



United States
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Food Safety and
Inspection Service

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FSIS Constituent Update

Protecting Public Health Through Food Safety and Food Defense

Federal and State Partnership Announces Model Food Emergency Plan

The National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA), in cooperation with FSIS, the Food and Drug Administration and the Department of Homeland Security, announced the availability of a model food emergency response plan template.

The template addressed the goal of enhancing the protection of the U.S. agricultural industry and food security through increased prevention, detection, response and recovery planning.

A food emergency could occur at any point from farm-to-fork, including pre-harvest production, processing and distribution. A food-related emergency involves the unintentional or deliberate contamination, threatened or actual, of food that impacts or might impact human health. A food emergency response plan applies to food emergencies that might involve a number of localities or states.

The template is designed to assist states with developing a food emergency response plan. It identifies how state efforts will be integrated with the National Response Plan by utilizing National Incident Management System principles during a large-scale food emergency response, as well as how they will integrate with local emergency response plans.

The template will also assist states with the development of either a stand-alone emergency response plan for responding to a food-related emergency or an addendum to an existing all-hazard state emergency response plan.

The model food emergency response plan template is available on NASDA's Web site at <http://www2.nasda.org/NR/rdonlyres/2EC4F1B6-9732-4187-8A1D-7024C6818CBE/858/NASDAFoodPlanTemplate020906.pdf>.

Inside this Issue

FSIS Issues Export-Related Directives and Notices	2
FSIS Issues Directive on Recalls	2
FSIS Issues Notice on Inspection of Horses	3
OFS to Hold Public Codex Meeting	3
FSIS to Issue Directives and Notices	4

Export Requirement Updates



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

Hong Kong

Mexico

Peru

Switzerland

Taiwan

Thailand

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

FSIS Issues Export-Related Directives and Notices

As a part of FSIS' mission to protect public health, inspection program personnel learn about requirements necessary for exporting products to other countries. Export-related directives and notices are published to provide urgent export information to FSIS officials certifying meat and poultry products for export.

The following export-related directives and notices were published during the week of February 27:

- Directive 9000.1, *Export Certification*, was re-issued to provide a clear set of standards for district offices and inspection program personnel concerning current agency policy regarding the export certification process. The directive also clarifies the purpose of the export library and other aspects of the directive.
- Directive 9040.1, *Re-Inspection of Product Intended for Export*, was re-issued provide instructions for the examination of boxes or containers in situations where inspection program personnel have a reason to question whether the product as labeled meets the importing country's requirements.
- Notice 9-06, *Certifying Beef Products under Export Verification Programs*, was issued to provide FSIS personnel with new instructions related to the FSIS certification process for meat products exported under export verification (EV) programs.
- Notice 10-06, *Certifying Beef Products to be Exported to Japan for U.S. Military Use*, was issued to provide FSIS personnel with information regarding the certification of beef and beef products for Japan for U.S. military use.

To view the directives and notices, visit FSIS' Web site at http://www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations_&policies/regulations_directives_¬ices/index.asp.

FSIS Issues Directive on Recall of Meat and Poultry Products

FSIS re-issued Directive 8080.1 on March 2, to address changes to the public notification process.

The directive titled, *Recall of Meat and Poultry Products*, was re-issued to reflect changes to press releases and recall notification reports issued by FSIS. The changes will help improve the way FSIS communicates information concerning recalls.

Continued on page three

Directive on Recall ...

Continued from page two

Export Tip:

Question: What can you do to avoid mistakes when completing forms for products that will be exported to other countries?

Answer: To avoid mistakes, make sure you have the most recent version of FSIS export forms.

The export library provides information on export requirements for meat and poultry products, export requirements for egg products, export related notices and directives and eligible U.S. establishments.

Visit FSIS' Web site at http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Regulations_&Policies/Export_Information/index.asp to learn more on export requirements to other countries.

To subscribe to the export library, go to http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Regulations_&Policies/Export_Requirements_EV_Countries/index.asp.

This directive is available on FSIS' Web site at <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/OPPDE/rdad/FSISDirectives/8080.1Rev4Amend3.pdf>.

