle and horses according to the requirements of Section 3 of Regulation (EC) 2019/627 (Deadline May 2020). The handbook of daily inspections at slaughterhouses (LBE-046) will be updated and the new instructions on post-mortem inspection will be included in the handbook (Deadline June 2020). OV's at slaughterhouses will be trained to work according to the instructions (Deadline Oct 2020).</p> <p>In March 2020 MAST informed the Authority that the handbook of daily inspections at slaughterhouses (LBE-046) is being reconstructed. Updated instructions on post-mortem inspection will be included in the new edition of LBE-046. Estimated date of issuance of the new edition of LBE-046 is June 1st 2020.</p> <p>In November 2021 MAST informed the Authority that the update of the handbook of daily inspection manual is in progress. New updated training material according to 627/2019 is published (happened 25. August 2020). All new OV's have received new training material.</p> <p>In January 2021 MAST informed the Authority that new training policy was implemented in November 2020. MAST is developing training database which will record individuals training (estimate will be operational Dec 2021). In meantime, no record of OV supervisions during 2020 available. Practical evaluations of OV performance planned to be reported in new database post Dec 2021.</p> <p><b>Assessment: Actions to address the recommendation are in progress.</b></p>	<p>In progress</p>
<p>Rec 2: The CA should ensure examination for Trichinella only takes place in a laboratory they have designated in accordance with Article 2(1) of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/1375.</p>	<p>In December 2019 MAST informed the Authority that the office of consumer protection, will ensure that all laboratories examining for Trichinella will be designated in accordance with Article 2(1) of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/1375. The relevant laboratory will be visited and controlled and licensed if criteria are met (Deadline Feb 2020). Other laboratories will be visited according to date of compliance in recommendation no. 8 (Deadline Dec 2020).</p>	<p>In progress</p>

Mission ID 2019/ICE/4 <b>Mission to Iceland on Hygiene in milk and meat, and their products from 14 to 23 October 2019</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
	<p>In March 2020 MAST informed the Authority that after the plan of corrective actions was drawn up, a decision was made to include more necessary inspection-factors regarding inspections of laboratories. It took a bit longer time to prepare the extra-check points, but the list was ready by the end of February. Then the establishment involved (with Trichinella lab.) was informed about the date for the planed audit. But in the same week, all the establishments that have their own laboratories, wished to postpone all unnecessary visits to their establishments because of the Covid-19 outbreak. As soon as possible MAST will continue with the plan of corrective actions for this recommendation. Other laboratories will be visited as soon as possible after the Covid-19 outbreak stops.</p> <p><b>Assessment: Actions to address the recommendation are in progress.</b></p>	
<p>Rec 3: The CA should ensure that official controls in relation to TSEs take account of the requirements of Regulation (EC) No. 999/2001, which should include controls to ensure FBO removes all specified risk material (SRM) from bovine carcasses in accordance with Annex I, Section IV, Chapter IX(A) and Section I, Chapter I(2)(c) of Regulation (EC) No 854/2004 and Annex V(4.1)(a) of Regulation (EC) No 999/2001.</p>	<p>In December 2019 MAST informed the Authority that the "slaughter team for big animals and sheep" will inform all OV's at slaughterhouses for cattle and sheep about this finding of ESA and train the OV's to make sure that all SRM is removed correctly in accordance with article 29 of Regulation (EC) 2019/627 and Annex V(4.1)(a) of Regulation (EC) No 999/2001. The slaughter team will also inform the FBOs about this finding and instruct them on what to do, to make sure that SRM is removed correctly (Deadline Oct 2020). The "ABP team" will instruct the FBOs on how to stain the SRM according to Annex V, point 3 of Regulation (EC) No 999/2001. The "slaughter team for big animals and sheep" will train the OV's to control the FBOs staining of SRM (Deadline Oct 2020).</p> <p>In March 2020 MAST informed the Authority that this recommendation has already been discussed in the „slaughter team for big animals and sheep“. Veterinary Officer of Meat Inspection is a member of that team and will follow up on the matter in the team. The recommendation has also been discussed in the "ABP – team“. Veterinary Officer of Meat Inspection is also a member of that team and will follow up on the matter with the team.</p> <p>In November 2020 MAST informed the Authority that SRM removal was in bovine slaughterhouses by the senior veterinary officer for meat inspection. No evidence provided that SRM requirements are implemented uniformly across country i.e. verification of FBO compliance in bovine slaughterhouses.</p>	In progress

Mission ID 2019/ICE/4 <b>Mission to Iceland on Hygiene in milk and meat, and their products from 14 to 23 October 2019</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
	<p>In January 2021 MAST informed the Authority that reports from two establishments provided which confirm staining of SRM has been checked during inspections. One for bovine and one for ovine slaughterhouse.</p> <p><b>Assessment: Actions to address the recommendation are in progress.</b></p>	
<p>Rec 4: Iceland should ensure that only qualified veterinarians are appointed as official veterinarians and official veterinarians are suitably trained and have undergone practical training for a probationary period of at least 200 hours before starting to work independently, as required by Annex I, Section III, Chapter IV(A) of Regulation (EC) No 854/2004.</p>	<p>In December 2019 MAST informed the Authority that only qualified veterinarians should be appointed as official veterinarians. The Ministry for Industry and Innovation has been informed about this finding since the ministry is accountable for issuance of temporary licenses for veterinary students according to article 6 of the Icelandic Veterinary and Animal Health Services Act No. 66. MAST (CA) will make sure that only qualified veterinarians are appointed as official veterinarians from now on (Deadline Dec 2019). Regarding training of unexperienced official veterinarians and other official control staff, the plan is to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Measure the need for training</li> <li>• Make a training framework for each official</li> <li>• Evaluation of training for control work by Annex I, Section III, Chapter IV(A) of Regulation (EC) No 854/2004 (Deadline Dec 2021).</li> </ul> <p>In March 2020 MAST informed the Authority that regarding the part of the recommendation with date of compliance by the end of December 2019 corrective actions have already been taken. No new OV has been hired at MAST since the date of compliance passed. Therefore there have been no issues with hiring veterinarians / veterinary students with a temporary licence or regarding lack of competence of OVs hired at MAST since the date of compliance passed. Regardless MAST will make sure to follow up on this recommendation. Regarding the rest of this recommendation with date of compliance in the end of December 2021 there has been some unstructured discussion about how to follow up on suggested corrective actions but the follow up has not started formally.</p> <p>In November 2020 MAST informed the Authority that the framework has been made and sent to all new OV's, but the verification of training is still not completed and is manual, but will be electronic.</p>	<p>In progress</p>

Mission ID 2019/ICE/4 <b>Mission to Iceland on Hygiene in milk and meat, and their products from 14 to 23 October 2019</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
	<p>In January 2021 MAST informed the Authority that it has issued and implemented new policy for training of employees in November 2020 (Þjálfunaráætlun MAST, LBE-198). MAST is working on implementing a data system that will keep record of all available training offered by MAST to its employees. The system will store e-training material and it will serve as record keeping of each employees finished hours of training, both e-training and practical training. Final date for implementation is December 1st 2021. Senior Veterinary Officer of Meat Inspection together with the representative DVO will set up the training frame in the system for each OV working in slaughterhouses. The representative DVO will confirm in the system that the employee has finished the planned training. Practical training will be carried out in each slaughterhouse by an experienced OV or the DVO. Emphasis will be put on record keeping in the data system of every hour of practical training provided to the OVs including for example the first few days of the slaughtering season that an experienced OV spends in each slaughterhouse working with and instructing the less experienced OVs. Until now a record has not been kept of those hours.</p> <p><b>Assessment: Actions to address the recommendation are in progress.</b></p>	
<p>Rec 5: The CA should ensure that FBOs do not use any substance other than potable water - or when permitted, clean water - to remove surface contamination from products of animal origin, unless use of the substance has been approved in accordance with Article (3)(2) of Regulation (EC) 853/2004.</p>	<p>In December 2019 MAST informed the Authority that a report with a decision of non-compliance about misuse of additive was send to the FBO in interest, in the end of October 2019. Other FBO's in same production will be followed up on the matter (Deadline January 2020). A training course on additives in food production for the control staff in the FCT is planned (Deadline Jun 2020).</p> <p>In March 2020 MAST informed the Authority that after the plan of corrective actions was drawn up some issues came up that required that the plan of corrective actions for this recommendation should be reviewed. MAST has delivered a non-compliance report to the establishment involved, but because of objection from the establishment, MAST still needs to decide how and when corrective actions should be made. The course on food additives is still scheduled before end of June 2020 with disclaimer that MAST will be able to find a qualified lecturer by then.</p>	Action taken

Mission ID 2019/ICE/4 <b>Mission to Iceland on Hygiene in milk and meat, and their products from 14 to 23 October 2019</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
	<p>In November 2020 MAST informed the Authority that a questionnaire was sent to all FBO's producing sheep heads. Action will be taken depending on their response.</p> <p>In January 2021 MAST informed the Authority that in October a questionnaire was sent to six slaughterhouses producing sheep heads and sheep feet, to check if some product were used to clean the heads and if it could be considered as a traditional way of production or if it was in any way necessary act in the production. Five FBO's replied and MAST has come to the conclusion that the answer is no, to add a product is not necessary nor traditional for production of sheep heads and feet. So a letter is being drafted to inform the appropriate FBO's and to ensure that they do not use any substance other than potable water - or when permitted, clean water - to remove surface contamination from products of animal origin. Nine out of ten Food-team members entered a course regarding additives in December 17. Which was six hours of representations and working-group solutions. Attendees were above 30 where people also attended from the LCA.</p> <p><b>Assessment: The actions taken have satisfactorily addressed the recommendation</b></p>	
<p>Rec 6: The CA should ensure that bovine ear tags carry only non-removable inscriptions, as required by Article 2(e) of Regulation (EC) No 911/2004.</p>	<p>In December 2019 MAST informed the Authority that instructions about correct uses of ear tags in bovine animals will be clarified in the instructions manual for OV's; "Skoðunarhandbók nautgripir" (LBE-032) as required by Article 2(e) of Regulation (EC) No 911/2004 (Deadline Jan 2020). In regular visit on cattle farms, inspectors will handle the finding of removable inscriptions on bovine ear tags, as a non-compliance (Deadline Jan 2020). Information regarding correct reaction in slaughterhouses according to the same regulation, will be sent to all FBO's, and a following up on the matter will be taken care of by OV's in daily inspection. Furthermore The FCT will act on the matter in regular audits (Deadline Mar 2020).</p> <p>In March 2020 MAST informed the Authority that inspections manual for cattle (LBE-032) is being reconstructed. Check points for art. 2 e) of Regulation (EC) No 911/2004 will be added to the new edition. The new edition of LBE-032 will be issued soon. Official inspector in primary production (Hey-team) have been informed about this recommendation and a recent follow up has been sent to the</p>	Action taken

Mission ID 2019/ICE/4 <b>Mission to Iceland on Hygiene in milk and meat, and their products from 14 to 23 October 2019</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
	<p>Hey-team via e-mail. The Hey-team has now started making non-compliances if the discover hand-written ear tags during inspections in primary production. Corrective actions regarding the part of this recommendation that has date of compliance in the end of March 2020 has not been made but is in progress.</p> <p>In November 2020 MAST informed the Authority that implementation has taken place. Verification is under review. Information has reached some slaughterhouses but reaction among OV/DVO is not harmonised.</p> <p>In January 2021 MAST informed the Authority that the Hey-team, The Slaughterhouse-team for big animals and the DVO's have agreed on a procedure for a reaction on farm level as a follow-up on finding a non-acceptable ear-mark in slaughterhouse. Beside the reaction to identify the animal, measures will be taken described in VLY-116 wich is attached named; REC 6 VLY-116 Vinnulýsing tilkynning um óhreina gripi í sláturhúsi. This procedure belongs to reaction on finding a dirty animal in slaughterhouse but the same procedure will be used for finding of non-acceptable ear mark in cattle in slaughterhouse.</p> <p><b>Assessment: The actions taken have satisfactorily addressed the recommendation</b></p>	
<p>Rec 7: The CA should ensure that ear tags used for sheep are non-reusable, as required in Section A(3) of the Annex to Council Regulation (EC) No 21/2004.</p>	<p>In December 2019 MAST informed the Authority that MAST will strengthen its surveillance so that no sheep ear tags will be reused. It is the understanding of MAST that the electronic ear tags referred to in paragraph 31 of the draft report are not „ear tags“ in the same manner as described in section A(3) of the Annex to regulation 21/2004. In recent years increased usage has been evolving with electronic tagging. The electronic tag is mainly intended for the private use of the farmer but not as a replacement for tagging for traceability purposes. The traceability tag is attached to the electronic tag and removed after slaughter and dismissed off permanently (Deadline Oct 2020).</p> <p>In March 2020 MAST informed the Authority that no corrective actions have been taken yet since this sheep slaughtering is seasonal. OVs at slaughterhouses and FBOs will be informed about this when it gets closer to the sheep slaughtering season 2020.</p>	In progress

