

Submission regarding Proposal P1007 - Primary Production & Processing Requirements For Raw Milk Products

By,
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My family and I have been enjoying raw milk and home made cheese for approximately 7 years now and have had no ill effects from it's consumption. Most if not all dairy owners and there families enjoy raw milk products with no ill effects. From the research I have done, the pasteurising and homogenising process causes the proteins and calcium in milk to become difficult to absorb by the human body.

The Proposal is assessing the safety of raw milk products using the Category Framework. FSANZ has undertaken a Technical Assessment based on three Risk Assessments (Raw Cow Milk, Raw Goat Milk and Raw Milk Cheese), a Consumer Study and Nutrition Assessment – Can you identify any aspects we have not covered at this point?

The Proposals overstate the risks of raw milk products.

They state that "Because of the potential for raw milk to be contaminated with pathogens, raw milk and products made from raw milk present a high level of risk to public health and safety if there are no control measures to manage the microbiological hazards that may be present."

It is a false assumption that the risks are "high level" for raw milk products. A more realistic description for raw milk products is "they present an *additional* risk to public health and safety compared with products made from correctly pasteurised milk". As I understand it there are several tests in place where if the milk in the vat does not pass those tests it is discarded.

My opinion is, raw milk products should be made available to all consumers. If toxic insecticides and poisons are available to all consumers in the form of, fly sprays, cigarettes, aspartame used as artificial sweeteners, fluorides, introduced into our water supply, the list could go on, I'm sure raw milk products are far less of a risk to consumers than any of the above mentioned.

Sincerely
Heath Parker