



Winy Messens, Senior Scientific Officer

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Winy Messens is currently Senior Scientific Officer, Food Microbiologist in the Biological Hazards and Contaminants Unit (BIOCONTAM Unit) of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA). She received her master degree of Bio-engineer, option Food Technology, from the Faculty of Agricultural and Applied Biological Science of Ghent University (currently the Faculty of Bioscience Engineering) (Belgium), in 1994 and Ph.D. degree in Applied Biological Sciences from the same university in 2000. She joined the research group Industrial Microbiology and Food Biotechnology (IMDO) at the Vrije Universiteit Brussels (Belgium) for two years coordinating a project on bacteriocin-producing starter bacteria. From 2001 until June 2010, she was scientific attaché at the Institute for Agricultural and Fisheries Research (ILVO, Belgium) where she coordinated several projects related to biological hazards in various foods (such as Salmonella contamination of hen's eggs and Campylobacter contamination of broilers). Before joining EFSA in 2010, she was a member of the Panel on Biological Hazards (BIOHAZ) of EFSA for one year. At EFSA she has been involved in supporting the work of the BIOHAZ Panel in the areas of antimicrobial treatment applications for the removal of microbial surface contamination of foods of animal origin and in several other areas, such as Salmonella targets in poultry populations, control options for Campylobacter in broiler meat production, heat treatment of live bivalve molluscs, risk ranking toolbox for the EFSA BIOHAZ Panel.