Mission ID 2019/ICE/4 <b>Mission to Iceland on Hygiene in milk and meat, and their products from 14 to 23 October 2019</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
	<p>In November 2020 MAST informed the Authority that a letter has been sent to sheep slaughterhouses informing about no reuse of ear tags. DVO will follow up on action taken.</p> <p>In January 2021 MAST informed the Authority that it is not possible to provide evidence now that official identification tags of sheep are being destroyed and not being reused since the slaughtering season is finished and the procedure for this was not ready. Mast will implement a system before next sheep slaughtering season to do this and train OVs on the matter.</p> <p><b>Assessment: Actions to address the recommendation are in progress.</b></p>	
<p>Rec 8: Iceland should ensure that national reference laboratories (NRLs) fulfil their roles to include coordination of the activities of official laboratories responsible for analysis of samples in their area of competence and organise comparative testing between the official national laboratories, as required by Article 33(2) points (b) and (c) of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004.</p>	<p>In December 2019 MAST informed the Authority that the Ministry of Industry and Innovation (MOII) consult and co-ordinate with stakeholders (representatives from NRLs for Trichinella and microbiology and the CA) to discuss how the NRLs can better fulfil their role. Simultaneously the MOII will review the agreement with these NRLs to assess if there is a need to re-negotiate the terms. Laboratories are compensated already for the work associated with the NRL role and deliver an annual report to the MOII (Deadline Oct 2020).</p> <p>In March 2020 MAST informed the Authority that a meeting was held with representatives from MAST (CA), from the MOII and from the two NRL-laboratories, on 4 March 2020. Among items discussed were a) organizing comparative testing between the official national laboratories and review of the results for OL and b) NRL role in coordination activities and distributing information to OL. Regarding a) NRLs have given out information on comparative tests, but not organised them. Because of competition perspective there has been a difficulty for NRL to fulfil this role, to collect and review the results of comparative testing. The result was that MAST will be responsible for that these information are collected once a year and review the results. Regarding b), information are sent in a yearly report to the Ministry but need further publishing to fulfil their role. Both NRLs were open to distribute information more widely. The result was to meet again and regularly to discuss further possibilities (Deadline Oct 2020).</p> <p>In November 2020 MAST informed the Authority that NRLs have given out information on comparative tests, but not organised them. MAST will be</p>	In progress



Mission ID 2019/ICE/4 <b>Mission to Iceland on Hygiene in milk and meat, and their products from 14 to 23 October 2019</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
	<p>responsible for that these information are collected once a year and review the results.</p> <p>In January 2021 MAST informed the Authority that this work is still in progress but they cannot yet explain how CA plan to obtain overview of official laboratories participation in proficiency tests and how CA will obtain results of PTs in a timely manner rather than once per year. Nor how this is assessed or who ensures appropriate follow up and who delivers it. We still plan on finishing this work before end of October 2021</p> <p><b>Assessment: Actions to address the recommendation are in progress.</b></p>	
<p>Rec 9: The CA should ensure compliance with the requirements of Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005.</p>	<p>In December 2019 MAST informed the Authority that the guidelines for microbiological criteria will be updated (Deadline Sep 2020). The control of microbiological criteria in slaughterhouses will be on the responsibility of daily control in slaughterhouses (Deadline Oct 2020). The “slaughter team for big animals and sheep” will train OV’s at slaughterhouses to control the FBOs sampling, sampling methods and sampling results at least once a week (Deadline Oct 2020).</p> <p>In March 2020 MAST informed the Authority that the guidelines for micro biological criteria will be updated and the updating work is being prepared, but has not yet formerly started. Regarding the control of microbiological criteria in slaughterhouses and the weekly control of FBO, there are some issues. Changes in the daily inspections in slaughterhouses has been discussed in meetings with directors and DVO’s. But because of possible administrative changes and re-training of OV’s, the work is in slow progress.</p> <p>In November 2020 MAST informed the Authority that the work has started in practice but not been verified in all slaughterhouses yet. Updated guidelines on microbiological criteria will be included in the inspection manual LBE-046. Deadline 31 May 2021</p> <p><b>Assessment: Actions to address the recommendation are in progress.</b></p>	<p>In progress</p>

Mission ID 2020/ICE/2		
<b>Mission to Iceland to evaluate official controls related to the production of ready-to-eat food</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
<p>Rec 1: The CA should ensure that national reference laboratories (NRLs) fulfil their roles to include coordination of the activities of official laboratories responsible for analysis of samples in their area of competence and organise, where appropriate, comparative testing between the official national laboratories, as required by Article 33(2) points (b) and (c) of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004.</p>	<p>In May 2020 MAST informed the Authority that reference is made to corrective action in recommendation number 8 from ESA mission on meat and milk products in September 2019 and the corrective actions. This has been the focus/worked on in 2020 and the corrective action ongoing is that MAST will be responsible for collection and review of the results of proficiency testing from OL. If issues are seen with the results the appropriate NRL will be contacted. The NRLs concur to change their procedures to distribute information more widely, in the future. Until now, they have informed the ministry of their activities and information from the annual EURL meetings. From now on, the information from EURL will also be distributed to OL and CA.</p> <p>In October 2020 MAST informed the Authority that MAST has reviewed procedures and instructions. Guidelines and procedures on receiving notification of pathogenic microorganisms (VLY-115 and LBE-187) have been issued. Manufactures will from 1 January 2021, notify MAST directly through MAST's Service Portal (gateway) if pathogens are detected in foodstuff, (e.g. <i>Listeria monocytogenes</i> in RTE food). Everything has already been prepared for this to happen. The sender will receive a confirmation number. Additional information to the CA will be sent to a shared email address, (MAST@MAST.is) and reference made to the confirmation number. Three senior officers within MAST will receive the notification, one of them designated as the responsible party. The new notification system will be introduced to RTE food processors in December. Guidelines on recall and withdraw reviewed (VLY-107 and LBE-144) have also been reviewed and re-issued. There it is clearly stated that if a product has been exported or is being distributed abroad, an assessment must be made as to whether a notification needs to be sent to RASFF and the product must be recalled on the European market. It is important to inform the country concerned about the recall.</p> <p>In November 2020 MAST informed the Authority that NRLs have given out information on comparative tests, but not organized them. MAST will be responsible for that information on participation in comparative tests are collected once a year and review the results.</p> <p><b>Assessment: For administrative reasons further follow-up is done in relation to recommendation No. 8 from the Mission on hygiene in milk and</b></p>	<p>No longer relevant</p>

	<b>meat, and their products which took place in Iceland in October 2019 (Mission ID 2019/ICE/4).</b>	
Rec 2: The CA should ensure that RASFF follow up information is provided immediately as required by Article 6 of Regulation (EU) No 16/2011.	<p>In May 2020 MAST informed the Authority that in their opinion the responsibility lies on the FBO involved to inform the CA in the right manner. The FBO did not realize the seriousness of the case referred to. The CA's employee was not present to receive the e-mail and the FBO was notified to contact another person within the agency. Nevertheless, MAST should emphasize the importance of notification and communication, not least when it comes to exports, due to RASFF notifications. MAST will review procedures and instructions to ensure that this does not repeat itself. Notifications will be registered in MAST's Service Portal (gateway) and the sender receives a confirmation number. Additional information to the CA will be sent to a shared email address, (MAST@MAST.is) and reference made to the confirmation number.</p> <p>In October 2020 MAST informed the Authority that MAST has reviewed procedures and instructions to ensure that this does not repeat itself. Guidelines and procedures on receiving notification of pathogenic microorganisms (VLY-115 and LBE-187) have been issued. Manufactures will from 1 January 2021, notify MAST directly through MAST's Service Portal (gateway) if pathogens are detected in foodstuff, (e.g. <i>Listeria monocytogenes</i> in RTE food). Everything has already been prepared for this to happen. The sender will receive a confirmation number. Additional information to the CA will be sent to a shared email address, (MAST@MAST.is) and reference made to the confirmation number. Three senior officers within MAST will receive the notification, one of them designated as the responsible party. The new notification system will be introduced to RTE food processors in December. Guidelines on recall and withdraw reviewed (VLY-107 and LBE-144) have also been reviewed and re-issued. There it is clearly stated that if a product has been exported or is being distributed abroad, an assessment must be made as to whether a notification needs to be sent to RASFF and the product must be recalled on the European market. It is important to inform the country concerned about the recall.</p> <p><b>Assessment: The actions taken have satisfactorily addressed the recommendation</b></p>	Action taken
Rec 3: The CA should ensure that alternative microbiological testing procedures provide at least equivalent	In May 2020 MAST informed the Authority that according to the Accreditation body (Swedac) the laboratory (NRL) is obliged to use the latest version of all analytical methods they are accredited for. Therefore the NMKL version of 2010	Action taken

<p>guarantees as the reference methods as required by Article 11(1) of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 and Article 5(5) of Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005</p>	<p>is used instead of version from 2007. NMKL is currently reviewing the method from 2010. The aim is to revise/update and issue the method and subsequently compare it with the latest ISO standards 11290-1 and ISO 11209-2 from 2017. While this work is ongoing the lab will use the NMKL, 2010 method but follow the revision work closely and apply for accreditation of <i>Listeria monocytogenes</i> analysis with the ISO standards from 2017 as a reference if the revision work is not in compliance with the ISO standard from 2017. Regarding conclusion 63. Reference is made to Corrective action in Recommendation no 4. Information, including a declaration from the CA in all the Nordic countries that NMKL methods can be used, was provided.</p> <p>In October 2020 MAST informed the Authority that at the annual NMKL meeting in the beginning of September 2020 it was decided to revise the NMKL method no 136 so that it will be totally in compliance with ISO 11290-1 and ISO 11290-2 from 2017. While the revision work is ongoing, the lab will participate in PT-tests for <i>Listeria monocytogenes</i> organized by the EURL in Anses/France and use both the NMKL method and the ISO method.</p> <p><b>Assessment: The actions taken have satisfactorily addressed the recommendation</b></p>	
<p>Rec 4: The CA should ensure that FBOs collect the correct number of units to make up a sample for microbiological analysis as required by Article 5(3) and Annex I, Chapter I of Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005.</p>	<p>In May 2020 MAST informed the Authority that MAST is reviewing the <i>Listeria monocytogenes</i> sampling guidelines for FBO's. Appropriate frequency of sampling and correct number of units forming a sample for analysis of <i>Listeria monocytogenes</i>, will be clearly stated in the guidelines. The FBOs, food control team, LCA's inspectors and laboratories concerned will be informed about the new updates. The main rule will continue to be that five units are needed to make up a sample for analysis of <i>Listeria monocytogenes</i>. If fewer than five units are accepted for sampling, companies will have to demonstrate with historical data that it has an effective HACCP system, in accordance with paragraph 3. Article 5 in Regulation (EC) No. 2073/2005. To verify the effectiveness of the HACCP system, an inspector from the CA will visit the FBO involved and go through all the issues in the HACCP section of the Inspection Manual.</p> <p>In October 2020 MAST informed the Authority that MAST has reviewed guidelines for FBO's the <i>Listeria monocytogenes</i> sampling. Appropriate frequency of sampling and correct number of units forming a sample for analysis of <i>Listeria monocytogenes</i>, are clearly stated in new the guidelines. The FBOs, food control team, LCA's inspectors and laboratories concerned will be informed about the new guideline.</p>	<p>In progress</p>

	<p>In November 2020 MAST informed the Authority that the guidance was issued in November 2020. It was presented as a news in MAST’s website and the disseminated to those FBOs and LCAs who are subscribing to MAST’s news. The Food control group, the LCA’s directors and the labs got in November 2020 a mail with a Link to the news on MAST’s website. The guidance has been discussed regularly in MAST’s food control team. The inspectors will introduce the guidance to the FBOs by mail and during the next control visit.</p> <p>In January 2021 MAST informed the Authority that MAST issued a guidance on microbiological criteria 2020. In the guidance it is mentioned in each chapter that 5 unit should be taken from a lot or a defined sampling session. The guidance will be revised this year but the guidelines in the guidance is already clear that 5 units should be taken to make up a sample for microbiological analysis. If it could be demonstrated by a risk assessment that the probability to detect bacteria in the product concerned is low the number of units could be less than 5. The number of units could also be decreased if it can demonstrated with historical results that the product is in compliance with Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005 and the deviation between the results is limited.</p> <p><b>Assessment: Actions to address the recommendation are in progress.</b></p>	
<p>Rec 5: The CA should ensure that when they identify non-compliance, they shall take action to ensure that the operator remedies the situation, as required by Article 54 of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004.</p>	<p>In May 2020 MAST informed the Authority that MAST has closely reviewed this recommendation with all inspectors in the CA Inspection Team. Current procedures have been discussed, whether there is need for some changes. The conclusion was that emphasis should be placed on improving the evaluation of follow-ups made in control visits and organise follow up visits if necessary to ensure food safety. Important issues can also be controlled immediately electronically, instead of waiting for the next inspection.</p> <p>In October 2020 MAST informed the Authority that the issue has been discussed in the Food Control Team since May. Procedures regarding follow up on control visits are under review and will be described in the Inspection handbook, which is a part of the Quality Manual. The aim of the review is to ensure better follow up if the assessment of the non-compliance is such that is important to correct it as soon as possible to ensure food safety. MAST will introduce the new procedure at the meeting in November.</p> <p>In November 2020 MAST informed the Authority that text regarding follow up has been added to the inspection manual, which is not yet issued.</p> <p><b>Assessment: Actions to address the recommendation are in progress.</b></p>	<p>In progress</p>

### 1.1.4 Import controls, animals and food of animal origin

In the period from February 2016 to March 2020, the Authority has completed one mission in relation to Import controls and food of animal origin. Out of a total of 12 recommendations issued in relation to this mission, seven were identified to be addressed in a general follow-up mission in November 2020.