FSIS Issues Notice on Instructions for Ante Mortem Inspection of Horses as a Voluntary Reimbursable Service

FSIS issued Notice 13-06 on March 3, to provide instructions to inspection program personnel regarding the performance of ante mortem inspection of horses as a voluntary, reimbursable service.

Inspection program personnel will continue to conduct all inspection activities, including ante mortem inspection, in accordance with the requirements of the Federal Meat Inspection Act and applicable Federal meat inspection regulations, including regulations pertaining to humane handling.

This notice, which is effective on March 10, is available on FSIS' Web site at http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Regulations_&Policies/Notice_13-06/index.asp.

Office of Food Safety to Hold Public Meeting on Codex Committee on General Principles

FSIS published a *Federal Register* notice on February 27 titled, *Codex Alimentarius Commission: Meeting of the Codex Committee on General Principles*.

The notice announces that USDA's Office of the Under Secretary for Food Safety will hold a public meeting to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items and draft U.S. positions that will be discussed at the 23rd Session of the Codex Committee on General Principles of the Codex Alimentarius Commission in Paris, France, from April 10-14.

The public meeting will be held on March 21, from 1 to 4 p.m. in Room 107-A of the Jamie Lee Whitten Building, United States Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, D.C. 20250.

The agency is accepting comments through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov> or by electronic mail at fsis.

Continued on page four

Japan and Salmonella Information Reaches Large Audience

The *Japan Export Investigation Report* has been downloaded more than 79,999 times since its publication on February 17. This comprehensive report has been featured on FSIS' Web site at www.fsis.usda.gov and USDA's Web site at www.usda.gov.

The February 23 FSIS press release titled, *FSIS Announces Initiative to Reduce Salmonella in Meat and Poultry*, has been viewed 1,823 times by visitors to FSIS' Web site. The *Salmonella* data and the progress report mentioned in the release are both available at www.fsis.usda.gov/Science/Microbiology/.

Customers who only want to view the agency's *Salmonella* Progress Report may visit www.fsis.usda.gov/Science/Progress_Report_Salmonella_Testing/index.asp.

Salmonella serotype data is located at www.fsis.usda.gov/Science/Salmonella_Serotypes_1998-2004/index.asp.

OFS to Hold Codex Public Meeting ...

Continued from page three

regulationscomments@fsis.usda.gov. The notice is available on FSIS' Web site at <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/OPPDE/rdad/FRPubs/2006-0001.htm>.

FSIS to Issue Directives and Notices

FSIS publishes directives and notices to enable the agency to carry out its mission of protecting public health. Within the next month, FSIS expects to issue the following directives and notices:

Directives

- 5000.1, Revision 2 - *Verifying an Establishment's Food Safety System* (This directive is being revised to remove instructions to consumer safety officers (CSOs) because the instructions for CSOs are being incorporated into the 5100 directives series.)
- 5100.3 - *Administrative Enforcement Report* (FSIS is revising this directive to clarify who may take photographs and when.)
- 10,240.4, Revision 1 - *Verification Procedures for Listeria monocytogenes (Lm) Regulations – Phase 2* (This revision provides CSOs with additional sampling procedures related to *Lm*. This was a notice that is now being changed into two directives.)
- 10,240.5 - *Assessment of the Listeria monocytogenes (Lm) Regulations - Phase 2* (This directive provides enforcement, investigations and analysis officers with instructions regarding environmental sampling and methodology for assessments based on laboratory results.)
- 12,600.1 - *Voluntary Reimbursable Inspection Services* (Fee-for Service) (This directive describes voluntary reimbursable services available to facilities such as warehouses, cold storage facilities and off-premise freezers.)

Notices (Numbers are assigned as notices are issued.)

- *PBIS Profile Extension Instructions on Food Defense Plans* (This notice provides instructions to inspectors-in-charge for completing the profile extension about an establishment's food defense plan.)

Continued on page five

Directives and Notices...

Continued from page four

- *Use of Non-Amenable Animal Tissue* (This notice provides inspection program personnel with clarification regarding the use of non-amenable animal tissue in officially inspected products.)
- *Donated Foods* (This notice provides instructions regarding circumstances when establishments can donate food not in compliance with other consumer protection regulations.)
- *Clarification Regarding Squabs for Export* (This notice provides inspection program personnel with clarification on how squabs may be exported with their heads on.)

**To submit
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questions, contact
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