



United States  
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# FSIS Constituent Update

Protecting Public Health Through Food Safety and Food Defense

## Agency Launches Podcast Service to Enhance Communication With Stakeholders

This week FSIS launched a series of educational podcasts tailored to address food safety and education issues for consumers and other stakeholders.

As a part of the Agency’s ongoing outreach efforts to small and very small establishments, FSIS will initially focus on providing small and very small plant owners, operators and employees with important information through the use of podcasts.

Subscribers will receive the latest additions through an RSS feed, or Web feed collector, with news and information about Agency work to ensure public health protection through food safety. FSIS podcasts will be short, factual audio and video files featuring scientists, policy experts and other specialists.

Users can currently listen to an introduction from FSIS Administrator Al Almanza and then click on any of the other three podcasts about food safety resources, *Small Plant News* or *askFSIS*.

“FSIS is making significant advances in food safety with information on food safety policies, programs and initiatives that are of value to industry, consumers and other stakeholders” said USDA Under Secretary for Food Safety Dr. Richard Raymond.

Podcasting audio and video files on the Internet allow free subscription and receipt of new podcasts automatically or selected individual files from a published list.

To listen to individual podcasts or sign up for a free subscription, visit [www.fsis.usda.gov](http://www.fsis.usda.gov). For assistance or details concerning FSIS podcasts, please send an e-mail to [podcast@fsis.usda.gov](mailto:podcast@fsis.usda.gov).

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## Export Requirement Updates



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

**European Union**

**Japan**

**Republic of Korea**

Complete information can be found at [www.fsis.usda.gov/Regulations\\_&\\_Policies/Export\\_Information/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Regulations_&_Policies/Export_Information/index.asp).



## Check out USDA's Food Safety Quiz for Parents and Kids

Before you let kids have the run of the kitchen, USDA advises you to take a little quiz together, visit [www.fsis.usda.gov/News\\_&\\_Events/NR\\_090704\\_01/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/NR_090704_01/index.asp).

## FSIS Published Directive - Scientific Seminar Series Presentations to Enhance Public Health Dialogue

FSIS published Directive 10,900.1 - *Inviting Non-FSIS Scientists for Office of Public Health Science - Scientific Seminar Series Presentations* on April 22.

The purpose of this directive is to provide direction to Office of Public Health Science (OPHS) personnel on how to communicate with scientists from research, public, or private institutions and other government agencies to schedule presenters for the OPHS Scientific Seminar Series (SSS) Presentations.

The evolution of science provides multiple opportunities to protect the public health and FSIS established OPHS-SSS Presentations to foster information exchange between FSIS scientists, other staff personnel and leading professionals in public health, food science, microbiology, toxicology, risk assessment, and medicine.

Visit [www.fsis.usda.gov/OPPDE/rdad/FSISDirectives/10900.1.pdf](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/OPPDE/rdad/FSISDirectives/10900.1.pdf) to view the directive.

## Register for the Upcoming Two-Day Public Health and Food Safety Summit

FSIS is committed to partnering with other food safety and public health communities in an effort to make critical improvements in public health and food safety.

FSIS is co-sponsoring a two-day summit with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Food and Drug Administration titled *Better Communications, Better Public Health Outcomes: Strategies for Improved Coordination During Foodborne Outbreaks*.

The meeting will be held May 15-16 at the Renaissance St. Louis Grand and Suites Hotel, 800 Washington Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri.

The summit will include a public meeting and an invitation-only simulation exercise. The steering committee will include representation from member organizations of the Council to Improve Foodborne Outbreak Response (CIFOR), as well as other stakeholders.

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## Agency Issues Notice to Synchronize Field Computers

FSIS published Notice 29-08 - *Synchronization of Field Computers* on April 24.

This notice applies to all inspection program personnel who use the Performance Based Inspection System, the Electronic Animal Disposition Reporting System or the Daily Activity Report software applications.

This notice outlines the necessity to synchronize field computers, provides instructions to synchronize field computers, provides notification of synchronization status, clarifies other actions to take in various circumstances and provides contact information for the FSIS Service Desk.

To view this notice, visit [www.fsis.usda.gov/OPPDE/rdad/FSISNotices/29-08.pdf](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/OPPDE/rdad/FSISNotices/29-08.pdf).



Learn more about basic food safety principles by visiting FSIS' facts sheets at [www.fsis.usda.gov/Fact\\_Sheets/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Fact_Sheets/index.asp).

## Public Health and Food Safety Summit ...

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CIFOR is a multidisciplinary working group whose mission is to increase collaboration across the country to reduce the burden of foodborne illness in the United States. As a member, FSIS recognizes the excellent and important work already being done by CIFOR and plans to continue active participation in future efforts.

Online registration can be found at [www.fsis.usda.gov/News\\_&\\_Events/Meetings\\_&\\_Events/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/Meetings_&_Events/index.asp).

## FSIS to Host Regulatory Education Workshop in Michigan

FSIS will hold a regulatory education workshop in West Michigan on May 7 to cover a variety of topics and programs, including hazard analysis and critical control points, sanitation performance standards, food defense strategies, *E. coli* O157:H7 workshops, and the following notices:

- 65-07, *Notice of Reassessment for Escherichia coli O157:H7 Control and Completion of a Checklist for all Beef Operations*;
- 66-07, *Multiple Follow-Up Sampling After FSIS Positive Escherichia coli O157:H7 Results*; and
- 68-07, *Routine Sampling and Testing of Raw Ground Beef Components Other Than Trim and Imported Raw Ground Beef Components for Escherichia coli O157:H7*.

The session will be held from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., at the Radisson Plaza Hotel Kalamazoo, 100 West Michigan Avenue, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

To register by phone, call (800) 336-3747. Online registration forms and information about upcoming sessions can be found at [www.fsis.usda.gov/News\\_&\\_Events/Outreach\\_Sessions\\_SVS\\_Plants/index](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/Outreach_Sessions_SVS_Plants/index).

