

Scientific Research at Evira



Scientific research at Evira focuses on food safety and the health and welfare of animals. The scientific research is a small but important part of the basic activities of Evira.

Scientific research at Evira is tied to its tasks and influence in the society. Evira's strategies form the basis of this. Research data are used by national operators and the international scientific community.

Some research at Evira is so-called reactive research, i.e. performed to solve a specific problem and in a short time-span. Most research, though, is long-term and predictive.

Experiences from expert and diagnostic activities support the identification of research needs. Changes in the operational environment are managed through prediction and reformation. When changes occur, changes in sector research currently in progress in governmental administration is taken into account.

In scientific research one must foresee future requirements in research as well as developments in methodology. Scientific research progresses alongside variations in control needs and risk assessment, and supports Evira's activities for reference laboratories and associated developments in methods.

Variations in consumer behaviours, structural changes in the operational environment, and economical, technological and environmental changes affect research contents at Evira, as well as research methodology. In a shifting world the needs of decision makers in the society, enterprise and industry, and consumers for reliable and current information increases. This also requires that research at Evira constantly must change.

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AT EVIRA

- ▶ Accurate orientation of scientific research.
- ▶ Advanced competence in research.
- ▶ Research results can be applied in many sectors.
- ▶ Research employs modern methods, devices and methodologies.
- ▶ Research efficiently provides information.
- ▶ Research nationally and internationally is advanced.
- ▶ Research employs networking.

EVIRA'S RESEARCH PROGRAMME

Scientific research at Evira concentrates on two research programmes:

1. Food safety
2. Animal health and welfare

These programmes are interlaced, as animal health and welfare also affect food safety. Evira is a member for the Finnish Partnership for Research on Natural Resources and Environment LYNET and is responsible for its Foodprogramme.

Scientific research for food safety particularly gravitates towards microbiological and chemical studies on food safety, and risk assessment. As food has major financial impacts and occupies an ever wider place in people's everyday lives, food safety must come first and foremost for the society as a whole, and for research in particular. Further pressure is brought on research by food safety being dependent on multiple factors constantly in change.

Scientific research for animal health and welfare in Finland has centred on major animal diseases of production and wild animals. Central sections nationally are major contagious diseases, prevention of zoonoses and the impact of various circumstances on animal health. Research particularly is oriented towards epidemiology, diagnostics and more efficient methods of fighting diseases, improving animal welfare and scientific risk assessment.

Plant health scientific research focuses on the scientific risk assessment.

More on Evira's scientific research

www.evira.fi > In English > Scientific research

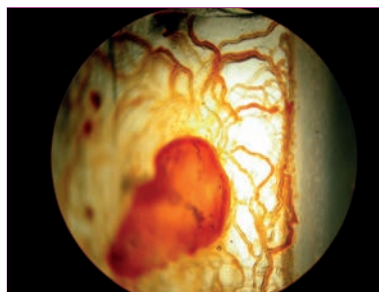
Scientific News from Evira

<http://news.evira.fi/newsletter.php?id=85>

Research programmes proceed within five large groups of scientific research projects and the LYNET project

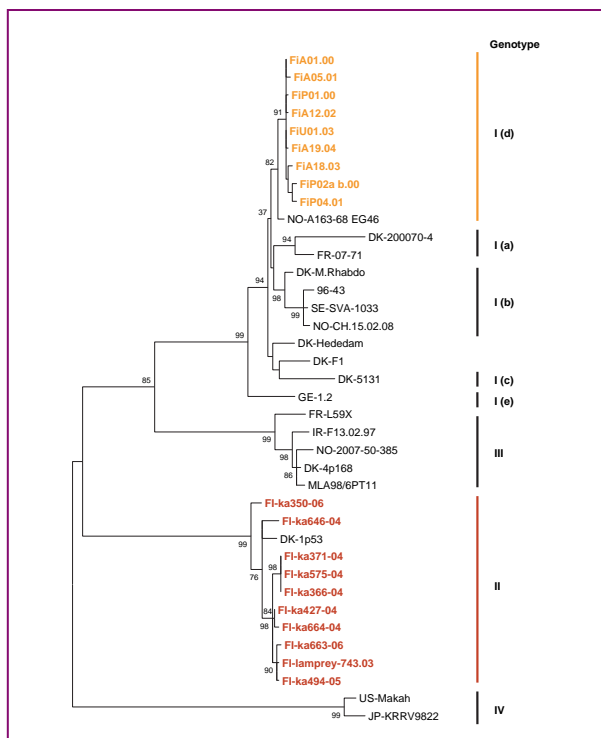
1. Animal virus infections of national impact that threatens Finland
2. Animal health and welfare
3. Bacterial infections in animals, food-borne bacteria in animals, impact of antibiotic resistance on animal production and food safety
4. Diseases in wild and corralled animals, and in fish and crayfish
5. Chemical food safety
6. LYNET Foodprogramme

Scientific research includes networking. Evira participates in joint research projects with other research institutions in this sector. Major co-operating partners of Evira are the universities and sector research institutes. Evira also participates in international research networks, where co-operating partners are universities, and research institutes and laboratories in the field.



Evira's research topics include the investigation of crayfish plague. Evira also acts as an OIE Reference Laboratory for crayfish plague. Here, crayfish plague is pictured on the abdominal shell.

Photo: Satu Viljamaa-Dirks



Research on the fish viruses is one of the Evira's research projects. Maximum Parsimony phylogenetic tree obtained using the entire G gene of fish VHS- viruses. Finnish viruses are from fish farms (genotype 1(d)) and from wild fish (genotype II) in Archipelago Sea.

Fig. Tuija Gadd
Source: Gadd T. 2013: Fish rhabdoviruses - Viral haemorrhagic septicaemia virus (VHSV) and perch rhabdovirus.