

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

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| <h1>FSIS NOTICE</h1> | 91-08 | 12/4/08 |
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## PESTICIDE SURVEY

### I. PURPOSE

This notice informs inspection program personnel that the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) will be cooperating with the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) as AMS conducts testing of high consumption meat and poultry products for pesticide residues through its Pesticide Data Program (PDP). This survey of pesticide residue levels in beef will begin on or about December 15, 2008, and should end by September 30, 2009. This study will consist of 600 muscle and adipose (fat) tissue samples from beef cows, dairy cows, steers, and heifers.

The data collected by this survey will be used by the Environmental Protection Agency to make informed decisions on dietary exposures to pesticide residues resulting from consumption of beef products. The samples will not be used for regulatory purposes, and in-plant inspection program personnel will not receive results of the analyses for regulatory action. Thus, inspection program personnel are **NOT** to retain sampled carcasses pending laboratory results for this program or to recommend that establishments hold carcasses until laboratory results are returned.

Each month the Office of Public Health Science (OPHS) will mail the FSIS sample request form 10,210-3, with project number PDP2009 in block 14 for this survey, to the Inspectors-In-Charge (IICs) at several randomly selected beef slaughter establishments. The list of establishments selected each month for the survey will be posted on the Agency Intranet, and IICs will be able to view each month's list of establishments selected for the survey at:

<https://inside.fsis.usda.gov/fsis/emp/static/global/offices/tSpace/pdpescs/pdpescs.jsp>.

The FSIS form 10,210-3 should arrive the week before sampling is scheduled. At the same time, the FSIS Midwestern Laboratory will send IICs supplies for the pesticide survey sample requested by the sample form sent by OPHS. The pesticide survey supplies will arrive in insulated shipping containers labeled "AMS-PDP-Special Project."

Survey supplies in the shipping container will include detailed sample collection instructions. For the convenience of the IICs, a copy of these instructions is included with

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**DISTRIBUTION:** Electronic

**NOTICE EXPIRES:** 12/1/09

**OPI:** OPPD

this notice as Attachment A. Included also in each shipping container will be a copy of Attachment B - **FY 2009 Pesticide Data Program Beef Survey**, a flier describing the purpose and scope of this beef survey that is to be given to establishment management each time a survey sample is collected.

Upon receipt of the initial FSIS sample request form 10,210-3, the IIC is to inform establishment management officials that inspection program personnel will be taking a sample for the survey and provide establishment management with a copy of Attachment B of this notice. The FSIS sample request form 10,210-3 will specify collection on the following Monday, and inspection program personnel are to sample then or no later than the end of the same week. Public Health Veterinarians (PHVs) are to collect samples for this program whenever possible. At establishments where assigned PHVs are unable to collect the sample, other non-PHV inspection program personnel must be designated to take the samples. Each time a PDP beef survey sample is collected, the PHV or designee will give establishment management the Attachment B flier enclosed in the survey supplies container.

The PHV or designee is to collect samples from inspected and passed carcasses that are randomly selected in the same manner as for routine residue testing. The PHV or designee will collect and separately package one-half to one pound of muscle and one-half to one pound of adipose tissue from the same carcass (i.e., the sample sent to the lab will consist of two separate packages of one-half to one pound each, one of muscle tissue and one of adipose tissue). The muscle tissue sample should be as lean as possible, with excess fat trimmed away; for example, the diaphragm is an acceptable muscle sample tissue. The adipose tissue should be as fat as possible; for example, abdominal fat tissue around the kidney is an acceptable adipose sample tissue. The collected samples are to be packaged, frozen, and shipped to the USDA, AMS National Sciences Laboratory in Gastonia, North Carolina, for analysis.

Sample analysis by AMS will take about 90 days. The survey results will be presented in a final report that will be available to the public and will contain a summary of findings. Individual establishments will not be identified in the final report.

