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Education  
Phase 3  
Food safety

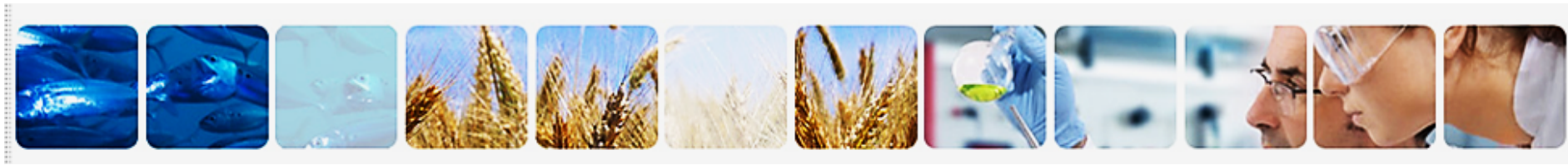


## Objectives

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To know about food safety systems and how they are used for the safe production and processing of food throughout Europe.

To know about animal and fish farming and the standards for maintaining their welfare.



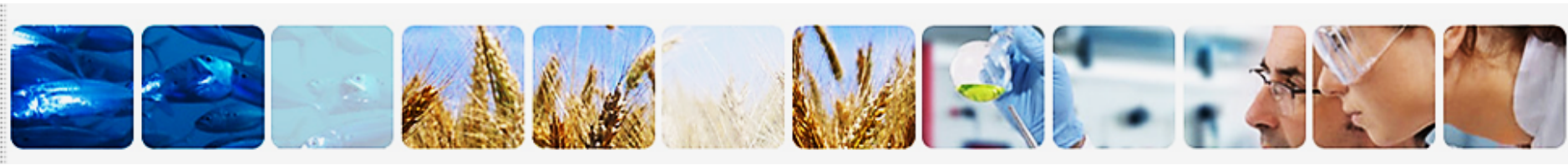
## The consumer

Consumers have many things to think about when buying food, for example:

- price;
- quantity;
- quality;
- diet and health issues;
- marketing e.g. product brands, campaigns.



The EU aims to help the consumer by helping to ensure food is safe to eat and is clearly labelled.



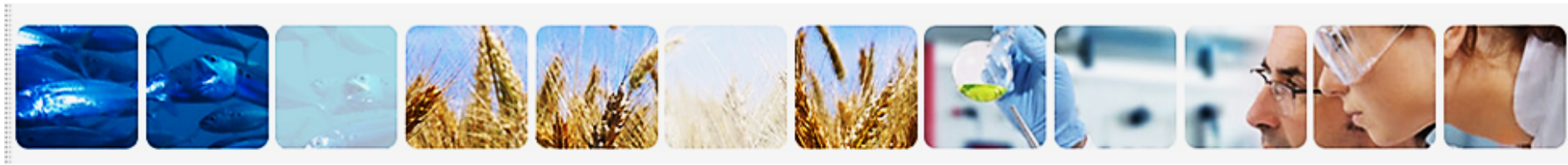
## European Food Safety Authority

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The EFSA was created in 2002 as part of a programme to:

- improve EU food safety;
- ensure a high level of consumer protection;
- restore and maintain confidence in the EU food supply.





## Food safety

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High importance is placed on the quality and safety of food from the EU and from other countries.

The EU's food safety strategy covers:

- food and feed safety;
- nutrition;
- animal health and welfare;
- plant protection and plant health.

It is designed to ensure that food is traceable as it moves from the farm to the fork, even when crossing international borders. For further information, visit: [www.efsa.europa.eu](http://www.efsa.europa.eu)



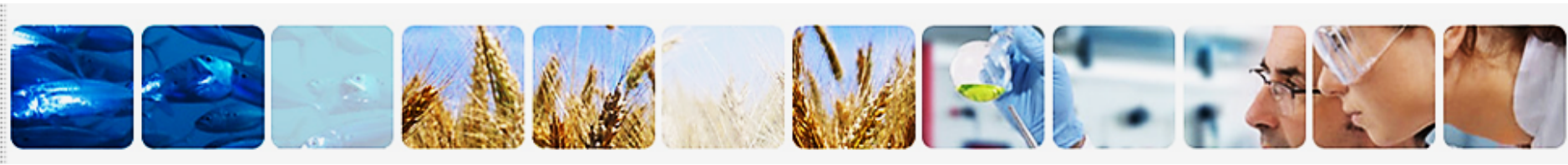


## Food safety

The rapid alert system for food and feed (RASFF) is a notification system within the EU for concerns about food and beverages.

It provides a system to exchange information between Member States and the coordination of response to food safety threats.





## Animal welfare

Animal welfare is an important part of the work of the EFSA.

The safety of the food chain can be affected by the welfare of animals, particularly those farmed for food production.

This is due to the close links between animal welfare, animal health and food-borne diseases.



