



FSIS to Hold a Webinar on Exports in the Public Health Information System (PHIS) for Industry Stakeholders

FSIS will be conducting a webinar on the new export component that will be implemented in June 2017. The purpose of the meeting is to demonstrate how the export design will process meat and poultry applications and issue export certificates.

This webinar will be available both in-person and online via teleconference. The in-person event will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 14, 2017, 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., at USDA, South Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C., in the rear of the cafeteria. If you are attending via teleconference, call-in information will be sent to registered participants at a time closer to the event.

To register for this event, please send an email to nina.anand@fsis.usda.gov. Please provide your name, name of company, mailing address, contact number, email address and indicate if you are attending in person or via teleconference.

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Export Requirements Updates

The Library of Export Requirements has been updated for the following countries:

- Australia
- Republic of Korea

For a complete list of countries, visit <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/topics/international-affairs/exporting-products>.

Policy Updates

FSIS notices and directives on public health and regulatory issues are available at <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/topics/regulations>. The following policy updates were recently issued:

Notice 08-17 - *Accepting Either Primal-Subprimal or Cuts as Product Groups Certified for Raw-Intact Product on Official Foreign Inspection Certificates and Import Applications*

Directive 9770.1 Rev. 1 - *Determining Initial and Reinstating the Equivalence of Foreign Food Safety Inspection Systems*

Directive 9790.1 - *Writing an Audit Report of Foreign Food Safety Inspection Systems*

FSIS to Host a Session at USDA's Agricultural Outlook Forum

Each February, USDA holds the annual Agricultural Outlook Forum, a widely-attended event where USDA offices and agencies, including FSIS, host panel discussions and presentations on current agricultural topics.

This year's Forum will take place Feb. 23-24 at the Crystal Gateway Marriott in Arlington, Va., just outside of Washington, D.C. Typical attendees of the public forum include scientists, government employees, people from major agricultural firms, agriculture trade associations, agriculture-oriented media outlets and non-profit groups such as consumer and environmental organizations. USDA has made an effort in recent years to encourage attendance by students, farmers and ranchers.

FSIS Administrator and Acting Deputy Under Secretary, Al Almanza, will be moderating the FSIS session on the topic "The Role of Data in Food Safety." With increasing amounts of data available, regulators, industry and academia have a wealth of information to inform decision-making and policy. Data analyses may motivate establishments to improve performance and can highlight strengths and weaknesses, which may lead to improved food safety practices.

The FSIS session will be held on Feb. 23 as part of the "Agriculture for the Future" track. For the benefit of those who cannot attend, the presentation slides will be posted online soon after the Forum. For more information about the Ag Outlook Forum, please visit <https://www.usda.gov/ocel/forum/>.

USDA
United States Department of Agriculture

USDA's
93rd
Annual

**Agricultural
Outlook Forum**

**A New Horizon:
The Future of Agriculture**

February 23-24, 2017
Crystal Gateway Marriott Hotel, Arlington, Virginia

Early Registration
\$450 ends
January 26, 2017
\$500 after
January 27, 2017

Register: www.usda.gov/ocel/forum

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FSIS Posts Next Set of Establishment Specific Datasets

FSIS is preparing to publish the next set of establishment specific datasets as announced in the *Federal Register* on July 14, 2016 (Docket No. FSIS-2014-0032). Prior to publishing these datasets, FSIS is making sample datasets available. The sample dataset and corresponding data dictionary on raw ground beef sampling results can be found at <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/ffsis/topics/data-collection-and-reports/data>. Please visit <http://www.regulations.gov/> and follow the online instructions at that site for submitting comments to Docket FSIS-2014-0032 by March 24, 2017. FSIS intends to publish the final dataset on April 7, 2017. Additional details can be found in the FSIS Establishment-Specific Data Release Strategic Plan at <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/wcm/connect/0803f8a0-a3cc-4945-87b6-f992acdcfa9b/Establishment-Specific-Data-Plan-Final.pdf?MOD=AJPERES>

Food Recalls and Alerts

For information regarding recalls, please contact the Congressional and Public Affairs Staff at (202) 720-9113. You can also receive e-mail notifications when public health alerts and recalls are issued by registering at <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/subscribe>

UPDATE:

FSIS Testing for *E.coli*



FSIS posts biweekly updates of the Agency's raw ground beef *E. coli* sampling program, which includes testing results of raw ground beef component samples for *E. coli* O157:H7 and Shiga toxin-producing *E. coli* (STECs) from FSIS routine and follow-up sampling programs. Data are also presented for non-O157 STECs by each non-O157 STEC serogroup.

Between June 4, 2012 and Feb. 5, 2017, FSIS laboratory services analyzed a total of 16,524 beef trim samples (14,174 domestic and 2,350 imported), 3,829 routine follow-up samples (3,715 domestic and 114 imported) and 327 non-routine follow-up/traceback samples. One-hundred eighty-two samples were found to be positive; 109 were domestic trim samples, six were imported trim samples, 63 were domestic follow-up samples and four were non-routine follow-up/traceback samples. To date, three samples have been positive for both O157:H7 and at least one non-O157 STEC strain and ten samples have been positive for two different non-O157 O-groups. To review testing results, visit the *E. coli* data tables at <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/ffsis/topics/data-collection-and-reports/microbiology/ec>.