

FrieslandCampina position on cloning of dairy cattle

Currently, cloning of animals for commercial purposes is not allowed within the EU. The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) assessed the safety, health and environmental effects of cloned animals, their offspring and products in 2008. The EFSA comes to the conclusion that there is currently no evidence of differences in food safety between food from cloned, healthy cattle and their descendants and from those from conventional breeding. It concluded that the consumption of meat and milk from cloned animals is safe.

Although the safety of milk is not an issue, it is recognized that the social acceptance of the technique, mainly in the light of animal welfare, biodiversity and ethical reasons, is an issue.

FrieslandCampina is always supportive of innovative techniques. However, applications of these techniques have to meet the following requirements:

- The safety of products has to be proven
- The product can be lawfully marketed
- The product is acceptable for consumers and customers

As long as these general requirements are not met, FrieslandCampina is not in favor of the commercial cloning of dairy cattle.