

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

FSIS NOTICE

47-12

8/1/12

INSTRUCTIONS FOR MODIFIED SAMPLE SIZE FOR NATIONAL RESIDUE PROGRAM SCHEDULED MUSCLE SAMPLES

I. PURPOSE

This notice informs inspection program personnel (IPP) that the Agency is changing the sample size for **scheduled** National Residue Program (NRP) muscle samples on August 6, 2012. This notice instructs IPP, when directed to take a scheduled sample for residue surveillance, to submit two pounds of muscle and one pound each of kidney and liver. The sample size for scheduled kidney and liver samples is not changing. This notice makes no other changes to the current methods for sampling, packaging, and shipping. In addition, this notice instructs the inspector-in-charge (IIC) to inform establishments, during the next weekly meeting, that FSIS is implementing new methods for analysis of residues and increasing the sample size for muscle samples.

II. BACKGROUND

The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) announced ([Docket No. FSIS-2012-0012](#)) that it is restructuring the scheduling of samples under the NRP. To complement this new approach to sampling and scheduling, the Agency is implementing several multi-residue methods for analyzing samples of meat, poultry, and egg products for animal drug residues, pesticides, and environmental contaminants in its inspector-generated testing program. These modern, high-efficiency methods will enable FSIS to analyze each sample for more chemical compounds than was previously possible

III. FSIS PERSONNEL RESPONSIBILITIES

Starting August 6, 2012 IPP, when directed to take a scheduled sample for NRP residue surveillance, are to collect and submit to the appropriate laboratory two pounds of muscle and one pound each of kidney and liver.

This notice does not change the amount of tissue submitted for inspector-generated samples. IPP are to continue to submit one pound each of muscle, kidney, and liver for inspector-generated samples through the KIS™ test.

DISTRIBUTION: Electronic

NOTICE EXPIRES: 8/1/13

OPI: OPPD

At the first weekly meeting following the issuance of this notice, the IIC is to inform the establishment that FSIS is implementing new methods for analysis of residues and increasing the sample size for muscle samples to two pounds, and that there are no other changes to the current methods for sampling, packaging, and shipping. The IIC is also to inform the establishment that the Federal *Register notice* announcing the changes is available on the FSIS website at: ([Docket No. FSIS-2012-0012](#))

IV. DATA ANALYSIS

In order to monitor operational and program effectiveness, a number of Agency offices analyze data from the results. The Data Analysis and Integration Group (DAIG) within the Office of Data Integration and Food Protection (ODIFP) and the Risk Assessment Division's Chemical Residue Risk Staff within the Office of Public Health Science (OPHS) will evaluate program effectiveness and operational performance through review of sample collection and analysis rates nationally by district and by circuit. Analyses will be shared with the Office of Policy and Program Development (OPPD) and the Office of Field Operations (OFO). Additionally, the Policy Development Division (PDD) and the Risk and Innovations Management Division (RIMD) will review questions in askFSIS for clarity, understanding, and effectiveness of policy issuances

Direct all technical questions to PDD and all sampling questions to RIMDivision at 1-800-233-3935 or submit your questions through *askFSIS* at <http://askfsis.custhelp.com>.

ASKFSIS QUESTIONS

Submit any questions about these procedures to askFSIS.

When submitting a question via askFSIS, use the Submit a Question tab, and enter the following information in the fields provided:

Subject Field: Enter **Sample Size for Scheduled Samples**

Question Field: Enter your question with as much detail as possible.

Product Field: Select **General Inspection Policy** from the drop-down menu.

Category Field: Select **Sampling-General** from the drop-down menu.

Policy Arena: Select **Domestic (U.S.) Only** from the drop-down menu.

When all fields are complete, press the **Submit** button.



Acting Assistant Administrator
Office of Policy and Program Development