

GLOSSARY

Food safety hazard: It is defined as any factor present in food that has the potential to cause harm to the consumer, either by causing illness or injury.

Intoxication: The state of being intoxicated.

Allergen: A substance that causes an allergic reaction.

Poultry: Domestic fowl, such as chickens, turkeys, ducks, and geese.

Enterotoxin: A toxin produced in or affecting the intestines, such as those causing food poisoning.

Positive sense RNA: A single strand of RNA that can be translated or translatable into protein directly. Its complementary strand is called antisense (or negative (-) sense).

Haemagglutinin: A substance, such as a viral protein, which causes haemagglutination.

Neuraminidase: An enzyme, present in many pathogenic or symbiotic microorganisms, which catalyses the breakdown of glycosides containing neuraminic acid.

Gastroenteritis: Inflammation of the stomach and intestines, typically resulting from bacterial toxins or viral infection and causing vomiting and diarrhea.

Serotype: A serologically distinguishable strain of a microorganism.

Parasites: An organism which lives in or on another organism (its host) and benefits by deriving nutrients at the other's expense.

vCJD: Stands for variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, a human disease thought due to the same infectious agent as bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), or mad cow disease.

BSE: Bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) — commonly referred to as “mad cow disease” — is a transmissible spongiform encephalopathy (TSE) that affects cattle.

St Anthony’s Fire: Another term for [ergotism](#).

Leucoencephalomalacia: A syndrome of ataxia, tremor, circling, depressed consciousness, recumbency and death in horses and donkeys; caused by poisoning by fumonisins from the fungus *Fusarium moniliforme*, usually ingested with moldy corn.

Mycotoxin: Any toxic substance produced by a fungus.

Dioxin: A highly toxic compound produced as a by-product in some manufacturing processes, notably herbicide production and paper bleaching. It is a serious and persistent environmental pollutant.