



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Food Safety and
Inspection Service

Volume 8, Issue 40
October 5, 2007



FSIS Constituent Update

Protecting Public Health Through Food Safety and Food Defense

FSIS to Co-Host Public Meeting on *E. coli* Non-O157 STEC

FSIS and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Food and Drug Administration's Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention will hold a public meeting on Oct. 17 to solicit input on the public health significance of various strains of *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*).

The purpose of the meeting is to seek input from academia, consumers, other public health and regulatory agencies and industry on the issue of whether non-O157:H7 STECs should be considered to be adulterants as *E. coli* O157:H7 is.

The meeting will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the George Mason University, Arlington Campus, 3401 N. Fairfax Drive, Arlington, Va. The campus is located near the Virginia Square Metro Station

on Metro's Orange Line for participants attending in person.

Pre-registration for each meeting is encouraged. To register online, go to www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/meetings_&_events/index.asp, select the appropriate meeting and indicate whether you will be attending onsite at George Mason University or participating by phone.

The agency is accepting comments through Oct. 15. Comments can be submitted to Dr. Denise Eblen by e-mail to Denise.Eblen@fsis.usda.gov or by fax at (202) 690-6334.

For more information on the logistics of the meeting, contact Sheila Johnson at (202) 690-6498 or by e-mail to Sheila.Johnson@fsis.usda.gov.

Inside this Issue

Verification Sampling Notice	2
Upcoming Directives	2

Export Requirement Updates



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

Canada

Republic of Korea

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



Consumers with food safety questions can “Ask Karen,” the FSIS virtual representative available 24 hours a day at AskKaren.gov.

FSIS Issues Notice on Verification Sampling

FSIS issued Notice 62-07 on Sept. 28 titled, *Instructions for Verification Sampling Programs for E. coli O157:H7 In Raw Beef Products*.

The notice responds to questions concerning FSIS Notices 17-07 and 18-07 and provides new guidance to inspection program personnel on collecting samples of beef manufacturing trimmings and other raw ground beef and patty components for *E. coli* O157:H7 testing.

In addition, this notice provides new instructions for submitting samples to the laboratory for *E. coli* O157:H7 testing.

Notice 62-07 is available on FSIS’ Web site at www.fsis.usda.gov/OPPDE/rdad/FSISNotices/62-07.pdf.

FSIS to Issue Directives

FSIS publishes directives to enable the agency to carry out its mission of protecting public health.

The following directives are expected to be issued within the next month:

Directives:

•5420.1 - *Homeland Security*. This directive will set out food defense procedures that the Office of Field Operations should follow.

•5500.2 Revision 2 - *Non-Routine Incident Response*. This directive will offer clarification and provide corrections to the preceding version (5500.2 Revision 1).

•6100.3 - *Ante-Mortem and Post-Mortem Inspection of Poultry*. Instructions in this

directive will provide public health veterinarians, off-line and on-line inspection program personnel guidance on how to perform ante-mortem and post-mortem inspection on poultry.

•6170.1 - *Ratite Inspection Methodology*. This directive will provide direction to inspection program personnel on performing ante-mortem and post-mortem inspection on ratites.

•8080.1 - *Recall of Meat and Poultry Products*. This directive will address recall effectiveness and checks on imported product.

•8140.1 - *Inspection Program Responsibilities when Establishments Receive Adulterated or Misbranded Products*. This directive will update instructions for Form 8140-1.