



FSIS NOTICE 28-10

NATIONWIDE MARKET HOGS MICROBIOLOGICAL BASELINE DATA COLLECTION PROGRAM - UPDATE

OPPD-PDD

District Office Correlation



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- This notice only applies to inspection program personnel (IPP) assigned to the establishments included in the Food Safety and Inspection Service's (FSIS) Nationwide Market Hogs Microbiological Baseline Data Collection Program (MHBS) that receive the appropriate sampling forms and supplies.



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- The MHBS is to begin upon receipt of the necessary forms and laboratory supplies and will continue for a minimum of twelve months.



CHANGES TO THE MARKET HOGS BASELINE STUDY NOTICE FOR THE ACTUAL STUDY

- Removed the option to take the samples post-bleeding** due to possible contamination of samples and the labs will discard these samples.



CHANGES TO THE MARKET HOGS BASELINE STUDY NOTICE FOR THE ACTUAL STUDY

- **** Note:** Pre-evisceration samples may be taken post bleeding when absolutely necessary due to safety concerns. Precautions are to be taken to prevent excessive contamination or saturation of sample sponges with blood to avoid being discarded.



Basic Changes from FSIS Notice 3-09

- Provides New Project ID Codes:
 - B48PREV1, B48POST1, B48PREV2, and B48POST2
- Revised Block 28 Sample Questions:
- Updates Q&As in Attachment 3 based on questions that FSIS received during the Shakedown period (Attachment 3).



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- Removed the option to take samples from U.S. Suspects passed for slaughter that are bright alert market hogs because this type of sample is not representative of what is considered normal or standard.



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- Forms are mailed out on a quarterly basis, so they are to be kept in a safe place until the scheduled week of sampling indicated in Block 4.



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- A complete sample consists of two sample pairs: two sponge samples collected from a single carcass at Pre-Evisceration, **AND** two sponge samples collected from a single carcass at Post-Chill. Anything else received at the lab will be discarded.



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- Sample Request Forms cannot be re-printed and re-sent for inspector errors so before collecting samples please ensure that all supplies are available, that a proper sample can be taken, and that the sample is prepared in time for FedEx pick-up.



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- Forms that have been tampered with will be discarded. The pre-printed information on the form should never be scratched out or whited out and replaced with handwritten information.



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- We are only interested in samples taken from slaughter shifts.
- Forms printed for the second shift (B48PREV2 and B48POST2) that has only or is only a processing shift and not a slaughter shift need to be returned to lab. This needs to be indicated on the form in Block 33 Box 53.



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- The Block 28 questions, their explanations and the answer tables have all been rearranged in a manner that is easier to understand.
- Explanations are listed directly underneath the question.
- Reference tables are below the explanation even when the same table is used for more than one question.



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- In an effort to save time a flyer with the reference tables will be sent with the forms on a quarterly basis so that inspectors have the option to refer to the Notice itself or use the flyer to address Block 28 questions.
 - The flyer should stay with the forms so that it is accessible when needed



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- Supplies: The specified number of cardboard separators was removed.
 - Use what ever amount of cardboards and gel packs that come in the shipper only.
 - Do not make additional separators. The number will change throughout the study depending on the weather.
- Permanent markers are provided in the shippers.



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- It is imperative that the gel packs be frozen before they are placed inside the shippers and prepared for FedEx pick-up.
 - Failure to do this could cause the samples to arrive at the contract laboratory out of the required temperature range and to be discarded.



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- Only in rare instances, (e.g. if the establishment only slaughters one day a week and chilled carcasses are not available the same day) are sample collectors allowed to collect the Post-Chill samples the day after they collect the Pre-Evisceration samples.



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- Sample collection procedures have been explained in more detail to facilitate proper sample collection.
- The Q & A attachment has been extended to include commonly asked questions and to address questions received in the MHBS mailbox during shakedown.



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- Once Sampling frames have been developed, OPHS will send a list to each District Office.