The International Journal of Food Contamination publishes baseline, monitoring data, indicating the qualitative and quantitative presence of microbiological and chemical contaminants in foods, animal feed, and their raw materials. For primary production, only data related to agricultural commodities used for food or feed production are eligible for publication.

There are no restrictions on classes of contaminants, and the scope includes both established and emerging hazards, e.g. bacterial pathogens and bacterial toxins, products of microbial activity (such as biogenic amines), viruses, fungi and mycotoxins, marine biotoxins, plant toxins, process and environmental contaminants, migration contaminants from food contact materials, and residues of pesticides and veterinary drugs found in raw materials, food and feed. Direct food additives are not part of the scope, unless added as part of the preservation strategy, but the products of their transformation that present established or potential risk for public health (e.g. nitrosamines) are part of the scope. Additives which are part of the food contact materials, e.g. plasticisers such as phthalates, are part of the scope.

The work described does not need to be innovative either in the approach or in the methods used, but the sampling, analytical methods, and data analysis and interpretation must be valid and sound. The significance of the results either for the science community, food industry or competent authorities must be shown.

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