

Issues Management Group & Emerging Food Safety Issues

The Australian dairy industry's Issues Management Group (IMG) is a network of interested industry and government stakeholders coordinated by Dairy Australia. The objective is to provide a comprehensive and industry-wide approach to address issues that may affect the reputation and future viability of the Australian dairy industry.

The Australian dairy industry works in a co-regulatory partnership approach to identify any emerging food safety issues that may impact on dairy product safety. This requires strong links with a wide range of Australian and international organisations such as FSANZ, APVMA, CSIRO, Codex Alimentarius Commission, World Animal Health Organisation (OIE) and the International Dairy Federation (IDF). This ensures the Australian industry is aware of potential issues in other countries and actions being taken by various agencies and scientific researchers to investigate measures to correct or manage the issue.

Proactive and reactive measures are undertaken to ensure industry risk management plans remain appropriate for the risk and do provide safe food. Proactive measures include marketing research and commissioning specific research as appropriate to detect any emerging food safety issues) while reactive measures include communication strategies to respond to potential food safety issues across the industry and to convey accurate information to customers and importing countries. Regular reviews of potential risks and the measures in place to manage identified risks are conducted.