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COMPARATIVE RISK ASSESSMENT OF VECTOR-BORNE INFECTIONS

Aline de Koeijer

Wageningen BioVeterinary Research,
PObox 65 8200AB Lelystad, Netherlands

aline.dekoeijer@wur.nl

We developed a system to separately evaluate the probability of introduction of vector-borne infections and the size and impact of infections. These two jointly represent the risk of the infection. Using a list of 40 to 50 questions with categorical answers, we create a tool to quickly evaluate the key aspects of such a risk assessment. Each of the categorical answers work with an underlying calculation tool to maintain a systematic quantitative approach, based on orders of magnitude with logarithmic steps. We find that this tool enables both in depth studies and fast explorations of risk, depending on the need and the time available. Due to the systematic and structured approach it allows for comparison of the risk posed by different infections, and for evaluation of the differences. Thus, it offers a tool to prioritize for preparedness for exotic infections.