



# FSIS Constituent Update

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Protecting Public Health Through Food Safety and Security

## FSIS' E-mail Service Reaches 10,000 Subscribers

FSIS' e-mail alert subscription service, which provides automatic and customized access to selected food safety news and information, has reached over 10,000 subscribers since its launch in September 2004. This service allows FSIS customers to sign up for subscriptions across eight categories:

- News and Events
- Newsletters
- Recalls
- Export Information
- Regulations and Policies
- Food Safety Education
- Federal Register Publications and Related Documents
- Regulations, Directives and Notices



The e-mail alert enables customers to choose the topics important to them and stay informed whether or not they visit the Web site regularly. It also helps keep the public, industry and groups stay up-to-date on topics from food safety preparation and cooking to successful declines in foodborne pathogens. Options range from news releases and recalls, meat and poultry export information to Federal Register Publications, *Constituent Update*, Codex news, the Food Safety Educator and the newly added schedule for the USDA Food Safety Mobile. Additional subscription options will be added based on demand.

To sign up visit: [www.fsis.usda.gov/news\\_&\\_events/Email\\_Subscription/](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/news_&_events/Email_Subscription/)  
Subscribers will be notified via e-mail when updates have been made to their selections. Customers can add or delete subscriptions themselves and have the option to password protect their account.

## Export Requirement Updates

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

**Egypt**

**Republic of Korea  
(egg products)**

**Russia**

Complete information is available online at:

[www.fsis.usda.gov/  
Regulations\\_&\\_Policies/  
Export\\_Information/](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Regulations_&_Policies/Export_Information/)



## Publication Spotlight: FSIS Regulatory Testing for *E. coli*

FSIS scientists Alecia Larew Naugle, Kristin G. Holt, Priscilla Levine and Ron Eckel recently published an article entitled *Food Safety and Inspection Service Regulatory Testing Program for Escherichia coli O157:H7 in Raw Ground Beef*. The article addresses FSIS raw ground beef testing data to determine whether a decrease in the rate of *E. coli* O157:H7 had occurred since FSIS began its regulatory and microbiological testing programs for this pathogen. To read the article, see the March 2005 issue (Vol. 68:3 p.462–468) of the *Journal of Food Protection*.

To read more about FSIS microbiological results of raw ground beef products analyzed for *E. coli* O157:H7 visit:

[www.fsis.usda.gov/Science/Ground\\_Beef\\_E.Coli\\_Testing\\_Results/](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Science/Ground_Beef_E.Coli_Testing_Results/)

## Public Meeting To Address Codex Committee on Food Labeling

FSIS and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) of the Department of Health and Human Services will hold a public meeting on April 26, 2005 to provide information and receive comments on agenda items to be discussed at the 33<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Codex Committee on Food Labeling (CCFL) in Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia, May 9-13, 2005.

The public meeting will be held from 1-4 p.m., in Room 107A of the Jamie Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Ave, S.W., Washington, D.C. Attendees will have the opportunity to pose questions and offer comments on the following agenda items: Proposed Draft Guidelines for the Labeling of Foods Obtained Through Certain Techniques of Genetic Modification/Genetic Engineering and Country of Origin Labeling. A complete agenda for the meeting can be found at [www.codexalimentarius.net/current.asp](http://www.codexalimentarius.net/current.asp)

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



### The USDA Food Safety Mobile: Taking Food Safety Education on the Road

The USDA Food Safety Mobile travels continuously throughout the United States to educate consumers about the risks associated with mishandling food and steps they can take to reduce their risk of foodborne illness. The food safety mobile's schedule locations is as follows:

#### April 2, 2005

Albertsons Grocery Store  
(St. George, UT)

#### April 4, 2005

Elementary School  
(St. George, UT)

#### April 7-10, 2005

Clark County Fair & Rodeo  
(Logandale, Nev.)