# FSIS NOTICE	78-16	9/30/16

DESIGNATION OF A NEW SLAUGHTER SUBCLASS FOR FERAL SWINE IN THE PUBLIC HEALTH INFORMATION SYSTEM

NOTE: DO NOT IMPLEMENT THIS NOTICE UNTIL OCTOBER 16, 2016.

I. PURPOSE

This notice informs inspection program personnel (IPP) of a new slaughter subclass for feral swine in the Animal Disposition Reporting (ADR) section of the Public Health Information System (PHIS). Further, this notice provides information IPP are to use to identify and correctly distinguish between feral swine and confinement raised swine of domestic origin. IPP are to use this information to enter separate slaughter information for feral swine into PHIS.

II. BACKGROUND

A. Feral swine populations are located throughout much of the United States (U.S.) but are concentrated mainly in the southern U.S. More than one hundred recognized breeds of domestic pig exist worldwide. Domestic swine that escape captivity and reproduce in the wild are feral swine. In order to be slaughtered and sold in commerce for human food, feral swine in the U.S. (*Sus scrofa*) are to be slaughtered and processed under inspection according to the Federal Meat Inspection Act (21 U.S.C., sec. 601) and are to be labeled as "pork" or "meat from feral swine". *Sus scrofa*, from the Family Suidae, includes two sub-species: *S. scrofa domestica* (the domestic pig), and *S. scrofa fera* (the common wild boar).

B. FSIS has created a new slaughter sub-classification in PHIS as a means to track the slaughter of feral swine at federally inspected establishments. A separate slaughter subclass will allow for product specific FSIS sampling and analysis as well as the ability for the Agency to include or eliminate data generated from feral swine in future baselines performed on pork. The Agency would also like to be able to identify the number of establishments currently receiving feral swine, and at what frequency. The Agency intends to use the data obtained to conduct risk assessments associated with the slaughter of feral swine.

III. MAKING DETERMINATIONS ON WHEN SWINE ARE TO BE CONSIDERED FERAL

A. Feral swine differ from their domestic counterparts in their physical appearance and in the manner in which they are raised and their method of capture. Typical characteristics of feral swine include color patterns (e.g., white stripes or spots), longer bristly haircoat, elongated snout with visible tusks, a "razorback" body shape, and wild boar males, which are uncastrated.

NOTE: FSIS acknowledges both males and females under the term "Wild Boar."

B. While performing ante-mortem inspection, as outlined in FSIS Directive 6100.1, *Ante-Mortem Livestock*

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Inspection, IPP are to identify feral swine presented for slaughter by observing the visual characteristics listed in Part A, above. Feral swine presented for ante-mortem inspection should exhibit these common characteristics.

NOTE: Not all feral swine will show each of these characteristics, therefore if IPP have concerns identifying animals presented as feral swine, they are to seek guidance from their supervisor.

C. Questions related to the labeling of products made from feral swine (and label approvals) are to be directed to the Labeling and Program Delivery Staff (LPDS) via askFSIS.

IV. UPDATING SLAUGHTER LINE INFORMATION IN THE ESTABLISHMENT PROFILE

During the next scheduled "Update Establishment Profile Task," IPP are to add the "Feral Swine Subclass" to the slaughter line information in the Establishment Profile/Slaughter page. IPP are to refer to the PHIS User Guide for instructions on making these changes.

NOTE: Slaughter line data needs to be updated before the new subclass will appear in the ADR section

V. ENTERING DATA INTO THE ADR SECTION OF PHIS

A. Current subclasses for swine include feral swine, market swine, roaster swine, sow, boar/stag.

B. IPP are to enter daily slaughter data and dispositions for feral swine into a separate slaughter subclass available in the ADR section of PHIS. IPP are to refer to the instructions for entering slaughter subclass information into PHIS presented in the PHIS User Guide. PHIS reference materials are available on the PHIS Resources and Training page of *InsideFSIS*: PHIS Resources and Training. Users need an e-authentication account or LincPass to access these materials.

VI. QUESTIONS

Refer questions regarding this notice to the Policy Development Staff (PDS) through askFSIS or by telephone at 1-800-233-3935. When submitting a question, use the Submit a Question tab, and enter the following information in the fields provided:

Subject Field: Enter **Notice 78-16**
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 **Public Health Information System (PHIS)** from the drop-down menu.
Policy Arena: Select **Domestic (U.S.) Only** from the drop-down menu.

When all fields are complete, press **Continue** and at the next screen press **Finish Submitting Question.**

NOTE: Refer to FSIS Directive 5620.1, *Using askFSIS*, for additional information on submitting questions.

Assistant Administrator
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