Mission ID 2017/ICE/4		
<b>Mission to Iceland on Import and use of TRACES in import and trade from 12 to 16 June 2017</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
Rec 1. The competent authority should ensure that, after the completion of the required veterinary checks, the certificate for the consignments concerned certifying the results of the checks is only issued and signed by the official veterinarian responsible for the relevant BIP for consignments of products of animal origin other than fishery products, in line with Article 5(1) of Directive 97/78/EC and Article 3(1) of Regulation (EC) No 136/2004.	<p>In August 2017 MAST informed the Authority that procedures are in place and all checks are documented in an Excel sheet for each BIP. These will be checked and GAT-040 the check list for the annual inspection of BIPs will be amended to include checks on CVEDs regarding signatures done by veterinarians on animal products other than fishery products.</p> <p>In March 2018 MAST informed the Authority that GAT-040 was updated accordingly on 10.11.2017. CVEDs for animal products 2017 were checked. The results were discussed at a meeting with BIP staff 15.3.2018.</p> <p>In September 2018 MAST informed the Authority that relevant procedures are instructed with: "Innflutningur dýraafurða, annarra en fiskafurða skal vera undir virku eftirliti dýralæknis" - Imports of animal products, other than fishery products, must be under the control of a veterinarian. Amended GAT-040 issued on 10.11.2017.</p> <p>In April 2019 MAST informed the Authority that VLY-034 will be updated to address instructions on which BIP consignments official veterinarians are responsible for, estimated date of completion April 2019. Annual checks are performed that CVEDs (GAT-040) are signed by OV.</p> <p>In June 2019 MAST informed the Authority that additional information by email has not yet been updated regarding veterinarians' responsibilities. Update made in May 2019 is not relevant to this procedure. The planned correction of the document will address which consignments veterinarians need to sign.</p> <p>In October 2020 MAST informed the Authority that SOP VLY-034 has been updated to emphasize which consignments the official veterinarian need to sign.</p> <p><b>Assessment: The actions taken have satisfactorily addressed the recommendation</b></p>	Action taken

Mission ID 2017/ICE/4		
<b>Mission to Iceland on Import and use of TRACES in import and trade from 12 to 16 June 2017</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
<p>Rec 3 The competent authority should ensure that all pertinent intelligence is gathered and analysed as required by Articles 6 and 7 of Regulation (EC) No 136/2004 and Articles 5 and 6 of Commission Regulation (EC) No 282/2004 to ensure that eligible consignments are subject to veterinary checks.</p>	<p>In August 2017 MAST informed the Authority that cross checks will be carried out on entire cargo manifests from carrier companies.</p> <p>In March 2018 MAST informed the Authority that MAST cross-checks entire cargo manifests regularly (every other month). A project has been launched with Customs. The aim is to analyse how to ensure effective import control including the detection of all relevant consignments.</p> <p>In September 2018 MAST informed the Authority that entire cargo manifests have been checked regularly by MAST since June 2018. Project with customs is ongoing.</p> <p>In April 2019 MAST informed the Authority that the project with customs is ongoing. A letter will be sent, before the end of May to the customs to obtain information regarding the project's status.</p> <p>In June 2019 MAST informed the Authority that checks of cargo manifest is done, in average, every other month, the cross check on information from the customs (mentioned in LBE-075) are not on consignments from third countries. Inquiry has been sent to the customs because of the ongoing project. MAST has not received answer from the customs.</p> <p>In October 2020 MAST informed the Authority that Regulation (IS) 1100/2006 is being revised regarding registration of HS codes in manifests. That means manual cross-checking will be faster and more effective.</p> <p><u>Customs point</u> – October 2020: The role of Iceland Revenue and Customs (hereafter "Icelandic Customs") is inter alia, to carry out customs enforcement on a national scale and co-operate with other national authorities and institutions performing tasks relating to this principal activity. In respect to the import of products of animal origin, Icelandic Customs co-operates with MAST. To underline the importance of this co-operation, the institutions agreed in 2011 to a formal cooperation agreement whose aim is promote and strengthen the control of imports and exports of animal products, live animals, food, plants and related products. Icelandic Customs has before informed ESA on its project for implementing SAD document for import and new IT system. The first phase of the IT system was implemented last year after several technical barriers. However, the SAD implementation is behind schedule and formal new date for implementation has not been published yet. Next phase for Customs IT system is to implement more advanced filters, e.g. filter who can in more effective way</p>	<p>In progress</p>

Mission ID 2017/ICE/4		
<b>Mission to Iceland on Import and use of TRACES in import and trade from 12 to 16 June 2017</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
	<p>distinguish between EEA products and third country products. Recently, the Ministry of Finance has published amendment to regulation No. 1100/2006 on the custody and customs clearance of goods. The amendment creates new requirements to transport companies to classify articles according to CN chapter, CN heading or CN subheading and will enter into force 1. January. The amendment's origin is from MAST's proposal to the Ministry of Finance to and supported by Icelandic Customs.</p> <p>In January 2021 MAST informed the Authority that two cooperation meetings between MAST and Customs have been held.</p> <p><b>Assessment: Actions to address the recommendation are in progress.</b></p>	
<p>Rec 7. The competent authority should ensure that no consignments in transit and transshipment from a non-EEA country are introduced into the EEA without undergoing the necessary veterinary checks as required by Article 3(1) of Directive 97/78/EC and Article 11(2)(a) and (b) of the same Directive.</p>	<p>In August 2017 MAST informed the Authority that all consignments in transshipment will be checked according to time limits and further checks when necessary. Consignments in transit will be checked. The cooperation with customs on consignments in transit/ transshipment will be reinforced. See also recommendation 2.</p> <p>In March 2018 MAST informed the Authority that LBE-075 on monitoring of consignments and LBE-027 on the issue of CVED were updated on 9 March 2018.</p> <p>In August September 2018 MAST informed the Authority that MAST has direct access to Eimskip's cargo manifests and inspectors regularly look them up. MAST cooperates with customs, the shipping lines and customs agents. Icelandair cargo sends e-mails on all transshipments. Other BIPs do not have transshipments/ transits. There are only direct transits to cruise ships. They were 7 in 2017 and none in 2018. The relevant procedures: LBE-027 and LBE-075.</p> <p>In April 2019 MAST informed the Authority that MAST monitors time of transshipment/transits..</p> <p>In June 2019 MAST informed the Authority that it is MAST's understanding that MAST cannot ensure that all members responsible for consignments notify their consignments within 24 hours of arrival. What MAST do is, inform and guide these members as well as charging extra fee for every consignment not notified in 24 hour advance with TRACES. Based on ESA's answers previously it is MAST's understanding that consignments in transshipment do not need to be notified in TRACES if they are within time limits at the BIP, that is 24 hours at Keflavik airport and 7 days in other BIPs (for ships). For the past 2-3 years the</p>	<p>In progress</p>



Mission ID 2017/ICE/4 <b>Mission to Iceland on Import and use of TRACES in import and trade from 12 to 16 June 2017</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
	<p>numbers are showing that consignments notified on time are increasing everywhere except at Keflavik.</p> <p>In October 2020 MAST informed the Authority that regarding transshipments: consignments are checked if they pass time limits at the BCP (port 30 days, airport 3 days). Time of arrival and departure of consignments in transshipment is monitored. If the consignments stay longer than 30 days (7 days prior 2017/625) the consignments must go into TRACES and relevant checks made. Regarding transit: Instructions for transport companies and MAST staff were made 2019 to manage transit consignments. Checks at entry and exit BCP are described therein.</p> <p>In November 2020 MAST informed the Authority that MAST does not have access to Customs data on transit and transshipment. The customs have told MAST that it's very unlikely that MAST can get that access because their database cannot sort out relevant information for MAST and it would be illegal to give MAST full access. MAST is currently working on procedure and evaluating possible solutions to verify/check Customs data on transit and transshipment. A meeting plan has been set up between MAST and customs where meetings will be held once a month during winter 2020-2021 in order to consolidate cooperation.</p> <p><b>Assessment: Actions to address the recommendation are in progress.</b></p>	
<p>Rec 8 The competent authority should ensure that non-conforming consignments are not released into free circulation and that the official veterinarian of the BIP of entry notifies the competent authority if it has not been informed of the exit of products from the EEA within 30 days from departure of certain consignments from the BIP of entry in line with Article 11(2)(c), (d) and (e) of Directive 97/78/EC.</p>	<p>In August 2017 MAST informed the Authority that the procedures (LBE-075) for non-conforming consignments will be revised.</p> <p>In March 2018 MAST informed the Authority that procedures LBE-075 and LBE-027 CVED were revised on 9.3.2018.</p> <p>In September 2018 MAST informed the Authority that there are no consignments in transit from storages in Europe in 2017 and 2018.</p> <p>In April 2019 informed the Authority that no storage in Iceland fulfils requirements to store non-conform goods. Transit is only direct to ship.</p> <p>In October 2020 MAST informed the Authority that there is no transit through</p>	<p>In progress</p>

Mission ID 2017/ICE/4 <b>Mission to Iceland on Import and use of TRACES in import and trade from 12 to 16 June 2017</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
	<p>exit BCP in Iceland and therefore cannot provide any documents of how this is managed. However, procedures are described in instructions mentioned above if such consignments would occur.</p> <p><u>Customs point</u> – October 2020: In legal terms, the Icelandic Law of Customs, No. 88/2005, does not distinguish between transit and transshipment. The CN code heading 9815 is for both transit and transit consignment. Party responsible for consignment leaving vessel within Icelandic territory has the obligation to hand in customs declaration: either simplified transit/transshipment declaration or regular import/export customs declaration. Because of Iceland's geographical position, it is rare consignments cross the country in connection to transit procedure. However, some consignments cross border inspection points within Reykjavík. The crossing is between the two largest shipping lines in Reykjavík – Eimskip and Samskip. To ensure veterinary check, Customs has emphasized the rules on veterinary checks according to EU Regulation 2019/2124 to the shipping lines and all major Air Freight companies. Customs has also pointed out the that consignments in transshipment procedure within the period of 3 days in Air-freight and 30 days in Maritime-freight are excluded from the veterinary procedure. The difference in number between veterinary checks by MAST and transit customs declaration can be caused by the terms "transit and transshipment" and above-mentioned rule for exclusion for checks.</p> <p><b>Assessment: Actions to address the recommendation are in progress.</b></p>	
<p>Rec 9 The competent authority should ensure that exit checks for consignments in transit are implemented and that the consignment received conforms to that dispatched from the BIP of introduction, as required in Article 3 of Commission Decision 2000/208/EC, and to record these checks in TRACES.</p>	<p>In August 2017 MAST informed the Authority that the procedures (LBE-075) for consignments in transits will be revised.</p> <p>In March 2018 MAST informed the Authority that LBE-075 and LBE-027 CVED were revised 9.3.2018.</p> <p>In September 2018 MAST informed the Authority that there are no consignments in transit from storages in Europe in 2017 and 2018.</p> <p>In April 2019 MAST informed the Authority that LBE-075 will be revised before the end of May 2019 regarding checks on direct to ship consignments, A letter will be sent by end of May 2019 to transport companies.</p>	<p>In progress</p>

