

OPI: S&T/PPID

SAMPLING FREQUENCIES FOR COOKED
SAUSAGE PRODUCED UNDER A QUALITY CONTROL PROGRAM

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this directive is to clarify how cooked sausages, produced under a quality control program, are sampled and what actions inspectors should take. This directive also cancels Part 18.24 (h)(1)(2)(i) of the MPI Manual. That Part of the manual is no longer consistent with the sampling frequencies and actions taken to monitor the levels of fat and added water in finished cooked sausage products produced under a partial quality control or total quality control program.

II. CANCELLATION

MPI Manual, Part 18.24 (h)(1)(2)(i)

III. [RESERVED]

IV. REFERENCES

FSIS Directive 8820.1, Revision 1, dated 3/1/91

FSIS Directive 8830.1, dated 3/1/91

V. BACKGROUND

Effective April 1988, sections 319.180 and 319.181 of the MPI Regulations were amended to provide for a maximum combination of fat and added water in frankfurters and similar cooked sausage products of 40 percent. The water limitation was removed; the fat limitation remained at 30 percent.

VI. POLICY

As required by MPI regulations, FSIS employees monitor the processing of cooked sausage products to assure that no adulterated or misbranded products are produced. Finished products are randomly sampled for laboratory analysis as scheduled by the Performance Based Inspection System (PBIS).

VII. SAMPLING FREQUENCIES

A. Currently, sampling frequencies for cooked sausage produced by establishments operating with or without a quality control (QC) program are scheduled by the PBIS. QC verification samples of cooked sausage are also collected when scheduled by PBIS and those sample results will be used to evaluate the process control of an approved QC program for cooked sausage.

B. Inspectors who intend to take corrective action regarding a QC

program because of violative sample results should follow the procedures outlined in FSIS Directive 8820.1, Corrective Action System and FSIS Directive 8830.1, Progressive Enforcement Action.

If there any questions regarding this directive, please use the normal channels of contacting the Regional Office.

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