For questions regarding the Notice or technical questions or problems, contact Robert Ragland at [robert.ragland@fsis.usda.gov](mailto:robert.ragland@fsis.usda.gov), or email the [Residue@fsis.usda.gov](mailto:Residue@fsis.usda.gov) mailbox found on FSIS Outlook. For questions about supplies, contact Donald Gordon at [donald.gordon@fsis.usda.gov](mailto:donald.gordon@fsis.usda.gov). For questions about the survey, contact Margaret O'Keefe, Residue Branch, OPHS, at [margaret.okeefe@fsis.usda.gov](mailto:margaret.okeefe@fsis.usda.gov) or her backup Doritza Pagan-Rodriguez at [doritza.paganrodriguez@fsis.usda.gov](mailto:doritza.paganrodriguez@fsis.usda.gov). You may also contact the Policy Development Division at 1-800-233-3935.



Assistant Administrator  
Office of Policy and Program Development

**ATTACHMENT A**  
**Instructions to the Field on Conducting Pesticide Data Program Beef Sampling**

The Pesticide Data Program Beef Survey is a non-regulatory sampling program in conjunction with the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) that will begin on or about December 15, 2008 and should end by September 30, 2009. Each month the Office of Public Health Science (OPHS) will mail the FSIS sample request form 10,210-3 for this survey to the Inspectors-In-Charge (IICs) at several randomly selected beef slaughter establishments. The FSIS form 10,210-3 will arrive the week before sampling is scheduled. At the same time, the FSIS Midwestern Laboratory will send IICs supplies for the pesticide survey sample requested by the sample form sent by OPHS. The pesticide survey supplies will arrive in special insulated shipping containers labeled "AMS-PDP-Special Project."

This sampling program will require a Public Health Veterinarian (PHV), if possible, or designee to perform sample collection within the week of the date on the FSIS form 10,210-3, which will usually be a Monday. Because FSIS will NOT take regulatory action on the results of these samples, inspection program personnel are not to retain the carcasses sampled for this project or to recommend that establishments hold carcasses until laboratory results are returned.

Please review the following bullets for important information about this project. Failure to follow instructions may result in sample discard, which will result in additional requests being sent to you for re-sampling.

- These instructions apply IF you both receive: (1) the FSIS form 10,210-3 with PDP2009 printed in block 14 and (2) the specially marked shipping container.
- OPEN the specially marked shipping container upon its arrival – freeze the coolant bags and make sure the RED foam plug is used – not the WHITE.
- If you are unable to collect a sample – mark the appropriate box on the form and mail the form ONLY to the AMS-NSL address printed on the form.
- If you are able to collect a sample, give establishment management **Attachment B - FY 2009 Pesticide Data Program Beef Survey**, which is enclosed in the specially marked shipping container. This flier, which describes the purpose and scope of this beef survey, is to be given to establishment management each time a survey sample is collected.
- Follow the normal FSIS procedure for collection of tissues for residue testing by using random selection methods to select inspected and passed carcasses for sampling. The FSIS form 10,210-3 sent for this survey will also contain the instructions on what tissues to collect and how much of the tissue to collect.
- Select muscle and adipose tissues from the same carcass. Collect and separately

package one-half to one pound of muscle and one-half to one pound of adipose tissue from the same carcass (i.e., the sample sent to the lab will consist of two separate packages of one-half to one pound each, one of muscle tissue and one of adipose tissue). No more than one sample may be collected per day.

- Double bag each tissue separately and place the appropriate index card provided (M = muscle and A = adipose tissue) in between the two bags. Do NOT commingle muscle and adipose samples. Make sure all samples are frozen after being bagged and held in frozen storage and under security until shipped.
- Follow [FSIS directive 7355.1](#) for proper identification of tissues and sealing of sample box.
- Place the frozen coolant in the sample box to ensure that the samples arrive at the laboratory in a “cold-to-the-touch” condition.
- Make sure the FSIS form 10,210-3 is filled out completely (e.g., collection date, mailing date, signature, phone number, owner identification).
- Place the FSIS form 10,210-3 under the foam plug and press plug down firmly to ensure sample does not shift during transit and form does not slide out the top seam of box.
- Do NOT mail samples on Fridays, Saturdays, or the day before Federal holidays. Samples must get to the AMS-NSL lab on a weekday. Mark FedEx form for overnight delivery to the AMS-NSL address printed on the form.