Mission ID 2017/ICE/4 <b>Mission to Iceland on Import and use of TRACES in import and trade from 12 to 16 June 2017</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
	<p>In October 2020 MAST informed the Authority that Instructions for transport companies and MAST staff were made in 2019 to manage transit consignments. Checks at entry and exit BCP are described therein. Attention is drawn to the fact that there is no history of transit consignments via exit BCP in Iceland. But in case of such consignment, the procedure is described in the above-mentioned instructions.</p> <p><b>Assessment: Actions to address the recommendation are in progress.</b></p>	
<p>Rec 10 The competent authority should ensure that channelled consignments are transported to the place of destination under customs' supervision and that the consignments have arrived at their destination, as required by Article 8(4) of Directive 97/78/EC.</p>	<p>In October 2017 MAST informed the Authority that the procedures (LBE-108 and the accompanied check list GAT-10) will be revised.</p> <p>In March 2018 MAST informed the Authority that more detailed procedure for channelled consignments was entered in LBE-027 on 9.3.2018. The procedures for channelled consignments will be further adapted together with Customs.</p> <p>In September 2018 MAST informed the Authority that LBE-108 was updated on 21.12.2017 on channelled consignments and GAT-010 updated on 10.11.2017. There are no examples of channelled consignments in 2018. LBE-027 will be revised regarding transport after BIP of re-imported consignments.</p> <p>In April 2019 MAST informed the Authority that a letter to customs to gather information on how the competent authority is going to fulfil these requirements.</p> <p>In October 2020 MAST informed the Authority that in case of re-import or channelled consignments, MAST sends email to customs to ensure that customs are aware of the procedure.</p> <p><u>Customs point</u> – October 2020: Customs has updated instructions to importers regarding re-importation of goods from third country that falls under MAST's surveillance authority. For clarification, reimport of goods are in general duty free and can be processed through customs simplified procedure. According to WCO standards chapter 98 and 99 are for national use only. Iceland has decided to use chapter 98 for simplified customs procedure. In order to ensure channelled restricted and to adapt EEA requirements for such goods, Iceland has created two new tariff numbers in chapter 98.</p>	<p>In progress</p>

Mission ID 2017/ICE/4 <b>Mission to Iceland on Import and use of TRACES in import and trade from 12 to 16 June 2017</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
	<p>- 9803.7000 Re-import of consignments arriving to the country from EEA-area with articles falling under MAST's supervision.</p> <p>- 9803.8000 Re-import of consignments arriving to the country from outside the EEA area with articles falling under MAST's supervision.</p> <p>The CN code 9803.8000 for re-importation of restricted articles arriving from outside has been applied to filter in the Customs IT system. The filter stop all consignments with this CN codes. Customs staff members follow instruction from MAST before allowing release of the consignment.</p> <p>In January 2021 MAST informed the Authority that evidence of actions will be provided once they will receive a channelled consignment.</p> <p><b>Assessment: Actions to address the recommendation are in progress.</b></p>	
<p>Rec 11 The competent authority should ensure that communication between competent authorities at the place of origin and at the place of destination via the TRACES system take place and that appropriate follow-up is implemented where required under Articles 8(4) and (5) (channelling), and 15(4) (re-importation) of Directive 97/78/EC</p>	<p>In August 2017 MAST informed the Authority that the procedures (LBE-108 and the accompanied check list GAT-10) will be revised.</p> <p>In March 2018 MAST informed the Authority that more detailed procedure for channelled consignments was entered in LBE-027 on 9.3.2018. The procedures for channelled consignments will be further adapted together with customs.</p> <p>In September 2018 MAST informed the Authority that LBE-108 was updated on 21.12.2017 on channelled consignments and GAT-010 updated on 10.11.2017. There are no examples of channelled consignments in 2018. LBE-027 will be revised regarding transport after BIP of re-imported consignments.</p> <p>In April 2019 MAST informed the Authority that a letter to the Customs to gather information on how the competent authority is going to fulfil these requirements.</p> <p>In June 2019 MAST informed the Authority that Customs have not yet replied to MAST's letter.</p> <p>In October 2020 MAST provided documentation regarding examples of re-importations.</p>	In progress

Mission ID 2017/ICE/4 Mission to Iceland on Import and use of TRACES in import and trade from 12 to 16 June 2017		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
	<p><u>Customs point</u> – October 2020: Icelandic Customs Authority has applied filters into the Customs IT system with guidance and reference for special import procedure. Relevant HS codes and third country codes has been applied to the filter with instructions to Customs clearance staff members to contact BIP and keep the restricted articles under customs control. The channelled consignments can either be transported under physical customs control or the restricted articles stored under customs seal for identification while in transportation. According to Art. 174. of Law of Customs, NO. 88/2005, A person, who breaks or removes a customs seal or other customs emblems, shall be subject to fines or imprisonment up to six months.</p> <p>In January 2021 MAST informed the Authority that evidence of actions will be provided once they will receive a consignment with controlled destination.</p> <p><b>Assessment: Actions to address the recommendation are in progress.</b></p>	

### 1.1.5 Feeding stuffs and animal nutrition

In the period from February 2016 to March 2020, the Authority has completed one mission on feeding stuffs and animal nutrition. Out of a total of eight recommendations issued in relation to this mission, four were identified to be addressed in a general follow-up mission in November 2020.

Mission ID 2017/ICE/3 Mission to Iceland on regarding feed safety from 8 to 17 May 2017		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
<p>Rec 1: The competent authority should ensure that all feed business operators notify any establishments under their control with the view to register as required by Article 9 of Regulation (EC) No 183/2005.</p>	<p>In September 2017 MAST informed the Authority that all larger feed producers (e.g. feed mills and fish meal plants) will be formally contacted to collect knowledge of all feed operators (brokers, retailers etc.) that should be registered and ensure their registration.</p> <p>In January 2018 MAST informed the Authority that letters were sent in October 2017 to all relevant feed producers and exporters to request information for all establishments under their control. Information has been received from most of them but not registered into ISLeyfur since the registration format has not been prepared yet.</p>	<p>Action taken</p>

Mission ID 2017/ICE/3 Mission to Iceland on regarding feed safety from 8 to 17 May 2017		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
	<p>In October 2018 MAST informed the Authority that all known feed operators (brokers, retailers etc.) subject to registration in line with Article 9 of Regulation (EC) No 183/2005 will be registered in IsLeyfur database at the latest by 31 December 2018. A letter will be sent to all the registered entities confirming their registration and thus subject to monitoring activities on behalf of MAST. MAST will continue to reach out and ensure that all establishments falling under the scope of Article 9 are informed and registered.</p> <p>In September 2019 MAST informed the Authority that work is ongoing and deadline extended until 31 March 2020. List of registered entities is available on the MAST website.</p> <p>In June 2020 MAST informed the Authority that procedures for registration of feed business operators have been established. The legal requirement for registration is covered in national regulation no. 107/2010, implementing Regulation (EC) No 183/2005. A list of registered entities can be found on the MAST website.</p> <p>In October 2020 MAST informed the Authority that all feed establishments operated by and the under control of approved feed business operators have been registered and published on the MAST website. Guidelines and instructions for feed inspectors and other inspectors within MAST (border control and primary production) are being written and will be published in MAST QC Manual to further ensure that the registration of feed businesses will be covered under regular monitoring.</p> <p><b>Assessment: The actions taken have satisfactorily addressed the recommendation</b></p>	
<p>Rec 3: The competent authority should ensure compliance with the requirements of Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004, in particular that the official controls of feed business operators take into account all relevant feed-related risks linked to activities</p>	<p>In September 2017 MAST informed the Authority that the risk assessment and risk categorization for feed establishments will be updated in the coming months. Factors such as dioxins and use of coccidiostats will be taken into account. This will also be considered during the upcoming update of the control manual for feed.</p> <p>In August 2018 MAST informed the Authority that risk assessment of different types of feed production (e.g. use of coccidiostats &amp; formation risk of dioxins) is</p>	In progress

Mission ID 2017/ICE/3 <b>Mission to Iceland on regarding feed safety from 8 to 17 May 2017</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
and operations when risk- assessing, inspecting and sampling feed establishments.	<p>ongoing.</p> <p>In October 2018 MAST informed the Authority that an updated risk assessment and risk categorization for feed establishments of different types of feed production has been finalized. Feed producers using coccidiostats and formation of dioxins have been evaluated to present a high risk and thus categorized as such. The risk classification manual will be updated accordingly and re-issued no later than 15 November 2018.</p> <p>In September 2019 MAST informed the Authority that the risk evaluation of feed business operators using coccidiostats in their feed production (for poultry) are classified in risk class 2, which is the highest class for feed businesses. The sampling and analyses of feed in these establishments take the risk of cross contamination in account. The same is with risk of dioxins. The risk classification system for food of animal origin and feed is under review and will be published in the first half of 2020.</p> <p>In June 2020 MAST informed the Authority that the risk classification system for food and feed is still under review and the deadline to finalize the review has been extended until end of October 2020.</p> <p>In October 2020 MAST informed the Authority that the risk classification system is still under review.</p> <p><b>Assessment: Actions to address the recommendation are in progress.</b></p>	
Rec 4: The competent authority should ensure compliance with the requirements of Article 8(1) of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004, in particular that instructions for staff carrying out official controls reflect certain feed-specific risks such as cross contamination, homogeneity and dioxin in feed materials.	<p>In September 2017 MAST informed the Authority that this issue will be further emphasized in the next version of the control manual for feed.</p> <p>In January 2018 MAST informed the Authority that the control manual for feed will be revised in the coming months. Guidance will be included for inspectors regarding specific risk factors such as cross-contamination and dioxins.</p> <p>In October 2018 MAST informed the Authority that the control manual for feed has been updated to include further guidance to inspectors e.g. regarding specific risk factors such as contamination and dioxins. The final draft version / updated version of the control manual for feed is subject to proofreading after which it will be re-issued in the MAST quality control system.</p> <p>In September 2019 MAST informed the Authority that the control manual for feed has been updated but has not been published in the QM. IsLeyfur (the control database) is being updated accordingly. However inspections are being</p>	Action taken

Mission ID 2017/ICE/3 <b>Mission to Iceland on regarding feed safety from 8 to 17 May 2017</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
	<p>executed in line with the final draft version of the control manual for feed in regards to the mentioned risk factors like cross-contamination, homogeneity and dioxins although they have not been formally incorporated in the control database. Deadline for formal publication is extended until the end of 2019.</p> <p>In June 2020 MAST informed the Authority that the final version of the new Control manual for feed has been established and implemented taking into consideration the recommendation 2017/ICE/3.</p> <p>In October 2020 MAST informed the Authority that the Control manual for feed has been published and implemented reflecting feed-specific risks such as cross contamination and homogeneity and dioxin in feed materials.</p> <p><b>Assessment: The actions taken have satisfactorily addressed the recommendation</b></p>	
<p>Rec 5: The competent authority should ensure that all feed business operators have HACCP-based procedures in place in accordance with Articles 6 and 7 of Regulation (EC) No 183/2005. In particular, the competent authority should ensure that feed dryers using direct drying processes have HACCP-based procedures in place to address the risk of dioxins in feed materials when these processes are applied.</p>	<p>In September 2017 MAST informed the Authority that MAST will send a letter to the feed dryers to inform them about the requests for HACCP plans for their production.</p> <p>In January 2018 MAST informed the Authority that relevant establishments were informed in October 2017 about the legal requirements regarding HACCP based procedures (in particular for drying) and that this will be followed up in the next inspection visit.</p> <p>In October 2018 MAST informed the Authority that one of three establishments has submitted a HACCP based procedures in line with the requirements of Art 6 and 7 of Regulation (EC) No 183/2005. One establishment visited during the mission has quit its processing. The other establishments were given a deadline until 30 October 2018 to submit HAACP based procedures and have been informed that if they fail to do so MAST will use the enforcement measures available such as restricting their activities. Final enforcement deadline was set at 30 November 2018. One establishment has already sent in a draft HACCP plan which is currently being evaluated by MAST.</p> <p>In September 2019 MAST informed the Authority that the shell sand producer has submitted his completed HACCP based procedures. After further consideration, it is the understanding of MAST that grain dryers as primary producers handling their product on their own production site fall under the</p>	Action taken



Mission ID 2017/ICE/3		
<b>Mission to Iceland on regarding feed safety from 8 to 17 May 2017</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
	<p>scope of Art. 5.1.a of regulation 183/2005/EU and thus do not need to comply with Art. 6 and Art. 7 of that regulation. MAST took samples in the autumn of 2017 of dried barley from the three operators using diesel dryers giving the results of 0.13 – 0.14 ng dioxin/kg and 0.27 – 0.28 ng sum of dioxin and dl PCB/ kg, which are well below the maximum levels of 0.75 ng dioxin/ kg and 1.25 ng sum of dioxin and dl PCB/ kg as per directive 32/2002/EU. The grain dryers are all using diesel burners and the question has been raised if they need HACCP based procedure in such production taking into to consideration that they do not fall under the scope of Ar.t 6 and Art. 7 of regulation 183/2005/EU and the results in 2017 show levels well below the maximum levels of dioxin.</p> <p>In June 2020 MAST informed the Authority that MAST does not require the entities in question to implement HACCP procedures based on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• samples were taken from their production and analysed and found that dioxins and PCB were well below the maximum limits given in directive 32/2002/EU,</li> <li>• these grain dryers are using pure diesel oil as the only energy source for that purpose and thus the risk of dioxin contamination is low.</li> </ul> <p>The entities in question fall under the official control program of MAST and subject to regular inspections and sampling.</p> <p>In October 2020 MAST informed the Authority that the three establishment in question have established and implemented a HACCP based procedures and submitted them to MAST. However, MAST has not been able to follow up on the implementation of the HACCP within the establishments but it is scheduled within the next few months.</p> <p><b>Assessment: The actions taken have satisfactorily addressed the recommendation</b></p>	

### 1.1.6 Transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (TSE)

There are no recommendations currently open for follow-up.

