



United States  
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# FSIS Constituent Update

Protecting Public Health Through Food Safety and Food Defense

## FSIS Announces Outreach Sessions for Small and Very Small Plants

FSIS will hold outreach sessions for small and very small plant owners and operators on Tuesday, June 20, in Athens, Ga.; and on Wednesday, June 21, in Atlanta, Ga., and Salt Lake City, UT.

The sessions will cover a regulatory walk through of the Sanitation Standard Operating Procedures, Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point, and Rules of Practice regulations.

The outreach sessions will be held from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the following locations:

### Tuesday, June 20

University of Georgia  
425 River Road  
Animal Science Department  
Room 104  
Athens, Ga. 30602

### Wednesday, June 21

Sheraton Atlanta Hotel  
165 Courtland Street  
Atlanta, Ga. 30303

### Wednesday, June 21

Utah Department of Agriculture & Food (UDAF)  
350 North Redwood Road  
Salt Lake City, UT 84114

For more information about the regulatory walk through sessions or the small and very small plant outreach, visit FSIS' Web site at [www.fsis.usda.gov/Science/Small\\_Very\\_Small\\_Plant\\_Outreach/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Science/Small_Very_Small_Plant_Outreach/index.asp).



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## Export Requirement Updates



The Library of Export Requirements does not reflect any changes for export requirements.

To learn more about exporting products to other countries, visit, FSIS' Web site at [http://www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations\\_&\\_policies/Export\\_Information/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations_&_policies/Export_Information/index.asp).

## FSIS Posts Preliminary Program for 2006 Food Safety Education Conference

FSIS posted on its Web site the preliminary program for the 2006 Food Safety Education Conference, "Reaching At-Risk Audiences and Today's Other Food Safety Challenges."

The conference will be held at the Adam's Mark Hotel, 1550 Court Place, Denver, Colo., September 27 - 29.

The conference is sponsored by: FSIS; NSF International; the Food and Drug Administration; the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; USDA's Cooperative State Research, Education and Service; and NSF/World Health Organization Collaborating Center for Food Safety.

The conference will focus on educating general and at-risk

populations such as pregnant women, children, older adults, immune-compromised patients and culturally diverse populations.

The conference will address current surveillance and epidemiological data on foodborne illness; present strategies that will lead to enhanced food safety knowledge, skills, and abilities and in attitudinal and behavioral modification in general and at-risk populations; and communicate the latest science-based safe food handling principles and practices

To view the preliminary program for the 2006 Food Safety Education conference, visit FSIS' Web site at <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/denver2006/>.

## McKee Appointed Director of the Technical Service Center

The Office of Policy, Program, and Employee Development is announcing that effective June 25, 2006, Dr. Garry McKee will become the Director of the Technical Service Center (TSC) in Omaha, Neb.

McKee brings more than 30 years of public health experience from previous positions within the Wyoming Department of Public Health, Oklahoma State Department of Health and more recently as FSIS administrator from 2002 to 2004.

His experience, combined with a solid record in managing public health programs and personnel will be a tremendous asset for FSIS to further improve the services the TSC provides to its customers.

McKee's appointment is one of a number steps FSIS is taking to further strengthen its assistance for small and very small plants.

## FSIS Posts Beef Advanced Meat Recovery Data on Web Site

### FSIS Issues Notice on Certification of Intestines or Animal Casing for Export

FSIS issued Notice 34-06 on June 15, titled, *Certification of Intestines or Animal Casing for Export*.

This notice instructs inspection program personnel on how to determine whether intestines and casings from animals are eligible to receive the marks of inspection and how to certify the intestines and casings for export.

Notice 34-06, which is effective on July 17, is available on FSIS' Web site at [http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Regulations\\_&Policies/Notice\\_34-06/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Regulations_&Policies/Notice_34-06/index.asp).

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### FSIS' 100 Years Commemorative Web Page

This year, FSIS celebrates 100 years of protecting the food supply under the Federal Meat Inspection Act.

To access FSIS' 100 years commemorative Web page, visit <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/100years/>.

FSIS posted on its Web site the results from regulatory testing of the product from beef advanced meat recovery (AMR) systems.

Advanced meat recovery is a technology that enables processors to remove remaining muscle tissue from beef carcasses without breaking bones.

The regulatory program for Central Nervous System (CNS) tissue was initiated in March

2003 following the completion of the 2002 Beef AMR survey.

Under the current regulatory program, implemented on January 12, 2004, all samples are tested for both CNS tissue and dorsal root ganglia.

To view the results, visit FSIS' Web site at [http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Science/Beef\\_Produced\\_by\\_AMR\\_Systems/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Science/Beef_Produced_by_AMR_Systems/index.asp).

## FSIS Updates Directive on Voluntary Reimbursable Inspection Services

FSIS re-issued Directive 12,600.1, Revision 1, on June 15, to address non-mandatory inspection services for which the agency receives reimbursement for voluntary reimbursable services.

The directive titled, *Voluntary Reimbursable Inspection Services*, updates and combines information from Directive 5110.1, Revision 1, *Reimbursable Services Reference Guide* and Directive 12,600.1, *Voluntary Reimbursable Inspection Services*.

This directive is available on FSIS' Web site at <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/OPPDE/rdad/FSISDirectives/12600.1Rev1.pdf>.

## Export Tip of the Week

Most export certificates require the signature of an FSIS veterinarian. However, many countries accept the signature of an FSIS inspection official. For example, while Canada requires the signature of an FSIS veterinarian; Mexico accepts the signature of an FSIS inspection official.

Country requirements only reflect information where the signature of an FSIS veterinarian is required. It is important to check the country requirements prior to signing export documents to verify if

an export certificate must be signed by an FSIS veterinarian. If the country requirements are silent on this point, then an FSIS inspection official may sign the document. Additionally, all export certificates should be signed in an ink color other than black.

Visit FSIS' Web site at [http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Regulations\\_&Policies/Export\\_Information/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Regulations_&Policies/Export_Information/index.asp) to learn more about requirements for exporting products to other countries.