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# FSIS Constituent Update

Protecting Public Health Through Food Safety and Food Defense

## FSIS Issues Winter/Spring Edition of *be FoodSafe: The FSIS Magazine*

The Winter/Spring issue of *be FoodSafe: The FSIS Magazine* is now available online at [http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News\\_&\\_Events/Be\\_Foodsafe\\_Magazine/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/Be_Foodsafe_Magazine/index.asp).

This quarterly magazine focuses on food safety behavior trends, emerging science and research, domestic and international inspection issues, and education programs for food workers, consumers and caregivers.

The new issue showcases USDA's efforts to reach out to at-risk populations to help fight foodborne illness. Foodborne illness, a preventable and underreported disease, is a public health and economic challenge affecting both general and at-risk populations. Nearly one in five Americans fall into this category, including young children, older adults, pregnant women and those with a weakened immune system, such as people with diabetes, cancer, HIV/AIDS and transplant recipients.

Stay connected to *be FoodSafe* by subscribing to the magazine. Electronic subscriptions are free and are available from the magazine's Web page ([http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News\\_&\\_Events/Be\\_Foodsafe\\_Magazine/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/Be_Foodsafe_Magazine/index.asp)). Hard copy subscriptions are \$29 per year (\$40.50 foreign addresses) and can be obtained through the U.S. Government (GPO) Bookstore at <http://bookstore.gpo.gov/collections/befoodsafe.jsp> or by phone at (866) 512-1800.

For editorial inquiries, contact the editor by e-mail at [beFoodSafeMagazine@fsis.usda.gov](mailto:beFoodSafeMagazine@fsis.usda.gov) or by phone at (202) 690-6520. Inquiries and content may also be mailed to *be FoodSafe Magazine*, USDA/FSIS/SIPO, Aerospace Building, 3rd Floor - Room 405, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, D.C. 20250. The editorial staff reserves the right to edit all submissions for content or length.

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## Export Requirement Updates



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

### Australia

### Russia

### Saudi Arabia

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

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### Hot Link

**Ask Karen** - FSIS' virtual representative can answer your questions 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Visit "Ask Karen" at [http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Food\\_Safety\\_Education/Ask\\_Karen/index.asp#Question](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Food_Safety_Education/Ask_Karen/index.asp#Question).

## Register to Attend Public Meetings on Risk-Based Inspection in Processing

FSIS will hold public meetings on April 25 and 30 to address specific issues raised by stakeholders during the development of risk-based inspection in processing.

The use of production volume data as a proxy for exposure is the topic for the meeting on April 25. The April 30 meeting will focus on the use of industry data in the risk algorithm.

Both public meetings will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., in Room 244 of the George Mason University, Arlington Campus, 3401 N. Fairfax Drive, Arlington, Va. Stakeholders will also be able to participate via audio conference.

Directions to the site, phone-in information, an agenda and other meeting materials will be posted on FSIS' Web site at <http://www.fsis.usda.gov>.

Pre-registration for the meeting is encouraged. To register online, go to [http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News\\_&\\_Events/Meetings\\_&\\_Events/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/Meetings_&_Events/index.asp), select the appropriate meeting and indicate whether you will attend onsite at George Mason University or participate by phone.

You may also register by contacting Sally Fernandez at (202) 690-6524, FAX (202) 690-6519, or e-mail to [sally.fernandez@fsis.usda.gov](mailto:sally.fernandez@fsis.usda.gov).

To access meeting materials, background information and reports in support of risk-based inspection in processing, go to [http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Regulations\\_&\\_Policies/Risk\\_Based\\_Inspection/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Regulations_&_Policies/Risk_Based_Inspection/index.asp).

## Risk-Based Inspection Meeting Transcripts Available on Web Site

FSIS has posted on its Web site transcripts from two recent public meetings on risk-based inspection (RBI) in processing.

The agency held a public meeting on April 2 to discuss the algorithm used to determine categories of inspection under RBI for processing establishments, use of public health significant non-compliance records and the proposed RBI timeline.

A technical summit on attributing illness to food, co-hosted by FSIS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Food and Drug Administration, was held on April 5.

Transcripts from these public meetings can be viewed at [http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News\\_&\\_Events/Past\\_Events/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/Past_Events/index.asp).

## **Risk-Based Inspection Updates Available by E-mail**

FSIS has added Risk-Based Inspection System to its e-mail subscription service.

This service will alert customers about information and resource materials in support of risk-based inspection.

The e-mail alert service provides automatic and customized access to specific food safety news and information. Customers who subscribe will be notified via e-mail when updates have been made.

To subscribe, go to [http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News\\_&\\_Events/Email\\_Subscription/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/Email_Subscription/index.asp).

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## **Testimony Available on FSIS' Web Site**

Visit [http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News\\_&\\_Events/testimonies/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/testimonies/index.asp) to view Under Secretary for Food Safety Dr. Richard Raymond and Acting Administrator Dr. David Goldman's testimony before the Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and related agencies.

## **FSIS to Hold Regulatory Education Session in Oklahoma**

FSIS will hold a regulatory education session on April 24 for the owners and operators of small and very small plants in Oklahoma.

The session will cover a regulatory walk-through of sanitation standard operating procedures, hazard analysis and critical control point and rules of practice regulations.

The regulatory education session will be held from 6:30 p.m. to

8:30 p.m., at the Holiday Inn Norman, 1000 N. Interstate Drive, Norman, Okla. 73072.

Online registration forms and information about upcoming sessions can be found at [http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News\\_&\\_Events/Outreach\\_Sessions\\_SVS\\_Plants/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/Outreach_Sessions_SVS_Plants/index.asp).

To register by phone, call 1-800-336-3747.

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