### 1.1.7 Animal by-products (ABP)

In the period from February 2016 to March 2020, the Authority completed one mission in relation to animal by-products. Out of a total of 12 recommendations issued in relation to this mission, 12 were identified to be addressed in a general follow-up mission in November 2020.

Mission ID 2017/ICE/7 Mission to Iceland on animal by-products not intended for human consumption from 11 to 20 June 2018		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
Rec 1: Iceland should ensure effective co-operation between competent authorities as required by Article 4(3) of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004.	<p>In September 2018 MAST informed the Authority that the first meeting of representatives from the Ministry of Industries and Innovation, Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources, The Environment Agency of Iceland, The Icelandic Food and Veterinary Authority and the Local Competent Authority has been held. It was a one-day meeting of about 15 representatives where it was decided to establish a working group of the above-mentioned parties in addition to the Icelandic Association of Local Authorities. The main purpose of this work would be to review the legislation on ABPs and harmonize it with legislation on waste management, finalize the implementation of the ABP regulations (remote area etc.), clarify the roles and responsibilities of all parties involved and to establish written procedures as relevant. The whole system of ABPs in Iceland needs to be reviewed considering the results of the mission and it will be directed to Icelandic Authorities (government) to find a solution for the disposal of ABPs.</p> <p>In October 2020 MAST informed the Authority that cooperation between the competent authorities has improved; MAST and UST have collaborated on updating instructions and guidelines.</p> <p>In January 2021 Iceland provided updated information, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MAST: MAST and UST have collaborated on updating guidelines on infected animal by-products and defining appropriate channels for solid waste from aquaculture. During the recent Scrapie outbreak all competent authorities came together and co-operated on a solution to the problem that was faced. The ABP working group has been dormant,</li> </ul>	In progress

Mission ID 2017/ICE/7		
<b>Mission to Iceland on animal by-products not intended for human consumption from 11 to 20 June 2018</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
	<p>but MAST will take up a leading role in implementing co-operation between competent authorities and set up regular meetings with all competent authorities to ensure further collaboration and mutual understanding. MAST will draw up each authorities' responsibilities as understood by MAST to ensure no part of the chain is missed and to clarify the roles and responsibilities of all relevant official control authorities involved. Deadline for reviving the working group is March 2021.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry of Industry and Innovation: The MOII together with MAST and UST is working on an amendment to regulation no. 674/2017 aimed at clarifying the role and responsibility of each competent authority. It is planned that it will be completed by the end of May at the latest. The LCA's have been contacted (via email) but no response has been received. The MOII will send a formal letter to the Organization of LCA's in Iceland in order to get them to participate in the work and as well to clarify their role and responsibility in each district in Iceland.</li> <li>• Ministry for the Environment and Natural Resources: Regulation (EC) 882/2004 has been replaced by Regulation (EU) 2017/625. According to information from the Environment Agency, the Food and Veterinary Authority (MAST) and the Environment Agency (UST) have drafted procedures for the disposal of ABPs and carcasses, to ensure cooperation in official controls on the disposal of ABPs. The Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources welcomes the introduction of such procedures and considers that no legislative or regulatory changes are needed within the waste framework to meet ESA's comments in this regard. A working group was established in 2018 with discussion about ABPs. The Ministry considers it appropriate to convene a meeting of the group as soon as possible after the end of the year to continue working on the coordination of official controls between institutions and to ensure that the disposal of animal remains is in accordance with EEA rules. Representatives from the Ministry of Transport and Local Government and from the Ministry of Health should also be called into the group's work. UAR has understood that ANR takes the lead in convening the group as the work is based on Regulation no. 674/2017.</li> <li>• The Environment Agency (UST): UST called MAST, ANR and UAR for a meeting in 7. October 2019 to start a review of guidelines on infected animal by-products. The guidelines were reviewed by MAST and UST in 2019. Draft of the guidelines have been introduced to permit holders</li> </ul>	

Mission ID 2017/ICE/7 <b>Mission to Iceland on animal by-products not intended for human consumption from 11 to 20 June 2018</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
	<p>but the implementation and final review by the MAST is not finished. In addition, there has been cooperation between MAST and UST in order to define appropriate channels for solid waste from aquaculture.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Municipal Environmental Health and Protection Offices (LCA): no additional information</li> </ul> <p><b>Assessment: Actions to address the recommendation are in progress.</b></p>	
<p>Rec 2: The competent authorities should ensure that official controls cover the entire chain covered by EEA ABP legislation, as required by Article 4(3) of Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009 and Article 32 of Regulation (EU) No 142/2011.</p>	<p>In September 2018 MAST informed the Authority that it is foreseen that the results of the co-operation mentioned in reply to recommendation number 1 will ensure that official controls cover the entire chain of ABP matters.</p> <p>In October 2020 MAST informed the Authority that larger parts of the entire ABP chain is now covered by official control, f.ex. aquaculture, organic fertilisers and compost. Control of disposal of fallen stock is improving with incorporation of new registration in both Huppa and Fjávís where farmers will be required to register at which reception centre fallen stock was dispatched to.</p> <p>In January 2021 Iceland provided updated information, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MAST: Larger parts of the entire ABP chain are now covered by official control but areas such as pharmaceutical production and scientific research have not all received ABP facilities registration. Information on ABP has been published on MAST website. Additional information will be published on the MAST website for the public as they are developed. With the changes being made to Huppa and Fjávís (see also the reply to recommendation number 12) and farmers will be required to register the disposal of fallen stock, the problem with “on farm burial” should improve as farmers will also have to declare the reception centre the fallen stock is dispatched to and thus ensure traceability along the chain. With the introduction and implementation of enhanced training of official inspectors and increased awareness on commercial documents the next step will be to monitor through official control that no facility where ABP originates will sell or dispatch the products to operators or transporters that do not have an ABP registration or approval number. MAST will publish news and information on the MAST website calling for registration or application of approval of all facilities that work with ABP. This should ensure that all parts of the ABP chain will be covered by official control.</li> </ul>	INC

Mission ID 2017/ICE/7 <b>Mission to Iceland on animal by-products not intended for human consumption from 11 to 20 June 2018</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ministry for the Environment and Natural Resources: The Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources believes that the role of institutions is clear and that by-products of animals become waste when they enter a disposal facility, whether for incineration or landfill. According to information from UST, MAST and UST have drafted procedures for the disposal of ABPs, to ensure cooperation in official controls of the disposal of ABPs. The Ministry welcomes the introduction of such procedures and considers that no legislative or regulatory changes are needed within the waste framework to meet ESA's comments in this regard.</li> <li>The Environment Agency (UST): MAST covers the largest part of the chain. UST has analysed its part in the chain with regards to the permits, monitoring and inspection according to directive 2010/75/EU, i.e. the disposal of waste from poultry and pig farms. UST has introduced the rules governing the disposal of ABP during inspections in landfill sites and incinerators stations. Requirements on the disposal of ABP have been written in the appropriate permits that have been issued recently.</li> <li>Municipal Environmental Health and Protection Offices (LCA): no additional information</li> </ul> <p><b>Assessment: Appropriate measures to address the recommendation have not been taken and the follow-up of the recommendation has been referred to an incorrect application case.</b></p>	
<p>Rec 3: The competent authorities should ensure that documented procedures are in place for official controls of all operators, establishments or plants dealing with ABPs, as required by Article 8(1) of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004, and that all official controls are reported Article 9 of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004.</p>	<p>In September 2018 MAST informed the Authority that MAST will prepare control handbooks/guidelines for official control of specific ABP related operations not covered in existing control handbooks. The present handbooks will also be reviewed to refer to Regulations (EC) No 1069/2009 and 142/2011 and to add ABP related points where needed. Based on these new handbooks/guidelines, inspection reports on these operators can be registered in Ísleyfur, MAST's central database. MAST has shared the guidance document on traceability of ABPs with UST. The document will be updated to reflect the new APB regulations and will be used by all parties to ensure full traceability of ABPs. Once the working group mentioned in reply to recommendation 1 has completed its work written procedures will be updated and/or prepared for all parties involved.</p> <p>In October 2020 MAST informed the Authority that updated date of compliance</p>	In progress

Mission ID 2017/ICE/7 <b>Mission to Iceland on animal by-products not intended for human consumption from 11 to 20 June 2018</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
	<p>for control handbook for ABP is end of 2020 and that other control handbooks have been reviewed.</p> <p>In January 2021 Iceland provided updated information, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MAST: Official control handbooks have been updated in primary production, feed, and food control. Handbooks for slaughterhouses are under review and the handbook for ABP is being written and will be completed in by 01.04.2021.</li> <li>• The Environment Agency (UST): As mentioned in reply to recommendation number 1, UST and MAST have drafted documented procedures concerning the disposal of ABPs and the cooperation between the two authorities. Cooperation between UST and MAST has begun regarding the use of ABP in a biogas or digestion plant. UST is not the competent authority of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 and Regulation (EU) No 2017/625 according to Icelandic legislation. UST monitors the disposal of ABPs and use of ABPs in a biogas or digestion plant.</li> <li>• Municipal Environmental Health and Protection Offices (LCA): no additional information</li> </ul> <p><b>Assessment: Actions to address the recommendation are in progress.</b></p>	
<p>Rec 4: The competent authorities should ensure that that appropriate actions are taken by the competent authorities if the inspections carried out reveal that relevant requirements are not being met, as required by Article 46 of Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009.</p>	<p>In September 2018 MAST informed the Authority that with new/improved control handbooks/guidelines on ABP related official control, as well as planned training infringements should not go undetected in official control. Furthermore, it will be clarified which infringements could and should be used in all circumstances in official control on ABPs.</p> <p>In June 2019 MAST informed the Authority that work has been done on clarifying which infringements could be used in official control on ABPs and the next step is to draft up a written procedure on it and incorporate it in MAST's Quality Manual. UST uses in general enforcements according to acts 7/1998 and 55/2003 regarding non compliances, that is formal warning, fines, limited permission and most severe cases operation ban.</p> <p>In October 2020 MAST informed the Authority that training of official inspectors has improved so that appropriate actions are now taken when requirements are</p>	<p>Action still required</p>

Mission ID 2017/ICE/7		
<b>Mission to Iceland on animal by-products not intended for human consumption from 11 to 20 June 2018</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
	<p>not being met. This is in progress. Updated date of compliance is June 2021</p> <p>In January 2021 Iceland provided updated information, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MAST: The different control handbooks all have chapters on the actions taken in case of non-compliance detected. Documentation regarding official control is registered in Ísleyfur, (the national database). Ísleyfur has a flaw so when a non-compliance has been rectified the history of the non-compliance does not show on the next report created so an overview of the same non-compliance being intermittently repeated is hard. When the ABP control handbook is established and implemented all inspectors will receive further training on relevant areas to clarify any confusion.</li> <li>• The Environment Agency (UST): Requirements of Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009 have been implemented in all permits for landfills that have been issued by the Environment Agency of Iceland since 2019. Five new permits have been issued and three permits have been revised. New permits for two additional landfills are already in process. All permits are published on EIA website <a href="http://www.ust.is">www.ust.is</a>. Permits indicate that the permit holder shall fulfil requirements set in regulations and laws at each time. Inspectors have introduced requirements of Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009 for permit holders in environmental inspections, both landfills and intensive rearing of poultry and pigs. All inspection reports and permits are published on the website <a href="http://www.ust.is">www.ust.is</a>. UST aims to review the general permit conditions for slaughterhouses, fur, poultry and pig farms. UST has not taken serious action regarding a complete ban on putting ABP in landfills at this moment, due to the fact that proper channels are not available in Iceland (incineration and pressure sterilization). UST has considered that if UST takes strict actions towards operators, establishments or plants that handle ABP, it can lead to disposal of ABPs in areas without permits and therefore not monitored or inspected by authorities. According to the constitution of Iceland, LCAs are independent authorities. LCAs are responsible for having the proper channels for waste (according to article 8 of the waste management act 55/2003). Before UST takes action towards permit holders that deal with ABPs (farmers and landfills), proper channels must be established. It is important that those channels will be available as soon as possible.</li> </ul>	

