Oqali
The French Observatory of Food Quality

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Contents

• The Oqali project

• The originality of the Oqali database:
  • The Oqali database: at branded product level
  • Application: simultaneous data entry
  • Structure and data

• Data processing for Oqali surveys

• Communication
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The Oqali project

- A recommendation of the French National Nutrition and Health Programme 2006-2010, a nutrition-based programme aimed at improving public health:
  
  ➢ The monitoring of the evolution of the quality of French foodstuffs is required

- The French Observatory of Food Quality (Oqali):
  
  - set up in 2008
  - publicly financed
  - implemented by:
    
    - The French Food Safety Agency (AFSSA)
    - The French National Institute for Agronomic Research (INRA)
The Oqali project

• Oqali objectives:
  - To centralize nutritional data on branded processed foodstuffs, taking into account socio-economic parameters such as:
    - types of brand (national, retailer, discount brands and store brand-low price products)
    - market shares and prices
  - To monitor the global nutritional and labelling changes in the food supply (nutrient content, ingredients, serving size, claims, ..)

• Collaborations with manufacturers and retailers by food category are essential:
  - To facilitate data collection
  - To establish a relevant food classification
  - To identify the relevant nutrients to study
  - To validate the methods used to analyze data
  - To determine the frequency of the monitoring

• Agreements with retailers to take pictures of the studied products.
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The originality of the Oqali database: at branded product level

French Observatory of Food Quality (Oqali):
- Branded products

Collected data:
- Component contents (Energy, protein, fats, saturated fats, carbohydrates, sugars, fibre, sodium)
- Other nutrition information
- Economic data

Great source of data

- Online annual report
- Online specific surveys by food category:
  - Overview of the market
  - Monitoring of evolutions

Site internet: http://www.oqali.fr

Only for data providers

- Monitoring the nutritional commitment charters of professionals
- Tool for French health authorities
- Tool for professionals:
  - Retrieval of their own data
  - Data processing to compare their products among the others of the same food category

French reference composition database (AFSSA-CIQUAL)
- 3,600 Generic foodstuffs
  - Collected data:
    - Component contents (650)

Online composition table (on 1,300 generic foods and 37 components) in French and English
ww.afssa.fr/TableCIQUAL/

Analyses
- Professionals
- Literature

Nutrition Labelling

Analyses Professionals

Economic data (Price and market share)
The Oqali application: simultaneous data entry

• Step 1: Intermediate Access database
• Step 2: Development of the Oqali application (operational at the end of 2009)

Afssa team

INRA team

Simultaneous access of both teams on the Internet

Oqali Application (Mysql language):
1. Data capture forms 2. Requests 3. Thesauri

Data providers (manufacturers, retailers)

Data processing for Oqali Survey

Database on branded product level: no general public access ➢ To guarantee data confidentiality
### Structure and data of the Oqali database

#### Analyses
- Samples description (code, name, composite or simple)
- Year
- Sampling plan number
- Generic food item code
- Food category
- Type of brand

#### Component code
- Component identification

#### Laboratory
- Analytical method
- LOQ

- **Compatible with Oqali and Ciqual databases**

#### Product sheets
- Branded product (code, name, brand)
- Years
- Food category
- Type of brand
- Generic food code
- Former product code (with the changed parameter(s))
- Links to photographs (quality control and traceability)

#### Serving size
- Product identification

- **Compatibility with Oqali and Ciqual databases**

- **Monitoring of the evolutions of products**

#### Documentation
- By source (packaging, and/or professionals)
- Nutrition and health claims
- List of ingredients
- Nutrient contents (per 100g or 100mL or serving)

- **By source (packaging, and/or professionals)**

- **Nutritional data**

- **Studies by food category and type of brand**
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• Food categories studied in 2008:
  – 707 fresh dairy products, 355 breakfast cereals, 1118 biscuits.

• Data processing by food category and type of brand (national, retailer, discount brands and store brand-low price products):
  – Calculation of frequencies of information provided on the packaging (type of nutrition labelling, claims, nutrition guidelines, dietary intake guidelines)
  – Analysis of the nutritional variability
  – Monitoring of composition and labelling changes over time
Data processing for Oqali surveys

- Development of new methodologies
  - Definition of food classifications based on nutrient composition, ingredients (e.g.: whole-milk, skimmed-milk …) or food-processing
  - Assessment of nutritional variability and evaluation of the number of samples or the required data to detect a significant evolution of the food composition
  - Identification of the required statistical tests according to the types of collected data (e.g.: to detect evolutions in the means or the distributions of nutrient contents in a food category)
In 2009 and 2010:

- Improvement of the market coverage of the food categories already studied

- Integration of new food categories:
  - Processed fruit products (stewed fruit, jams, canned fruit)
  - Bakery products
  - Chocolate products
  - Meat products
  - etc
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Communication on the Oqali project

- Leaflets
- Oqali website: [http://www.oqali.fr](http://www.oqali.fr)
  - Translation in English in progress
  - Free download of annual reports and food category surveys
  - To contact Oqali teams: oqali@ivry.inra.fr and oqali@afssa.fr

Oqali abstracts or publications:
The French observatory of food quality, R GOGLIA, M SPITERI, C MENARD, B LABARBE, P COMBRIS, LG SOLER, JL VOLATIER. Eurofir, Vienne, 2009
The French observatory of food quality, R GOGLIA, C MENARD, LG SOLER, JL VOLATIER. ICN, Bangkok, 2009
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

From left to right:
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