



FSIS Constituent Update

Protecting Public Health Through Food Safety and Food Defense

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Food Safety and
Inspection Service

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Public Meeting to Address Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Under Secretary for Food Safety, and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Food and Drug Administration (FDA) are holding a public meeting to receive comments on agenda items and draft U.S. positions for the 27th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission's Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses to be held November 21-25, in Bonn, Germany.

The public meeting will be held at the FDA on October 18, from 1 - 4 p.m., in the auditorium of the Harvey Wiley Federal Building, 5100 Paint Branch Parkway, College Park, Md.

The Codex Alimentarius Commission's Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses was established to study specific nutritional problems; draft general provisions concerning the nutritional aspects of all foods; develop standards, guidelines or related information on foods for special dietary uses; and endorse provisions on nutritional aspects proposed for inclusion in Codex standards.

Interested parties must pre-register and present a photo ID at the door. To pre-register, send your name, organization, mailing address, phone number, and e-mail address to nancy.crane@cfsan.fda.gov by October 11.

For further information contact Nancy Crane, assistant to the U.S. Delegate to the Codex Committee, FDA, at (301) 436-1450 or by fax at (301) 436-2636. The agenda items and documents are also available electronically at www.codexalimentarius.net.

Persons requiring a sign language interpreter or other special accommodations should notify Ellen Matten, U.S. Codex Office, at (202) 205-7760, or by fax at (202) 720-3157.



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Export Requirement Updates



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

Colombia

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

Food Safety 101: USDA Offers Food Safety Tips For College Students

It's that time of year again- back to school. College students begin packing the basics - TV, laptop, MP3 player and cell phone. Many students will also arrive at school with a microwave oven, tabletop grill, mini-fridge and toaster-oven in tow. Most students, however, don't know there are food safety considerations that need to be taken into account when cooking with these appliances.

"Students face many rigors while studying for a college education and they often eat whenever and wherever it is convenient," said Under Secretary for Food Safety Dr. Richard Raymond. "But when it comes to safely preparing meals, many college kids simply don't know what it takes to make the grade in food safety and far too many could end up with a foodborne illness."

FSIS offers tips to students and consumers on how to prevent foodborne illness. The USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline regularly responds to calls from students with questions about how to safely cook and prepare foods while away at school.

To ask food safety questions call the USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline at 1-888-MPHotline (1-888-674-6854). You may speak with a food safety specialist - in English or Spanish - from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Eastern time on weekdays year round. The toll-free number for the hearing impaired (TTY) is 1-800-256-7072.

For more information visit:
www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/NR_082405_01

Volunteers Wanted for Young Breeder Turkey HIMP Pilot

In response to a request from the National Turkey Federation, the Agency has decided to allow plants that slaughter "young breeder" turkeys to participate in the HACCP-Based Inspection Models Project (HIMP) pilot. The term "young breeder" for the purposes of participating in the HIMP project will be used to denote turkeys that have, according to plant production records, completed one breeding cycle. The young turkey HIMP pilot currently has two plants participating, leaving three openings available in the program. To volunteer for the pilot, plants must submit a letter requesting participation. The letter should be sent to:

Mr. Charles Gioglio, Director
Inspection and Enforcement Initiatives Staff
Room 2925, South Building
1400 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20250

THIS WEEK'S HOT WEB LINKS

FSIS Consumers and Educators

www.fsis.usda.gov/Consumers_&_Educators

FSIS News and Events

www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/

FSIS International Affairs

www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations_&_policies/International_Affairs/



Quarterly Enforcement Report Correction

The Quarterly Enforcement Report covering the period January 1, 2005, through March 31, 2005, erroneously reported that the number of noncompliance reports written for all federally inspected meat, poultry, and egg products establishments in the United States was 63,112.

For the period January 1, 2005, through March 31, 2005, the correct number of noncompliance reports written was 32,766 and there were total procedures performed 1,892,369.

The portion of the Quarterly Enforcement Report that reflects noncompliance data and procedures performed is compiled by the Technical Service Center in Omaha, Neb. The error occurred during the download of Performance Based Inspection System data from the central database at FSIS' Headquarters. A normal download for the Report contains only the quarter that is being reported. During the second quarter of fiscal year 2005, data from the first and second quarters were inadvertently downloaded, adding the number of noncompliance records together, essentially doubling the reported figures.

A May review of reports other than the Quarterly Enforcement Report revealed the presence of two quarters of data and corrective measures were taken to prevent this from happening again. To date, the procedures implemented have been effective. Information that was reported for the third quarter of fiscal year 2005 is correct. The Agency regrets the error in reporting and any inconvenience this might have caused.

**To submit comments or questions,
contact the editor,
Crystal Straughn at: fsisupdate@fsis.usda.gov
or (202) 720-9113**