

Subcommittee 5:
Food Sustainability and
Food Safety

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Rationale: Sustainability and Safety

Rationale: It is important to develop and maintain a food system that is safe and sustainable to ensure current and future food security.

Food security: when all people at all times have access to sufficient, safe, nutritious food to maintain a healthy and active life.

Scope: Food Sustainability

Scope: To understand the link between how our food is grown, caught, produced, processed, and transported on the health of humans and the environment. This will enable us to inform policies related to dietary guidance, agriculture, and aquaculture. The goal is to develop dietary guidance that supports human health and the health of the planet over time.

Scope: Food Safety

Systematically review the evidence for targeted food safety concerns at both the individual level and population scale. Determine if there is potential for policy changes based upon findings.

Topics: Food Safety

Update and bring forward findings from 2010 DGAC report related to individual food safety behavior (Part D. Section 8).

- Hand sanitation
- Cleaning refrigerators
- Separating food to minimize cross contamination
- Cooking and chilling food appropriately
- Avoiding risky foods
- Overall food safety behavior

New Topics Under Review: Food Safety

Food Ingredients, Additives and Health

Caffeine at usual doses

Caffeine at high doses

Current work for caffeine questions:

- NEL Systematic Review (started)
- Data analysis

Note: Age/life-stage of interest includes children, adolescents, and adults, including pregnant, lactating, and peri- and postmenopausal women

Topics Under Consideration: Food Safety

Further topic areas will be determined based upon refined scope of work.

The DGAC continues to invite public comment in this area.

Food Sustainability: Background

- Current status of U.S. food sustainability
- Principle challenges related to natural resources and human resources in meeting current and future demand to produce food
- Changing demand of various foods and the influence of their sustainability over time
- Proportional environmental impacts (greenhouse gas emissions, water pollution) of current growing and processing practices for the overall food system
- Determine outcome measures to consider
- Review practices for addressing sustainability with dietary guidance from other countries

Topics Under Consideration: Food Sustainability

Food Sustainability and Dietary Patterns

Patterns of eating related to the consumption of various plants and animals to improve health while concurrently ensuring current and long-term food security

- NEL Systematic Review
- Reports
- Modeling

Topics Under Consideration: Food Sustainability

Family of Sustainability Questions: Beef

Fatty acid profile and/or other nutrition-related attributes in pasture fed/finished beef versus corn-fed beef

- NEL Systematic Review
- Reports

Beef production methods and consumption patterns and long-term food security

- NEL Systematic Review
- Reports

Topics Under Consideration: Food Sustainability

Family of Sustainability Questions: Seafood

Fishery practices (consider range: e.g., wild caught to farm raised) and/or current seafood consumption for health and long-term food security

- NEL Systematic Review
- Reports

Current U.S. Dietary Guidelines recommendations and/or current seafood consumption and seafood sustainability in the long-term

- NEL Systematic Review
- Reports

Topics Under Consideration: Food Sustainability

Family of Sustainability Questions: Organic vs. Intensive Conventional Growing Practices

Growing and production practices from organic to intensive conventional and influence on micronutrient and phytochemical content of food

- NEL Systematic Review
- Reports

Request for Public Comments

Subcommittee 5 is charged with reviewing and analyzing the current scientific findings regarding food sustainability and food safety as they relate to current and long-term food security.

We request public comment regarding a targeted topic on food system sustainability. Specifically, we are seeking approaches and current examples of sustainability in the food system. Comments are encouraged that address:

- 1) Elements of a whole food system
- 2) Information on specific food groups or commodities
- 3) Sustainability metrics that have been implemented or are in development

We welcome public comments from both the private and public sectors addressing local, regional, national or international scales.

Submit public comments at www.DietaryGuidelines.gov

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