FSIS Guidance for Foreign Countries – Suggested Reporting Tables for Official Government Chemical Residue Sampling Programs (v2024-001)

Each year, FSIS requests that each country that is eligible to export product to the United States submit an official government chemical residue sampling plan for the current year, as well as results from the previous year's official government chemical residue sampling program, by May 18th.

Tables are included in this guidance as examples to assist the country's Central Competent Authority (CCA) in providing FSIS with a current year's plan and prior year's results for its official government chemical residue sampling program. The use of these table formats is optional; FSIS will review information submitted in other formats. Regardless of the format, the CCA must provide the following information each year:

- **For the current year's official government chemical residue sampling plan (see Table 1 for an example)**
    1) Names of individual compounds for each production class or, if providing a method, the list of individual compounds included in each method
    2) Type of tissue (e.g., muscle, liver, kidney) tested for each compound
    3) Analytical methodology used to evaluate each compound for regulatory decision making
    4) Established tolerance or action level, (e.g., maximum residue limit (MRL))
    5) Proposed number of samples in each animal production class for each chemical compound

    NOTE: If a CCA changes the criteria it uses to determine the planned number of samples, the compounds analyzed in the sampling program, or the processes for routine reassessment of the official government chemical residue sampling program, the CCA is required to update responses in the Self-Reporting Tool (SRT), Component 5, *Government Chemical Residue Program* (Question # 26), and provide supporting documentation for the changes.

- **For the prior year's sampling results (see Table 2 for an example)**
    1) Actual number of samples analyzed for each production class for each chemical compound, including the type of tissue tested
    2) Number of violative results and the violative level of the result
    3) Description of the CCA's enforcement strategy in response to violative results

The official government chemical residue sampling plan and results can be submitted to FSIS either by uploading into the Public Health Information System (PHIS) under SRT Component 5, *Government Chemical Residue Program*, or by mail or email to FSIS' Office of International Coordination at:

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Food Safety and Inspection Service
Office of International Coordination
Room 3143, South Building
1400 Independence Ave SW
Washington D.C. 20250-3700
E-mail: InternationalCoordination@fsis.usda.gov

NOTE: For more information about FSIS' official government chemical residue sampling program, please refer to *FSIS Guidance for Foreign Countries – Summary of FSIS' Official Government Chemical Residue Sampling Program*, which includes information regarding sampling and testing frequencies and the compounds included for testing in FSIS' official government chemical residue sampling program.

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Table 1: Example of a reporting table for submitting the current year's official government chemical residue sampling plan. Please include the following information below for the product categories for which the CCA is currently equivalent or, when applicable, seeking equivalence.

(The information provided in the table is for illustrative purposes only)

Species (subspecies)	**Compound class**	**Compound**[1]	**Sampling location** (e.g., farm/ establishment)	**Tissue** (e.g., kidney, liver, muscle)	**Analytical methodology** (screen and confirmation method)	**Limit of confirmation** (with units)	**Established tolerance or action level (e.g., MRL)** (with units)	**Number of samples planned**
Bovine (veal, cattle)	Beta-Lactam	Ampicillin	Slaughter establishment	Muscle	LC MS/MS	5 ppb	10 ppb	300

Table 2: Example of a reporting table for submitting the prior year's results. Please include the following information below for the product categories for which the CCA is currently equivalent or, when applicable, seeking equivalence.

(The information provided in the table is for illustrative purposes only)

Species (subspecies)	**Compound analyzed**	**Tissue (e.g., kidney, liver, muscle)**	**Number of samples analyzed**	**Number of samples above established tolerance or action level (e.g., MRL)**	**Violative level detected**	**Follow-up actions by the CCA**
Bovine (veal, cattle)	Ampicillin	Muscle	300	1	50 ppb	***Briefly*** describe the CCA's enforcement strategy in response to violative results (e.g., investigation, trace back, corrective action (root cause), punitive/legal sanctions, etc.) Example: All suspect carcasses declared unfit for human consumption and destroyed. Full on farm investigations, including examination of medicines on farm and animal remedies record, were carried out in each case. As appropriate, advice is given to the farmer and follow-up visits take place.

[1] Include the name of the individual chemical compound being analyzed. Please note that compound class alone is not sufficient.