

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE
WASHINGTON, DC

FSIS NOTICE

16-07

2/28/07

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS: FSIS NOTICE 44-06
REQUESTING SAMPLING SUPPLIES AND USING THE NEW FEDEX BILLABLE
STAMP**

This notice provides answers to questions that FSIS has received regarding the use of the new Fedex billable stamp.

Q1. How long can inspectors use the “old” FedEx air bills?

A. Inspectors may use the old FedEx air bills until they receive the new billable stamp.

Q2. If inspectors use an old FedEx air bill, will the laboratory discard the sample?

A. No. The laboratories will not discard samples sent using the old FedEx air bills.

Q3. Should inspectors hold samples until they receive the new billable stamps from the laboratories?

A. No. Inspectors are not to hold samples until they receive the new FedEx billable stamps.

Q4. Do samples submitted using the new FedEx billable stamp need a “Saturday” delivery sticker placed on the sample box?

A. No. The “Saturday” delivery sticker is not required on the sample box when the new FedEx billable stamp is used. Additionally, inspectors do not have to use the check off box on the new FedEx billable stamp for Saturday delivery to the laboratory. FedEx will deliver the sample the next day, including Saturday, when the new FedEx bills are used.

DISTRIBUTION: Inspection Offices;
T/A Inspectors; TSC; Import Offices

NOTICE EXPIRES: 3/1/08

OPI: OPED

Q5. Once inspectors receive the new billable stamps are they to use them on all samples or just the RTE and *Escherichia coli* O157:H7 samples?

A. When available, inspectors are to use the new billable stamps to submit **all** laboratory samples.

Q6. Does FSIS Notice 44- 06 apply to trimming samples collected for the raw ground beef component microbiological baseline study (MM 45 & MM 45R)?

A. FSIS Notice 44-06 applies to all trimming samples collected for the MM 45 & MM 45R raw ground beef component microbiological baseline study.

Q7. Can inspectors obtain the new FedEx billable stamp from the contract laboratory listed in block 9 of FSIS Form 10,210-3 for companion samples collected under the raw ground beef component microbiological baseline study (MM 45)?

A. No. Inspectors are to request supplies through the Western Laboratory Sampling Supplies e-mail address and specify that they need the supplies for the contract laboratory portion of the baseline study (MM 45).

Q8. Can inspectors order the new FedEx billable stamps from the same “sample supplies-FSIS lab” e-mail address as when requesting other sampling supplies?

A. Yes. Inspectors can order the new FedEx billable stamp by itself through the e-mail addresses given in the notice. However, the laboratories are currently limited to sending ten of the new FedEx billable stamps per request at an establishment.

Refer questions to the Technical Service Center at 1-800-233-3935.



Assistant Administrator
Office of Policy, Program, and Employee Development