Although the IICs will not receive results of the analyses for regulatory action, they will be able to view each month’s list of establishments selected for the survey. The list of establishments selected each month for the survey will be posted on the Agency Intranet, and IICs will be able to view each month’s list of establishments selected for the survey at: <https://inside.fsis.usda.gov/fsis/emp/static/global/offices/tSpace/pdpescs/pdpescs.jsp>.

For questions regarding the Notice or technical questions or problems, contact Robert Ragland at [robert.ragland@fsis.usda.gov](mailto:robert.ragland@fsis.usda.gov), or email the [Residue@fsis.usda.gov](mailto:Residue@fsis.usda.gov) mailbox found on FSIS Outlook. For questions about supplies, contact Donald Gordon at [donald.gordon@fsis.usda.gov](mailto:donald.gordon@fsis.usda.gov). For questions about the survey, contact Margaret O’Keefe, Residue Branch, OPHS, at [margaret.okeefe@fsis.usda.gov](mailto:margaret.okeefe@fsis.usda.gov) or her backup Doritza Pagan-Rodriguez at [doritza.paganrodriguez@fsis.usda.gov](mailto:doritza.paganrodriguez@fsis.usda.gov). You may also contact the Policy Development Division at 1-800-233-3935.

**ATTACHMENT B**  
**FY 2009 PDP Beef Survey Backgrounder\***

\* The PHV/Inspector-In-Charge is to give a copy of this flier to establishment management each time a PDP beef survey sample is collected.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) is conducting testing of high consumption meat and poultry products for pesticide residues through its Pesticide Data Program (PDP). Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) inspection program personnel will be taking samples for this survey. In previous years, AMS has conducted programs for pork and poultry. The beef portion of the survey will begin on or about December 15, 2008 and should end by September 30, 2009. This study will consist of 600 muscle and adipose (fat) tissue samples from beef cows, dairy cows, steers, and heifers.

The data collected by this survey will be used by the Environmental Protection Agency to make informed decisions on dietary risk exposures to pesticide residues resulting from consumption of beef products. The samples will not be used for regulatory purposes, and in-plant inspection program personnel will not receive results of the analyses for regulatory action. FSIS will not report laboratory results back to establishments on a sample-by-sample basis. Since no regulatory action will be taken on sample product, inspection program personnel will **NOT** retain sampled carcasses pending laboratory results for this program or recommend that establishments hold carcasses until laboratory results are returned.

FSIS inspectors will act as PDP samplers to collect, package, and ship frozen samples of beef muscle and adipose tissue to the USDA, AMS National Science Laboratory (NSL) in Gastonia, North Carolina, for analysis. A sample will consist of two separate packages of one-half to one pound each, one of muscle tissue and one of adipose tissue from the same carcass. The muscle tissue sample should be as lean as possible, and the adipose tissue should be as fat as possible.

Sample analysis by AMS will take about 90 days. The survey results will be presented in a final report that will be available to the public and will contain a summary of findings. Individual establishments will not be identified in the final report.

For questions about the survey, contact Margaret O'Keefe, Residue Branch, FSIS Office of Public Health Science, at [margaret.okeefe@fsis.usda.gov](mailto:margaret.okeefe@fsis.usda.gov) or her backup Doritza Pagan-Rodriguez at [doritza.paganrodriguez@fsis.usda.gov](mailto:doritza.paganrodriguez@fsis.usda.gov). You may also contact the FSIS Policy Development Division at 1-800-233-3935.