

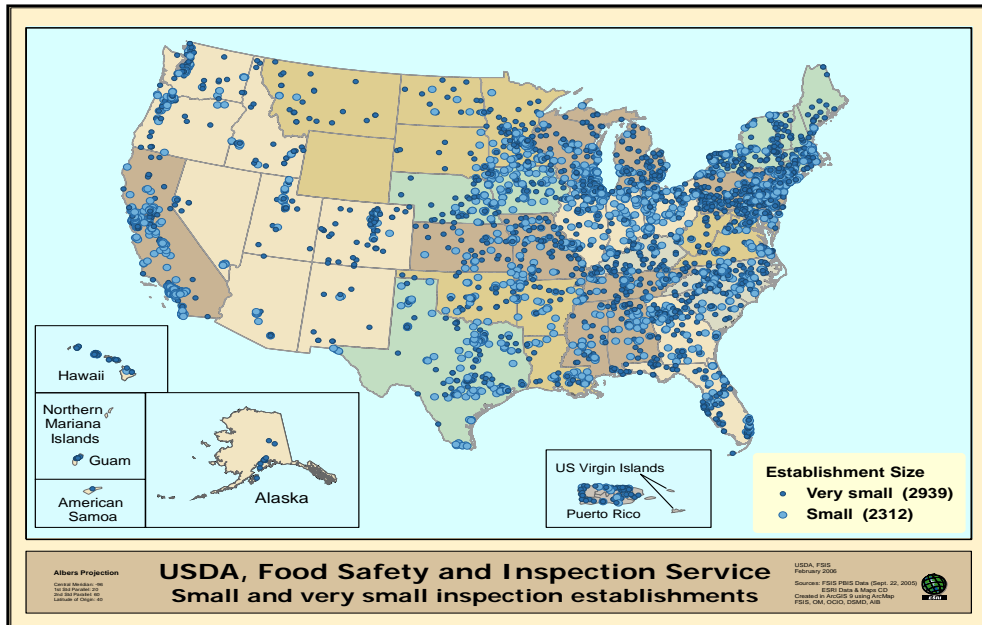
Redesigning FSIS Outreach to Meet Current Needs of Small and Very Small Plants

National Advisory Committee on Meat and Poultry Inspection
May 2006

HACCP – the Foundation for Success

- Making sure the nation's food supply is safe is essential for public health, and makes good business sense
- Effective HACCP Implementation is critical to public health success
- FSIS must ensure establishments have the tools they need to implement and maintain a safe food system

Small and Very Small Inspection Establishments Are A Critical Component of Food Safety and Food Defense



FSIS is Reaching out to Small and Very Small Plants Through Outreach and Listening Sessions

- ✓ *Montana, September 2005*
- ✓ *California, November 2005*
- ✓ *Texas, December 2005*
- ✓ *Pennsylvania, January 2006*
- ✓ *Massachusetts, March 2006*

International HACCP Alliance Meeting to Identify Small and Very Small Plant Needs

- International HACCP Alliance hosted Strategic Planning meeting in Dallas, TX, to consider the needs of small and very small plants

Lesson Learned from the Small Plant Listening Sessions

EXECUTION

FSIS' outreach strategy to small plants has been one focused on the initial development of a HACCP plan

DESIGN

A NEW outreach strategy is needed centered on supporting the scientific basis for developing and maintaining a HACCP plan.

What steps have been taken?

- An internal task force was formed.
- A strategic implementation plan was developed.

What strategies will FSIS use?

- One-stop customer service
- Technical resources
- Education/training

What strategies will FSIS use?

- Partnerships
- Needs assessment
- Evaluation
- Leveraging resources

What are the key features of our redesigned outreach effort?

- One web page with assistance specifically designed to meet small and very small plant needs <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Businesses/index.asp>
- One toll free number to call for support
- Additional listening sessions

What are the key features of our redesigned outreach effort?

- A clearinghouse of Q&As
- Joint training for plants and FSIS
- Validation support to meet specific small plant needs

What outcomes are expected from redesigning our outreach efforts?

- Small and very small plants have a full range of scientific and technical support and assistance needed to compete by demonstrating safe and effective HACCP systems
- Enhanced food safety and food defense protection

Questions to consider

- What suggestions do you have for how FSIS through the International HACCP Alliance could locate industry representatives who are willing to share expertise and other technical resources and assistance with very small plants?
- What suggestions do you have for how FSIS could obtain data on the types of support the small and very small plants need for their food safety systems?
- What suggestions do you have for how FSIS could best work with a user's group (consisting of all partners) to provide feedback on the usefulness of existing tools and services, to pilot new activities or materials, and to make recommendations on how to improve the outreach function to better meet the needs?
- What other suggestions do you have for FSIS for strengthening our strategy for outreach to small and very small plants?