

Discussion on How to Improve Food Safety and Quality

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Abstract:

China's food safety quality control system is not sound, the relevant laws and regulations are not perfect, and it is difficult to carry out hazard evaluation. A traceability system has not yet been established, food quality and safety are unsatisfactory, and poisoning incidents occur from time to time. The serious situation urgently requires China to build a scientific and standardized quality and safety monitoring system as soon as possible to ensure that China's food safety meets the needs of the national economy and people's healthy lives.

Keywords:

Food safety; quality control system; construction

Food safety is not only an important public safety issue but also a major global strategic issue. Ensuring food safety and hygiene and minimizing the danger is not only the responsibility of the food industry but also the goal of government regulation in various countries. Since the food safety and quality monitoring system is the foundation of government regulation, governments are actively building and strengthening this system.

China's current food safety monitoring system has a slower start and more problems than developed countries, which is one of the important reasons for the repeated food safety problems in China. In the face of further rectification and standardization of the market economic order and the severe food safety situation, the reform of the traditional food safety monitoring system, the establishment of a new type of food safety monitoring system compatible with the development of the market economy and in line with international standards, has become a difficult and urgent task.

1. An urgent need to strengthen China's food safety and quality control system

In the face of the new situation and new challenges of food safety and quality control in China, it is of great significance to establish and strengthen a food quality and safety control system that is adapted to the development of the market economy and in line with international standards.

1.1 It is an urgent need to safeguard the fundamental interests of the people and to practice the important thought of "Three Represents".

Since the 1990s, under the leadership of the CPC Central Committee and the State Council, China's food safety work has made great achievements, basically ending the history of food shortages, the level of food safety is on the rise. However, food safety and quality problems in production, processing and circulation are still relatively prominent, and there is an urgent need to effectively strengthen food safety supervision and control in accordance with the requirements of the Important Ideology of the "Three Represents", to continuously improve the level of food safety, and to ensure the health of the people.

1.2 It is the need to develop a socialist market economy, the promotion of the development of the food industry, and the urgent need for international trade

At present, the main factors affecting China's food exports are: First, the raw material animal and plant origin of harmful contaminants in food has become an important obstacle to food exports; Second, China's food safety regulations, and standards system are not yet sound; Third, the enterprise lack of international trade dispute settlement mechanisms, conformity assessment procedures and regulations and other aspects of knowledge. Urgently require reform of the traditional food safety monitoring system and the establishment of a new type of food safety monitoring system compatible with the development of

market economy and international standards.

1.3 There is an urgent need to fully fulfill the new responsibilities and historical mission of the quality inspection department.

According to the functions assigned by the State Council, the State Administration of Quality Supervision in the field of food safety supervision has the main responsibilities: drafting, reviewing, and approval of food safety and quality standards; food quality monitoring, and inspection; food labeling and market access mark management; food import and export inspection; the development and implementation of licensing access system; import and export of food animals and plants quarantine; food exporters, such as quality standard certification.

2. The main problems in China's food safety and quality control system

The current problems in China's food safety and quality control are more prominent and have become a hot issue of concern to society as a whole, mainly reflected in the following aspects.

2.1 Lack of completeness of laws and regulations, resulting in many problems that cannot be relied upon

Food safety and quality laws, regulations, and standards are the cornerstone of the monitoring system. At present, China's food safety regulations and standards system has been initially formed: "Product Quality Law", "Food Sanitation Law", "Standardization Law", "Import and Export Commodity Inspection Law" and so on is the basis of food safety laws and regulations, "Food Production and Processing Enterprises Quality and Safety Supervision and Management Measures," and other regulations as well as food safety standards is an important complement. However, these laws and regulations still have many incompatibilities, for example: the Food Sanitation Law, as the core law for safeguarding food safety, is less operational; the Standardization Law does not fully take into account the issue of food safety, and so on. There are also many problems with food safety standards, such as the lack of uniformity in indicators and backwardness in technical safeguards, thus causing many problems that cannot be relied upon.

2.2 Incomplete monitoring system and difficulty in analyzing risks

Although China's ministries and commissions have launched food safety monitoring work, such as the Ministry of Agriculture launched the "Pollution-free Food Action Plan", the Ministry of Health launched the "National Pollutant Monitoring Program", the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection, and Quarantine launched the annual sampling of the food inspection program, etc., but there is no However, there is no perfect food safety monitoring system, and there is a lack of comprehensive and continuous monitoring data on food contamination and foodborne diseases, and there is no scientific basis for early warning of certain important food contamination and foodborne disease outbreaks, and it is difficult to carry out a risk assessment and food safety risk prediction work.

2.3 An effective food safety and quality traceability system has not yet been established.

An effective tracking system and "rapid early warning system" are not only an effective way to identify the source of food safety problems but also a necessity to participate in global competition and cope with technical barriers. However, China has not yet established an effective food safety and quality traceability system, which has become one of the bottlenecks restricting the effective monitoring of food safety in China.

3. Suggestions for Strengthening the Construction of Food Safety and Quality Monitoring Systems in China

Comprehensive domestic and international practices, reviewing the international development trend, and combining with China's national conditions, we put forward the following suggestions in terms of constructing a new type of monitoring system, perfecting the regulation and standard system, establishing a traceability system, strengthening the research on hazard analysis, and perfecting the food safety monitoring system.

3.1 Comprehensively build a new type of food safety and quality monitoring system

The food safety and quality monitoring system should cover the production, manufacturing process, and market behavior of all foods in a country and include imported foods. The monitoring system involves the whole food chain and is holistic,

preventive, and educational, including food regulations and standards, food control management, supervision, laboratories, information, education, communication and training.

3.2 Further Improvement of Food Quality and Safety Regulations and Standards System

In terms of sound food quality and safety laws and regulations, drawing on the successful experience of developed countries, the existing laws and regulations should be further improved, such as the Standardization Law and the Product Quality Law to increase the content and provisions of food safety and quality; and formulate as soon as possible the laws and regulations that are still blank, such as the inspection law of important food products and the code of good practice for food production, packaging and storage.

In terms of sound food quality and safety standards, comprehensively clean up the existing food standards and solve the problems of intersection, duplication, and contradiction between the standards; accelerate the pace of formulating and revising the food safety standards in the areas of inspection and quarantine, pesticide and veterinary drug residue limits, food hygiene, food additives, etc.; and actively adopt the international standards, guidelines and relevant technical documents to improve the level of standards to meet the needs of the development of China's food processing industry and the development of the foodstuffs import and export trade. import and export trade development needs.

3.3 Strengthen research on risk analysis and improve the food safety monitoring system

Food safety control policies and consumer protection measures must be based on risk analysis. In addition to its application to the formulation of standards, hazard analysis is also applied to the supervision and inspection of imported and exported foods, and the evaluation of the effects of food safety policies, regulations, and standards after their introduction. Internationally, the risk analysis technology for chemical hazards has become more and more mature, and the risk analysis for microbial hazards has also made a lot of achievements. China should make full use of international data, professional knowledge, and internationally recognized methods to obtain data.

4. Conclusion

In summary, an effective food safety and quality control system ensures that a country provides safe and high-quality products in international trade, while at the same time ensuring that imported food products meet its own requirements. Therefore, in the current global food trade situation, both importing and exporting countries have the responsibility to strengthen their own food safety and quality control systems and to fulfill food control strategies based on risk analysis. Through multifaceted efforts, China will improve its food safety and quality control system, ensure food safety, and respond to emergencies in a sound manner, so as to welcome the new era of "food for the people and food for the people".

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