



Bavarian Health and Food Safety Authority (LGL)

Enabling health – that includes healthy foods, safe products and protection from disease. We examine foods and other products and develop blueprints for combating the causes and consequences of diseases. We inform and educate so that people can make their own health-related choices on a reliable basis.

We provide scientific expertise to support local food-control authorities, public-health and veterinary offices and labor inspectorates in their everyday work with citizens and companies.

The LGL deliberately combines different fields under one roof. Our staff include food analysts, physicians, veterinarians, engineers, physicists, pharmacists, psychologists, home economists, chemists, lab technicians, lawyers, biologists and other experts. They work together beyond the borders of their disciplines, considering situations from different points of view. Information is readily available, connections quickly become clear.

And because jobs in the public-health and veterinarian service and in food control require specialized knowledge, we are the central educational institution in this area in Bavaria.

Examinations, regular and risk-oriented

Our sampling plans are risk-oriented. For especially susceptible foods, and lines of business or companies that have attracted our attention at some point, we have the local authorities send us samples quite frequently. Therefore, our objection rate is not representative of all foods in Bavaria. We of course also do non-scheduled testing, examining samples that consumers have dropped off at local authorities due to complaints, for example.

Our specialists set standards in plant inspections and support the local authorities. Fast, flexibly and throughout Bavaria.



Tomato

from the supermarket,
originating in Spain

We regularly examine fruit and vegetables for pesticide residue. We can detect whether a tomato comes from Spain. And also if an organic tomato is really organic.



Anna, 12 years old
would like a red streak

Hair streaks look good, but there's a catch to them. Dyes contain pigments and other substances that might be hazardous to one's health. We examine hair dyes carried by retail stores and those used by hairdressers, and provide information about possible risks.

By the way, the brand of eyeliner that Anna uses was found to be unobjectionable.



Drinking water
clean, fresh and
always available



There is no substitute for water. We drink it, use it for cooking, washing food and preparing dishes. Water is fun. When you're bathing, showering, swimming. We do examinations to test the drinking-water quality in Bavaria, and also check the water quality in swimming-pools and lakes.

Michael, 42 years old doesn't tolerate gluten



Especially people with a food intolerance or allergy have to be able to rely on statements of ingredients. With extremely modern analytic methods we detect the smallest traces of allergens and check the labeling of products.

Poultry

provides meat
and eggs



Human health is closely related to animal health. Healthy animals provide healthy foods. We watch out for animal health – which includes safe fodder, proper use of drugs, and humane husbandry. With our lab diagnostics we contribute to fighting outbreaks of disease.



LED lamp new, bright and checked for safety

At our Equipment Testing Office we check products for safety-related defects. We've used a tensile machine to test whether the handle of a splitting ax is seated firmly enough in the ax head. We've also examined bicycle handle grips. And submerged pumps, magnetic toys, electrical household appliances, children's sunglasses. And LED lamps.

Risk management

Foods in Germany are safer than ever before, and most infectious diseases are on the retreat. To be able to act promptly and appropriately in the case of a risk, all relevant authorities must have the proper information at their disposal. We are the contact point in Bavaria within different information systems for the communication of risks.

This can involve warnings about certain foods or other products, or else reports about the outbreak of an infectious disease. We communicate of course not only within Bavaria, but throughout the country and the EU.

Information and education

Worldwide travel and goods traffic, new technologies, and also changes in consumer behavior require new strategies. This means we have to recognize risky developments early, differentiate between justified fears and unnecessary ones, and develop sustainable prevention strategies.

We launch various campaigns to inform people and try to motivate them to behave in a healthy way. Some topics we address are for example HIV and other sexually transmitted infections, addictive behavior, and drug consumption.



Stefanie, 39 years old
Child care worker

pays attention to
hygiene at the
day-care center

If a number of children at a day-care center suffer from a gastrointestinal infection, it might be a norovirus outbreak. The public-health offices report the infection figures to us, and we evaluate them for Bavaria. We examine food or environmental swab samples. On our Internet pages we provide all the important information about norovirus, for example hygiene rules in community facilities.

Emilia, one year old has good hearing



The LGL makes sure all children can take part in newborn hearing screening a few days after birth. This allows any hearing impairments to be recognized and treated early. Emilia has already passed her first test. Her parents want to continue taking her for medical checkups. And if a few years from now Emilia won't listen, they can be sure it's not because of her hearing.

Research

The resistance spectrum of certain germs, a potential transfer of substances out of novel packaging materials, and the development of methods for determining the origin of foods are examples of our research activities. As a scientifically oriented agency, we carry out more than 100 research projects a year. This way we guarantee that our analytic methods constantly keep up with the times.

We cooperate with universities and other research facilities and are tightly involved in scientific networks.



Enabling health.
Bavarian Health and Food
Safety Authority

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