Mission ID 2017/ICE/7 <b>Mission to Iceland on animal by-products not intended for human consumption from 11 to 20 June 2018</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
	<b>Assessment: Action is still required to address the recommendation.</b>	
<p>Rec 5: The competent authorities should ensure that its staff receive appropriate training related to ABPs in accordance with Article 6 of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004.</p>	<p>In September 2018 MAST informed the Authority that the findings of this mission will be introduced within MAST, the Environmental Agency (UST) and the LCAs. Following that a training will be held within MAST and UST for all relevant inspectors on general ABP related matters. Written procedures will be updated to include ABP training as a part of training for new employees at all the competent authorities. Following new/improved control guidelines and conclusions of the working group a detailed and practical training of relevant inspectors will be held within MAST and UST and among the LCAs.</p> <p>In June 2019 MAST informed the Authority that ABP training of new employees at MAST has begun and work is being finalized for updating the written procedures.</p> <p>In October 2020 MAST informed the Authority that ABP training of new employees has been implemented, including the official inspectors in slaughterhouses on ABP requirements.</p> <p>In January 2021 Iceland provided updated information, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MAST: ABP training of new employees has been implemented, including the official inspectors in slaughterhouses on ABP requirements. The EM (Eftirlitsteymi Matvæla / food inspection team) team received training with discussion on relevant ABP matters in October 2020.</li> <li>• Ministry for the Environment and Natural Resources: Training of inspectors is carried out by the Environment Agency according to the legislative role of the Agency. The Ministry considers that no legislative or regulatory changes are needed due to ESA's comment.</li> <li>• The Environment Agency (UST): As mentioned in answer to recommendation number 1, UST and MAST have drafted documented procedures concerning the disposal of ABPs and the cooperation between the two authorities. Cooperation between UST and MAST has begun regarding the use of ABP in a biogas or digestion plant. The inspectors that monitor ABP plants, operators and establishments will</li> </ul>	Action still required



Mission ID 2017/ICE/7 <b>Mission to Iceland on animal by-products not intended for human consumption from 11 to 20 June 2018</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
	<p>get training on the proper procedures and legislation. Revision on procedures for inspectors are planned on this in 2021 and the requirements regarding ABP will be a part of the procedures.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Municipal Environmental Health and Protection Offices (LCA): no additional information</li> </ul> <p><b>Assessment: Action is still required to address the recommendation.</b></p>	
<p>Rec 6: The competent authorities should ensure that operators collect, identify and transport animal by-products without undue delay under prescribed conditions, as defined in Article 21 (1) of Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009 and that they comply with the requirements for collection, transport and identification set out in Article 17(1)(a) and point 1, Chapters I and II of Annex VIII of Regulation (EU) 142/2011</p>	<p>In September 2018 MAST informed the Authority that guidance document based on the EU ABP legislation has been drafted (built on a guidance document from Norway) and will be published on MAST's website to inform operators, inspectors and the general public about ABP related matters. With new/improved control handbooks/guidelines and training inspectors will be better equipped to spot non-compliances regarding collection, identification and transport in their official control. With conclusions of the working group registration/authorisation will be completed for all ABP operators, plants and establishments dealing with ABPs and official control on those premises will ensure that collection, identification and transport is according to ABP regulations.</p> <p>In October 2020 MAST informed the Authority that guidelines have been published on MAST's website with information on correct handling, transport and categorisation of ABP according to ABP regulations. Training and guidance of official inspectors is in progress.</p> <p>In January 2021 Iceland provided updated information, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MAST: With a clearer understanding of all relevant competent authorities' responsibilities collection, identification and transport of animal by-products will be in accordance with the regulation. Information has been published on MAST website where correct procedures for identification, collection and transport is described. This information has also been presented in the training that has been implemented.</li> <li>• The Environment Agency (UST): MAST is the competent authority regarding this article.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assessment: Actions to address the recommendation are in progress.</b></p>	<p>In progress</p>

Mission ID 2017/ICE/7 <b>Mission to Iceland on animal by-products not intended for human consumption from 11 to 20 June 2018</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
<p>Rec 7: The competent authorities should ensure that all ABPs are accompanied by a commercial document or, where required, by a health certificate in accordance with Article 21(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009.</p>	<p>In September 2018 MAST informed the Authority that MAST will ensure that increased emphasis will be put on checking commercial documents in all official control involving ABPs. This will be done with training and dissemination of information, e.g. when the results on this mission will be introduced among staff. Following registration and approval of all types of ABP plants and transporters traceability will be ensured.</p> <p>In January 2021 Iceland provided updated information, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MAST: Date of compliance moved to June 2021.</li> <li>• The Environment Agency (UST): MAST is the competent authority regarding this article.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assessment: Actions to address the recommendation are in progress.</b></p>	<p>In progress</p>
<p>Rec 8: The competent authorities should ensure that the operators' follow the hygiene and processing methods required by Article 9 of Regulation (EU) No 142/2011.</p>	<p>In September 2018 MAST informed the Authority that when setting up new control handbooks/guidance documents, as well as reviewing current control handbooks special attention will be on points relating to operators' own check systems on hygiene and processing methods. This will also be part of the training of inspectors..</p> <p>In January 2021 Iceland provided updated information, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MAST: MAST is the competent authority of all these operators except composting, which lies with UST and LCA. MAST has experts in ABP, feed and fertilisers that oversee the official control over these operators. This will be addressed within the official controls of 2021 of these establishments. With the implementation of national regulation no. 674/2017, the LCA and UST were defined as the competent authorities of Section (g) of Article 24 of Regulation (EC) No. 1069/2009. MAST disagrees with this assessment on the basis of the Icelandic Act no. 25/1993 on animal diseases and their prevention and Act. No. 22/1994 on the control of feed, fertilizers and seeds. MAST argues that the responsibility of official control of the product lies with MAST as UST and LCA do not conduct official controls based on HACCP plans and the hygiene and processing methods of Article 9 of Regulation (EU) No 142/2011. A revision proposal of the national regulation no. 674/2017 has been sent to the MI&amp;I so that MASTs role in the official control of</li> </ul>	<p>In progress</p>

Mission ID 2017/ICE/7 <b>Mission to Iceland on animal by-products not intended for human consumption from 11 to 20 June 2018</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
	<p>compost when intended for use as fertiliser is clear.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Environment Agency (UST): MAST is the competent authority regarding this article.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assessment: Actions to address the recommendation are in progress.</b></p>	
<p>Rec 9: The competent authorities should ensure that dispatch of relevant ABPs and processed products to other EEA countries is carried out in accordance with the requirements laid down in Article 48(3) of Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009 and by point 3, Article 21 of Regulation (EC) 1069/2009 and Article 17 and point 4, Chapter III of Annex VIII to Regulation (EU) 142/2011.</p>	<p>In September 2018 MAST informed the Authority that MAST has already informed exporters of fishmeal that all consignments to EEA-states are to be accompanied by the necessary commercial document made in the TRACES system. Thereby the EEA states of destination are informed by means of the TRACES. This practice for all relevant ABPs will be ensured by instructions published on MAST homepage and furthermore in MAST QM. MAST will follow this up by performing cross-checks on export information from customs on relevant consignments.</p> <p>In January 2021 Iceland provided updated information, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MAST: Date of compliance for instructions and cross checks is June 2021</li> <li>The Environment Agency (UST): MAST is the competent authority regarding this article.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assessment: Actions to address the recommendation are in progress.</b></p>	In progress
<p>Rec 10: Iceland should ensure that all types of ABP plants are registered or approved according to requirements of Article 23 and Article 24 of Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009 and listed in accordance with point 1 of Article 47 of Regulation (EC) 1069/2009.</p>	<p>In September 2018 MAST informed the Authority that following new control handbooks and clarification of CAs roles and responsibilities registration and authorisation of all operators, establishments or plants dealing with ABPs will be completed. Furthermore, all existing approvals will be updated on the basis of Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009.</p> <p>In October 2020 MAST informed the Authority that all ABP facilities registered with MAST in Iceland have undergone review of their registration based on Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009.</p> <p>In January 2021 Iceland provided updated information, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MAST: Ísleyfur, the Icelandic registration system, where all registered and approved ABP plants and operators are listed, has been updated so it displays section, activity, and category correctly for all listed ABP</li> </ul>	Action still required

Mission ID 2017/ICE/7		
Mission to Iceland on animal by-products not intended for human consumption from 11 to 20 June 2018		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
	<p>operators. All current operators have been reviewed and registration corrected where faults were found. All future plants will be registered</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Environment Agency (UST): Iceland ensures that landfill sites and incineration stations have permits according to directive 2010/75/EB. According to Article 24, paragraphs 1b and 1c establishments or plants which have a permit to operate in accordance with Directive 2000/76/EC, are excluded from having a permit. Directive 2000/76/EC was repealed by Directive 2010/75/EU. UST has not given any approvals or registered any plants or operations according to Regulation (EC) 1069/2009 since all disposal of waste must have a permit. MAST is the competent authority regarding Article 23 of the regulation according to the Icelandic regulation 674/2017.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assessment: Action is still required to address the recommendation.</b></p>	
<p>Rec 11: The competent authorities should ensure that all SRMs are disposed of as required by Article 8 of Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 and Annex V of Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 and stained in accordance with Annex V, point 3 of Regulation (EC) No 999/2001.</p>	<p>In September 2018 MAST informed the Authority that part of the training of inspectors will focus on the importance of correct categorisation, handling (incl. staining) and disposal of SRM. Slaughterhouses will be informed of the requirement of staining and followed up by inspectors. The disposal of SRM in Iceland is also related to the discussion and results of the working group mentioned in replay to recommendation number 1.</p> <p>In October 2020 MAST informed the Authority that all inspectors have received training on correct categorisation, handling, staining and disposal of SRM. Slaughterhouses have been informed of the requirements of staining and this is being followed up by inspectors.</p> <p>In January 2021 Iceland provided updated information, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MAST: All official inspectors have received training on correct categorisation, handling, staining and disposal of SRM. The training of official inspectors has been updated and an e-lecture created. The MAST inspections manual for daily inspections at slaughterhouses is under revision but chapters on animal by-products and SRM have been added. The MAST Inspection manual for Food control Team has been updated and published and chapter 4.6 deals with ABP. Incorrect treatment of SRMs in the slaughterhouses shall be followed up in accordance with Art. 1.5.2 of MAST Inspection manual for Food control Team. Daily inspection follows the checklist GAT-011/GAT-019.</li> </ul>	In progress

Mission ID 2017/ICE/7 <b>Mission to Iceland on animal by-products not intended for human consumption from 11 to 20 June 2018</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
	<p>Slaughterhouses have been informed of the requirements of staining and this is being followed up by official inspectors both in daily inspection and official control. On 19.5.2020 all slaughterhouses were informed of the requirement of staining SRM with an email and this has been followed up with official control.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Environment Agency (UST): MAST is the competent authority regarding this article.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assessment: Actions to address the recommendation are in progress.</b></p>	
<p>Rec 12: Iceland should ensure that all animals eligible to be included into TSE monitoring are tested, as required by Article 6 of Regulation (EC) No 999/2001.</p>	<p>In September 2018 MAST informed the Authority that effort will be put in to enhanced awareness of farmers on the importance of TSE testing of bovine animals older than 48 months that die on farm. The first step has been to put in notification on this importance in the farmers electronic herd book for cattle for when they register dead animals. Discussions will be held with local authorities where there are collections sites collecting fallen stock to set up a notification system for TSE sampling. Following conclusions of the working group work will be done on integrating a notification system for TSE sampling in to fallen stock collection system as a whole.</p> <p>In October 2020 MAST informed the Authority that it is implementing electronic registration of disposal of fallen stock in the cattle, sheep, and goats databases, Huppa and Fjárnís, and this will also be a factor in TSE sampling of fallen stock.</p> <p>In January 2021 Iceland provided updated information, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MAST: MAST is implementing electronic registration of disposal of fallen stock in the cattle, sheep, and goat databases, Huppa and Fjárnís. This will implement steps of registration and overview for the DVOs as they can then both have better overview of registration of fallen stock as well as having this information to follow up with during official control. When the system has been implemented it will be introduced to the farmers within the same month. The Icelandic Agricultural Advisory Centre is programming the databases, but no deadline has been set. Iceland has also published the Surveillance of BSE in Iceland – plan</li> <li>The Environment Agency (UST): MAST is the competent authority regarding this article.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assessment: Actions to address the recommendation are in progress.</b></p>	<p>In progress</p>

### 1.1.8 Veterinary medicines and residues, Antimicrobial resistance

In the period from February 2016 to March 2020, the Authority completed two missions in relation to veterinary medicines and residues and antimicrobial resistance. 16 recommendations were issued in relation to these missions and two were identified to be addressed in a follow-up mission in November 2020.