## Animal welfare

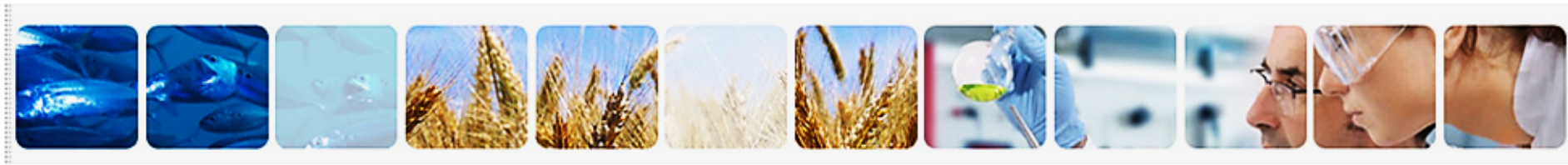
The welfare of food producing animals depends largely on how they are managed by humans.

A range of things can impact on their welfare:

- housing and bedding;
- space and crowding;
- transport conditions;
- stunning and slaughter methods.







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## Animal welfare

The EU has a framework for action on animal welfare. It is set out in the EU Animal Welfare Strategy 2012-2015.

The framework sets down the minimum standards for the protection of all farmed animals.

Other international organisations also have recommendations and guidelines about animal welfare. These include the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the Council of Europe.



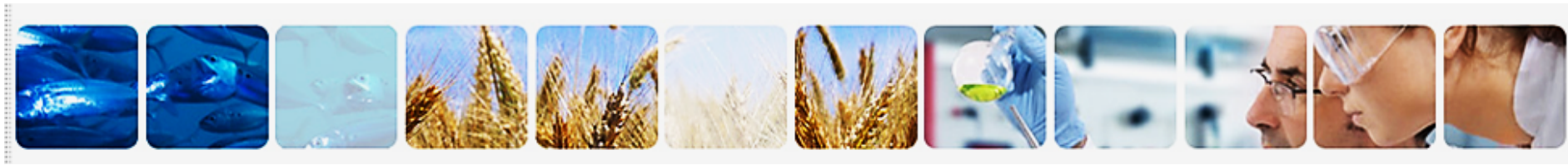


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## Animal welfare

The EU standards reflect the 'Five Freedoms' adopted by the Farm Animal Welfare Committee:

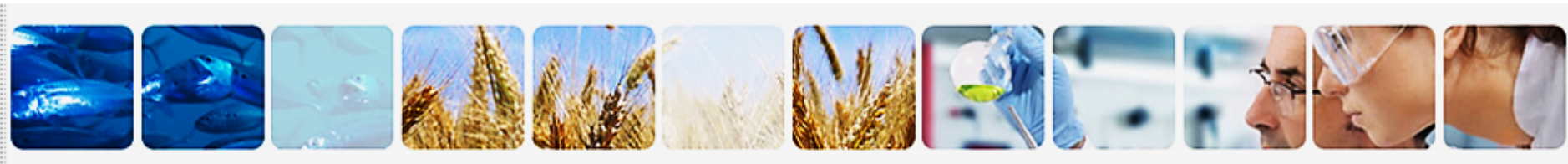
- Freedom from hunger and thirst - access to fresh water and a diet for full health and vigour;
- Freedom from discomfort - an appropriate environment with shelter and comfortable rest area;
- Freedom from pain, injury and disease - prevention or rapid treatment;



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- Freedom to express normal behaviour - adequate space and facilities, company of the animal's own kind;
- Freedom from fear and distress - conditions and treatment which avoid mental suffering.





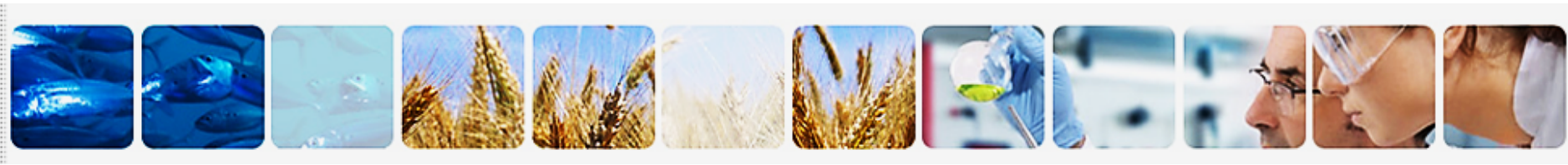
## Marine animal welfare



Aquaculture is an important farming activity in the EU.

Farming of fish and shellfish has increased in recent years and the science to assess fish welfare is evolving.





## Marine animal welfare

In the EU minimum standards for the protection of animals bred or kept for farming purposes includes fish.

These include:

- welfare during transport - they should be provided with enough oxygen in the water and not be overcrowded;
- husbandry systems – how the fish are bred;
- stunning and killing methods.



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