



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Food Safety and
Inspection Service

Volume 8, Issue 15
April 13, 2007



FSIS Constituent Update

Protecting Public Health Through Food Safety and Food Defense

FSIS to Hold Public Meeting on Risk-Based Inspection

FSIS will hold a public meeting on April 25 to discuss the use of production volume data relating to risk-based inspection in processing.

The public meeting will held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., in Room 244 of the George Mason University, Arlington Campus, 3401 N. Fairfax Drive, Arlington, Va. Stakeholders will also be able to participate via audio conference.

Directions to the site, phone-in information, an agenda and other meeting materials will be posted on FSIS' Web site at <http://www.fsis.usda.gov>.

Pre-registration for the meeting is encouraged. To register online,

go to http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/Meetings_&_Events/index.asp, select the appropriate meeting and indicate whether you will attend onsite at George Mason University or participate by phone.

You may also register by contacting Sally Fernandez at (202) 690-6524, FAX (202) 690-6519, or e-mail to sally.fernandez@fsis.usda.gov.

To access meeting materials, background information and reports in support of risk-based inspection in processing, go to http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Regulations_&_Policies/Risk_Based_Inspection/index.asp.

CDC Releases 2006 Foodborne Illness Data

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released a report on April 12 titled, *Preliminary FoodNet Data on the Incidence of Infection with Pathogens Transmitted Commonly Through Food - 10 States, 2006*.

FoodNet collects data from 10 U.S. states regarding diseases caused by enteric pathogens transmitted commonly through food.

This report describes preliminary surveillance data for 2006 and

Continued on page two

Inside this Issue

Notice and Directive	2
New Jersey Regulatory Education Session	2

Export Requirement Updates



The Library of Export Requirements has been updated to reflect changes in export requirements for the following:

Colombia

Complete information can be found at http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Regulations_&_Policies/Export_Information/index.asp.

USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline

Food safety experts are available year-round Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Eastern Time to answer questions about safely preparing and cooking foods. The toll-free number is 1-888-MPHotline (1-888-674-6854). Recorded messages are available 24 hours a day.

CDC Report ...

Continued from page one

compares them with baseline data from the period 1996-1998. [mmwr/PDF/wk/mm5614.pdf](#) (PDF Only).

The report is available on CDC's Web site at <http://www.cdc.gov/>

FSIS Issues Notice and Directive

FSIS issued Notice 26-07 on April 11 titled, *Export Library Revisions for March 2007*. This notice provides links to the export library revisions covering the month of March.

During March, the following countries made changes in their export requirements: Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, European Union, Japan, Mexico, Panama, Russia, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, Switzerland and Vietnam.

The agency also amended Directive 7120.1, *Safe and Suitable Ingredients Used in the Production of Meat and Poultry*

Products, on April 11.

This directive identifies the substances that have been approved in the *Code of Federal Regulations* for use in meat and poultry products as food additives, in generally recognized as safe notices, pre-market notifications and in letters conveying acceptability determinations.

This notice and directive can be viewed on FSIS' Web site at http://www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations_&_policies/regulations_directives_&_notices/index.asp.

FSIS to Hold Regulatory Education Session in New Jersey

FSIS will hold a regulatory education session on April 18 for the owners and operators of small and very small plants in New Jersey.

The session will cover regulatory walk-through of sanitation performance standard regulations and food defense.

The regulatory education session will be held from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., at the Sheraton at

Woodbridge Place Hotel, 515 Route One South, Iselin, N.J. 08830.

Online registration forms and information about upcoming sessions can be found at http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/Outreach_Sessions_SVS_Plants/index.asp.

To register by phone, call 1-800-336-3747.