Mission ID 2015/ICE/1		
<b>Mission to Iceland on veterinary medicinal products and residues from 8 to 12 February 2016</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
<p>Rec 9: Iceland should ensure that proper enforcement action towards the relevant operators are taken to ensure that veterinary medicinal products are not dispensed to the public without a veterinary prescription, as required by Article 67(aa) of Directive 2001/82/EC.</p>	<p>In September 2016 MAST informed the Authority that 22 inspections in veterinary pharmacies are on the Icelandic Medicines Agency's (IMA) inspection plan in 2016. IMA now has the resources to follow up on the inspections. Five inspections were performed 2016 and current plan has been updated to accommodate for fewer inspections than anticipated. The rate of inspections, risk based, every 2-10 years, is considered appropriate.</p> <p>In March 2019 MAST informed the Authority that IMA has confirmed to MAST via an e-mail on 8 March 2019 That: "The IMA inspection program for 2019 does include veterinary pharmacies including corrective actions regarding non compliances."</p> <p>In July 2020 MAST informed the Authority that IMA is aiming at having the additional information requested in ESA letter dated 24 April 2020 ready by August / September but due to Covid-19 and restrictions during that time they had to prioritize their tasks to be able to attend to urgent matters. Their official control and reporting is not yet in an electronic format meaning that they do not have the tools to easily extract data / statistics from a computer system. Response on the number on non-compliances etc. performed by IMA on veterinary pharmacies is expected by the end of September.</p> <p>In October 2020 MAST informed the Authority that IMA sent out desktop inspections for 58 veterinarians in 2019. 10 of the veterinarians that received notification of desktop inspections have either retired or moved out of the country. Out of 48 desktop inspections commenced, 38 inspections case files have been completed and closed, 10 veterinary inspection are still under compliance management. The deviations that arisen from the inspections were related to compliance issues, lack of controlled procedures, insufficient temperature control of storage of medicines. The deviations have been followed up with a request for</p>	<p>Action taken</p>

Mission ID 2015/ICE/1 Mission to Iceland on veterinary medicinal products and residues from 8 to 12 February 2016		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
	<p>corrective actions and compliance management. An overview of the inspection case files attached.</p> <p><b>Assessment: The actions taken have satisfactorily addressed the recommendation</b></p>	

Mission ID 2018/ICE/4 Mission to Iceland on monitoring and reporting of antimicrobial resistance in zoonotic and commensal bacteria from 10 to 13 September 2018		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
<p>Rec 2: Iceland should ensure that sampling at retail is performed according to the planned activities in order to obtain the minimum number of samples for specific monitoring of ESBL-producing E. coli, in line with Article 2(1) and Point 2.2. of Part A of the Annex of Decision 2013/652/EU.</p>	<p>In November 2018 MAST informed the Authority that meetings will be held to improve communication and to improve the common understanding of the roles of MAST and LCAs in the sampling at retail, moreover, a short presentation/training of the sampling design and randomized sampling techniques at retail will be performed.</p> <p>In October 2019 MAST informed the Authority that a meeting was held on 14 January 2019 with MAST and LCAs where sampling design and sampling techniques were discussed and instructions improved accordingly.</p> <p>In October 2020 MAST informed the Authority that at the beginning of 2019, the Competition Authority provided MAST an overview of each retail/retail chain's market share by regions. MAST forwarded this information to the appropriate LCAs to be taken into account when planning sampling in their area. The same overview was used for sampling in 2020, as there have been no significant market changes the last year. At the beginning of 2020, the guidelines were reviewed and updated and sent to all the appropriate LCAs. It was decided at an internal meeting in September to hold a meeting with the relevant LCAs in January 2021 to train new staff and specifically review the importance of not sampling the same batch as this is a repeating issue. At the end of September, the sampling situation was quite good. Seven samples (out of 112) were missing to be on schedule; it was mainly due to repetitions in batch numbers. MAST sent emails to LCAs in question, asking them to increase their sampling in the last quarter to reach the year's minimum number. Previously this year, there have been some communications (email and/or telephone) addressing the same issue.</p> <p>In December 2020 MAST provided the evidence of above mentioned meetings</p>	<p>Action taken</p>

Mission ID 2018/ICE/4 <b>Mission to Iceland on monitoring and reporting of antimicrobial resistance in zoonotic and commensal bacteria from 10 to 13 September 2018</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
	along with updated instructions  <b>Assessment: The actions taken have satisfactorily addressed the recommendation.</b>	

### 1.1.9 Foodstuffs, food hygiene, imports of food of plant origin

There are no recommendations currently open for follow-up.

### 1.1.10 Animal welfare

There are no recommendations currently open for follow-up.

### 1.1.11 Organic production

In the period from February 2016 to March 2020, the Authority completed one mission in relation to organic production. 11 recommendations were issued in relation to this mission and all 11 were identified to be addressed in a follow-up mission in November 2020.

Mission ID 2019/ICE/3 <b>Mission to Iceland on organic production and labelling of organic products from 25 November to 3 December 2019</b>		
(Reference) Recommendation	Information provided by the Icelandic authorities	ESA Assessment
Rec 1: The Competent Authority should organise an annual inspection of control bodies as required by Article 92e of Regulation (EC) No 889/2008.	In March 2020 MAST provided to the Authority two documents which were published in the Quality manual for the annual inspection of CBs. The CA conducted an inspection of the CB in February and provided a report from this inspection to the Authority.  In October 2020 MAST informed the Authority that the the next annual inspection of the CB will take place the second week of December. It will include a witness audit in addition to document review and office audit.  In November 2020 MAST informed the Authority that they sent the information required in annex XIIIc of Regulation (EC) No 889/2008 via the OFIS system.	Action taken



	<p><b>Assessment: The actions taken have satisfactorily addressed the recommendation.</b></p>	
<p>Rec 2: The Competent Authority should ensure that the Control Body verifies all requirements necessary for certification, in particular operators precautionary measures, as defined in Article 63(1)(c) of Regulation (EC) No 889/2008 and that operators declarations include all undertakings as required by Article 63(2) of Regulation (EC) No 889/2008.</p>	<p>In March 2020 MAST informed the Authority that the CB has submitted to CA amended application forms and annual report template that require an operator to draw up and maintain precautionary measures; an amended audit checklist to ensure verification of those measures; and certification contract adding further clarifications to ensure full compliance with article 63(2) Regulation (EC) No 889/2008.</p> <p>In June 2020 MAST informed the Authority that after verifying the document submitted by the CB, the CA considers this recommendation completed.</p> <p>In October 2020 MAST provided to the Authority documentary evidence from two operators' inspections showing the use of amended application forms and annual report template. During the annual inspection before end of year 2020, The CA will confirm the verification by the CB of all requirements, including the operators' precautionary measures.</p> <p><b>Assessment: The actions taken have satisfactorily addressed the recommendation.</b></p>	<p>Action taken</p>
<p>Rec 3: The Competent Authority should ensure that the documentary evidence issued by the CB to operators follows the model provided in Annex XII of Regulation (EC) No 889/2008, as required by Article 68 of that regulation, and it should be made available to the public together with the list of operators, as required by Article 92b of Regulation (EC) No 889/2008.</p>	<p>In March 2020 MAST informed the Authority that the CB has already submitted a new template for their documentary evidence to be issued to operators in 2020. It does follow the model provided in Annex XII of Regulation (EC) No 889/2008. A list of all operators has been available to the public on CB's website for several years. The list does not include the documentary evidence (certificates). The CB has committed to revise the format of the list to include access to certificates at the end of this year.</p> <p>In October 2020 MAST informed the Authority that th CB will update the list of operators at the end of the year and include the documentary evidence for each certified operator.</p> <p>In January 2021 MAST informed the Authority that as of 2020 all of CB's certification templates are designed to conform to the requirements of documentary evidence as stated in XII Annex to Regulation (EC) No 889/2008. The CB has updated its lists of operators (agriculture and processing) that are subject to the official inspection system as outlined in the Icelandic and EU</p>	<p>Action taken</p>

	<p>regulations. The lists are available to the public on CB's homepage. Each entry provides access to documentary evidence of the scope of certification in Icelandic and English.</p> <p><b>Assessment: The actions taken have satisfactorily addressed the recommendation.</b></p>	
<p>Rec 4: Iceland should ensure that all relevant operators are subject to the control system as required by Article 28(1) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007, including retailers selling organic products to the final consumers unless such retailers are exempted under the conditions of Article 28(2) of the same Regulation.</p>	<p>In March 2020 MAST informed the Authority that the CA will raise the issue of exemptions under Art. 28(2) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 with the Ministry. Discussions are needed on how operators to be exempted will be defined, and how this will be published. The law on organic farming no 162/1994 was changed on December 2019, (law no. 144/2019) to include a sentence giving Local Health Authorities (LCA) the authority for control on organic products at retail stage. The CA has been in contact with the feed importer mentioned in finding 35, regarding issued raised during the mission. This feed importer has taken several steps to become a certified organic operator and has submitted an application to the CB to be certified.</p> <p>In October 2020 MAST informed the Authority that the CA has sent a letter to the LCA reminding them of the change in law on organic control and their new responsibilities. In the letter all LCA's are asked to note if organic production is mentioned anywhere on labelling or advertising of any operator. If so, the LCA shall require the operator to confirm their organic certification status, and react appropriately if they cannot produce such a certificate. The CA is also working on a guidance for market control at the request of LCA after discussions in a joint meeting of the CA and the LCA.</p> <p>In November 2020 MAST informed the Authority that the status regarding certifying of the retailers has not changed since the mission in November 2019.</p> <p>In January 2021 MAST requested a new deadline for compliance - 30.9.2021</p> <p><b>Assessment: Actions to address the recommendation are in progress.</b></p>	<p>In progress</p>
<p>Rec 5: The Competent Authority should ensure that controls carried out by the Control Body are effective, as required by Article 27(9)(b) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007, that the Control body staff performing official</p>	<p>In March 2020 MAST informed the Authority that notwithstanding the comments made by Iceland on findings 34, 36, 39 and 44, the CB has submitted to CA a plan of action to review its operating procedures, auditor guidelines and audit checklists to ensure their coverage of all requirements, including requirements pertaining to the issues noted in findings 34-39. The CB has also confirmed to the CA that these and other issues pertinent to the EU control system, will form</p>	<p>In progress</p>

<p>controls receive appropriate training as required by Articles 92c(3) and 92e(b) of Regulation (EC) No 889/2008, and that documented procedures of the Control Body contain all relevant information and instruction for staff performing official controls, as required by Article 92e(c) of Regulation (EC) No 889/2008.</p>	<p>the backbone of the forthcoming 2020 auditor and office staff training program, in advance of this year’s auditing.</p> <p>In June 2020 MAST informed the Authority and provided documents that a three-day seminar was held for all of CB’s organic staff and trainee. Witness audits were conducted to verify auditor competence in applying control procedures. Updated operating procedure, auditor guidelines and audit checklist were submitted for CA’s information and review.</p> <p>In October 2020 MAST provided to the Authority the documents pertaining to the training of one new inspector a screenshot of a file with guidance documents available to staff of the CB. Follow up is planned by the CA during the Annual Inspection of the CB before end of year 2020.</p> <p>In November 2020 MAST informed the Authority about the statistics of action taken so far in 2020. In addition, they sent the statistical information for the year 2019 that was already sent to Eurostat through EDAMIS4. During the General review mission the CA requested a new deadline for witness audits to address the effectiveness of the controls – first half of 2021.</p> <p><b>Assessment: Actions to address the recommendation are in progress.</b></p>	
<p>Rec 6: The Competent Authority should ensure that the Control Body performs additional random checks based on risk evaluation of at least 10% of operators, as required by point 2(b) of Article 92c of Regulation (EC) 889/2008, and that at least 10% of all inspections and visits carried out in accordance with Article 65(1) and (4) of that regulation are unannounced, as required by point 2(c) of Article 92c(c) of that regulation.</p>	<p>In March 2020 MAST informed the Authority that during the annual inspection of the CB, the CA did get a confirmation on the status of the random checks based on risk assessment. Random checks did reach 10% of operators even though one of the high-risk operators, did withdraw his certificate. In 2019 there were also five unannounced visits (10% of certified operators) before the end of the year. Plans for 2020 already include the risk assessment for additional checks and the unannounced visits, and this was confirmed during the annual inspection of the CB and will be followed up on during the next annual visit at the latest. To be followed up on during the annual visit to CB in end of year 2020.</p> <p>In October 2020 MAST informed the Authority that the status of random checks based on risk evaluation and unannounced inspections and visits can be seen in an updated plan from the CB (dated 30.9.2020) Visits are prioritized due to possible restrictions on physical visits due to COVID-19.</p> <p>In November 2020 MAST informed the Authority that of the minimum of six unannounced/extra audits planned, two will be conducted this week, and the rest later in November and first week of December.</p>	<p>Action taken</p>

	<p><b>Assessment: The actions taken have satisfactorily addressed the recommendation.</b></p>	
<p>Rec 7: Iceland should ensure that the use of labels and packaging material by operators is in line with Article 24 of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007, that operators verify the documentary evidence of their suppliers as required by Article 29(2) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 and ensure compliance with labelling and traceability requirements, as required by Articles 23(5) and 27(13) of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007.</p>	<p>In March 2020 MAST informed the Authority that the law on organic farming no 162/1994 was changed on December 2019, law no. 144/2019, to include a sentence giving LCAs the authority for control on organic products at retail stage. The CA has informed the LCAs of the change in law and will publish a guidance for their inspections at retail level regarding the labelling, documentation and traceability of organic products at the retail stage, before the end of this year. As outlined under Recommendation no. 5, the CB has submitted to CA a plan of action to review its operating procedures, auditor guidelines and audit checklists to ensure that they cover all requirements, including the checking of documentary evidence. The CB has also confirmed to the CA that this issue will be covered during the training program for auditors and office staff in 2020. The CA has improved the information on its web site regarding labels on packaging and will continue to add information for importers, distributors and producers. All labelling should be in line with the regulation at the end of year 2020.</p> <p>In October 2020 MAST informed the Authority about newly updated operating procedures from the CB named. In addition, the CA is working on a guidance for the labelling of organic products and market control. This should be published before end of this year.</p> <p>In November 2020 during the General review mission MAST provided satisfactory evidence which partly addressed partly the recommendation, including information from the CB on labeling and packaging of organic products. No information on LCAs controls of the above was provided</p> <p><b>Assessment: Actions to address the recommendation are in progress.</b></p>	<p>In progress</p>
<p>Rec 8: The Competent Authority should ensure that the Control Body takes and analyses samples as required by Article 65(2) of Regulation (EC) No 889/2008.</p>	<p>In March 2020 MAST informed the Authority that the CB has submitted a plan to the CA for samples to be taken in 2020 based on risk assessment. The selecting and handling of samples is a subject of the CB's auditor training prior to the 2020 auditing round.</p> <p>In June 2020 MAST informed the Authority and provided documents that a three-day seminar was held for all of CB's organic staff and trainee. Witness audits were conducted to verify auditor competence in applying control</p>	<p>In progress</p>

	<p>procedures. Updated operating procedure, auditor guidelines and audit checklist were submitted for CA's information and review.</p> <p>In October 2020 MAST provided to the Authority the updated sampling plan from the CB and the sampling form and results for one sample.</p> <p>In November 2020 during the General review mission the sampling plan was discussed. There were no procedures in place which would include more details, e.g. how, what and when should be sampled, the size of the sample, client need to ask lab what the sample should be checked for (for domestic produce PPPs used in the country and any potential illegal use of PPPs should be taken into account, for imported products at least pesticides listed in Regulation 2020/585.</p> <p><b>Assessment: Actions to address the recommendation are in progress.</b></p>	
<p>Rec 9: Iceland should ensure that it communicates information concerning: authorisations for use of seed not obtained by the organic production method, as provided in Article 55 of Regulation (EC) No 889/2008; authorisation to use non-organic feeding stuffs as provided in Articles 47(c) and 94(d) of that regulation; authorisation to use non-organic food ingredients of agricultural origin, as provided in Article 29(2) of that regulation.</p>	<p>In March 2020 MAST informed the Authority that in 2019, the CA was responsible for all authorisations for seeds, non-organic feeding stuffs and use of non-organic food ingredients. The CA will communicate the information for 2019 before 31.3.2020 through the relevant database. Also, where required, communicate, in a timely manner, the granting of authorisations during the year 2020.</p> <p>In November 2020 during the General review mission satisfactory evidence was provided by the CA to address this recommendation.</p> <p><b>Assessment: The actions taken have satisfactorily addressed the recommendation.</b></p>	<p>Action taken</p>
<p>Rec 10: The Competent Authority should ensure that, when the Control Body detects non-compliances, it takes measures in line with the requirements of Article 30 of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007, and that measures applied are effective, proportionate and dissuasive, as required by Article 55(1) of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004.</p>	<p>In March 2020 MAST informed the Authority that the CA issued in October 2019 a catalogue of measures outlining classification of findings and sanctions. It is recognized that it is now being implemented. CB has submitted to the CA an amendment to its operating procedure incorporating this catalogue. CB has confirmed that this is a subject of its auditor and staff training prior to the 2020 auditing round. Furthermore, CB has confirmed that, as stated by the CB's auditor during ESA's visit to one of the sites, an extra audit has been scheduled to verify client corrective actions, during which the catalogue will be applied.</p>	<p>In progress</p>

	<p>In June 2020 MAST informed the Authority that a training seminar was held via SKYPE as was planned despite a global pandemic COVID-19. Since audits started in 2020 the CB has notified the CA of non-compliances and measures taken in line with the Catalogue of Measures published by the CA in 2019. The CA will follow up on measures taken during the year.</p> <p>In October 2020 MAST informed the Authority that the Catalogue of Measures is amongst the tools made available to staff of the CB. The CA has received two notification on non-compliances during the year from the CB. During the Annual inspection the use of the Catalogue and measures taken will be reviewed to ensure they are proportionate and effective. The Catalogue of Measures will be rewritten when the EU-regulation covering this subject has been published and expected to be implemented / take effect on 1 January 2022.</p> <p><b>Assessment: Actions to address the recommendation are in progress.</b></p>	
<p>Rec 11: Iceland should ensure that a seed database is established and that information is communicated concerning the manager of the database as required by Article 48 of Regulation (EC) No 889/2008.</p>	<p>In March 2020 MAST informed the Authority that the CA will consult with the Ministry on either a solution in cooperation with other EEA States, or setting up a seed database on its own. This work should be finished and a database working, before farmers prepare to buy seeds for the sowing in 2021. Information concerning the manager of the database will be communicated as soon as this has been arranged.</p> <p>In October 2020 MAST informed the Authority that the CA has made an agreement with a German company that already manages the seed database for several EU countries. The database will be opened up on 1 January 2021.</p> <p>In January 2021 MAST informed the Authority that the seed database for Iceland has been opened and can be found at <a href="https://www.organicxseeds.is/">https://www.organicxseeds.is/</a>. It is in English but will be translated to Icelandic in the next year. OFIS has not been updated yet to include the module of reporting a manager for the seed database in 2021, but when possible, FiBL will be reported as the manager of the Seed Database for Iceland according to the agreement between MAST and FiBL.</p> <p><b>Assessment: The actions taken have satisfactorily addressed the recommendation.</b></p>	<p>Action taken</p>

## 2 Overview of planned audits and controls

ESA is obliged to ensure that the EEA EFTA States correctly apply EEA legislation on food and feed safety, animal health and welfare. Compliance is partly ensured through audits of the national control systems, which enable ESA to assess the EEA EFTA States' application of the EEA legislation in these fields.

ESA sets out its priority areas for audits in a [control programme](#) (which, prior to 2020, was referred to as a mission plan). It takes a number of factors into consideration, some of which are:

- New EEA legislation
- Findings, conclusions and recommendations of the last audit on the topic
- Unsatisfactory or no response in the follow-up evaluation of previous audits
- Emerging topics such as animal diseases or zoonoses
- The control programme of DG SANTE Directorate F
- The relevance of the field in the EEA EFTA States to be audited

Based on the control programme, ESA prepares an annual [work programme](#) based upon the priorities set out in the control programme.

**ANNEX I – ACRONYMS, ABBREVIATIONS AND SPECIAL TERMS**

<b>ACRONYM</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
<b>ABP</b>	Animal By-Products
<b>ADNS</b>	Animal Diseases Notification System
<b>AWI</b>	Animal Welfare Inspectors
<b>BCP</b>	Border Control Post / <i>Landamærastöð</i>
<b>BKD</b>	Bacterial Kidney Disease
<b>BSE</b>	Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy
<b>CCA</b>	Central Competent Authority
<b>CVED</b>	Common veterinary entry document for products of animal origin and for live animals
<b>CVO</b>	Chief Veterinary Officer / <i>Yfirdýralæknir</i>
<b>DoF</b>	Directorate of Fisheries / <i>Fiskistofa</i>
<b>DoH</b>	Directorate of Health
<b>DTU</b>	Technical University of Denmark
<b>DVO</b>	District Veterinary Officer / <i>Héraðsdýralæknir</i>
<b>EA</b>	European Co-operation for Accreditation
<b>EC</b>	European Community
<b>EEA</b>	European Economic Area / <i>Evrópska efnahagssvæðið</i>
<b>EEA Agreement</b>	Agreement on the European Economic Area
<b>EFTA</b>	European Free Trade Association
<b>ESA</b>	EFTA Surveillance Authority
<b>EU</b>	European Union
<b>FBO</b>	Food Business Operator / Feed Business Operator
<b>FCM</b>	Food Contact Material
<b>FTE</b>	Full Time Employees
<b>GMO</b>	Genetically Modified Organism(s)
<b>HACCP</b>	Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points
<b>IHN</b>	Infectious Haematopoietic Necrosis
<b>ILAC</b>	International Co-operation for Laboratory Accreditation
<b>IMA</b>	Icelandic Medicines Agency
<b>IPN</b>	Infectious Pancreatic Necrosis
<b>IRC</b>	Icelandic Revenue and Customs / <i>Skatturinn</i>
<b>IS</b>	(unique) Establishment Number
<b>ISA</b>	Infectious Salmon Anaemia
<b>ISAC</b>	Icelandic Board for Technical Accreditation
<b>ISO/IEC</b>	International Standards Organisation
<b>ISK</b>	Icelandic currency (Krona)



ACRONYM	DESCRIPTION
ISPM	International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures
IS-leyfur	A MAST database which contains an active list of all approved establishments producing food of animal origin or feed and information concerning official controls
IT	Information technology
JC	Joint Committee on Health Security and Communicable Disease Control
JCD	Joint Committee Decision
LBM	Live Bivalve Molluscs
LCA	Local Competent Authority / <i>Heilbrigðiseftirlit sveitarfélaga</i> (Municipal Environmental and Public Health Offices)
MANCP	Multi Annual National Control Plan
MANIAP	Multi-Annual National Internal Audit Plan
MARK	Icelandic interface for Domestic Animals
MAST	The Food and Veterinary Authority / <i>Matvælastofnun</i>
MBM	Meat and Bone Meal
MLA	Multilateral Agreement for Laboratories
MoE	Ministry of the Environment
MoEd	Ministry of Education
MoF	Ministry of Finance
MoI	Ministry of Interior
MoII	Ministry of Industries and Innovation
MoWF	Ministry of Welfare
MRL	Maximum Residue Limit
MS	Member State
NCP	National Contact Point
NRCP	National Residue Control Plan
NRL	National Reference Laboratory
NMKL	Nordic Committee on Food Analysis
OIE	World organisation for animal health
OV	Official Veterinarian
PONAO	Products of non-animal origin
PPP	Plant Protection Product(s)
PVP	Private Veterinary Practitioner
RASFF	Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed
SHÍ	The Association of Regional Health and Environment Authorities / <i>Samtök heilbrigðiseftirlitssvæða á Íslandi</i>
SRM	Specified Risk Material

<b>ACRONYM</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
<b>SWEDAC</b>	Swedish Board for Accreditation and Conformity Assessment
<b>TAIEX</b>	Technical Assistance and Information Exchange instrument
<b>TRACES</b>	Trade Control and Expert System
<b>TSE</b>	Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathy
<b>UST</b>	Environment Agency of Iceland
<b>VHS</b>	Viral Haemorrhagic Septicemia
<b>VLA</b>	Veterinary Laboratories Agency
<b>VMP</b>	Veterinary Medicinal products
<b>Worldfengur</b>	Equine Database (owned by the breeders)