



## FSIS Webinar on Eliminating the Regulatory Requirements for Destroying *Trichinella Spiralis* in Pork Products

On May 31, 2018, FSIS published the final rule eliminating prescriptive regulatory requirements for destroying *Trichinella spiralis* in ready-to-eat (RTE) and not-ready-to-eat (NRTE) pork products. The final rule is available on the FSIS website at: <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/wcm/connect/1d06e92b-a887-4abb-81b1-4ca86a34c59d/2015-0036.htm?MOD=AJPERES>. FSIS also announced the availability of a compliance guide to help establishments, particularly small and very small establishments, in understanding the controls that are effective for the prevention and elimination of trichinae in RTE and NRTE pork. FSIS has posted the compliance guide on its website at: <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/topics/regulatory-compliance/compliance-guides-index>.

On July 17, FSIS will host a webinar from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. ET to provide an overview of the final rule and explain how establishments can address trichinae in their Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) systems.

To access the webinar, visit <http://ems8.intellor.com/login/807000> and follow the on-screen instructions. Use the following information when logging on: meeting number: 1-877-369-5243 or 1-617-668-3633 and access code: 0323244. Please be sure to log on as a participant. The webinar will be recorded and posted on the FSIS website upon availability. For questions, contact Melissa Hammar at [Melissa.hammar@fsis.usda.gov](mailto:Melissa.hammar@fsis.usda.gov).

## 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 was recently issued:

**Notice 35-18** - *Approval of Official Time for Union Activities*

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# Establishment Specific Datasets Now Available

FSIS has posted a new establishment specific dataset on the FSIS website as announced in the *Federal Register* on July 14, 2016 (Docket No. FSIS-2014-0032). This is the full dataset of FSIS' routine microbiological sampling of raw turkey carcasses. Prior to publishing this dataset, the sample dataset and corresponding data dictionary were posted on May 11, 2018 and comments were sought until June 22, 2018. FSIS updates existing datasets quarterly, approximately the first Friday of the next quarter, so this dataset will next be updated in October.

The quarterly updates to other establishment specific datasets are now available on the FSIS website:

- Establishment Demographic Data, which supplements the existing MPI Directory
- Ready-to-Eat (RTE) Meat and Poultry Sampling Data
- Egg Product Sampling Data
- Raw Ground Beef Sampling Data
- Raw Beef Trim Sampling Data
- Raw Beef Components Sampling Data
- Raw Beef Follow-up Sampling Data
- Raw Chicken Carcasses

The next new dataset that FSIS will post will be on FSIS' routine microbiological sampling of raw chicken parts. The sample dataset and data dictionary will be posted on the FSIS website around August 10.

Additional details can be found at: <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/ffsis/topics/data-collection-and-reports/data/fsis-datasets>.

# FSIS to Improve the Eligible Countries/Products Section of Website and Host a Webinar

On July 23, 2018, FSIS will release an updated Import Library, improving upon the current Eligible Countries/Products section of the website at: [https://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/wcm/connect/4872809d-90c6-4fa6-a2a8-baa77f48e9af/Countries\\_Products\\_Eligible\\_for\\_Export.pdf?MOD=AJPERES](https://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/wcm/connect/4872809d-90c6-4fa6-a2a8-baa77f48e9af/Countries_Products_Eligible_for_Export.pdf?MOD=AJPERES). FSIS is redesigning the webpage to be more user friendly and to enhance transparency. The new Import Library webpage will provide links to country-specific pages for equivalent countries that can export to the U.S., detailing the eligible species, process categories, product categories, and product groups that the country can export.

The information on the country-specific pages aligns with the FSIS product categorization guide and the Public Health Information System (PHIS) is available at: <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/wcm/connect/abbf595d-7fc7-4170-b7be-37f812882388/Product-Categorization.pdf?MOD=AJPERES>.

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FSIS Constituent Update is prepared by the Congressional and Public Affairs Staff, Office of Public Affairs and Consumer Education

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## Export Requirements Updates

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

Australia  
Barbados  
Costa Rica  
Cuba  
El Salvador  
Jamaica  
New Caledonia  
New Zealand  
South Africa  
Taiwan  
Western Samoa

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

## ... FSIS to Improve

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Each eligible country page will also list any applicable Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) animal disease restrictions, and will include direct, disease-specific links to APHIS' website and regulations. FSIS will indicate updates next to the country's name on the Import Library webpage and on country-specific pages by adding a yellow highlighted asterisk.

On July 12, FSIS will host a webinar from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. ET on the Import Library and associated updates to clarify foreign countries' eligibilities to export meat, poultry, or egg products to the U.S. To access the webinar, visit <http://ems8.intellor.com/login/806446> and follow the on-screen instructions. Use the following information when logging on: meeting phone number: 1-877-369-5243 or 1-617-668-3633; access code: 0994080. Please be sure to log on as a participant. For questions, contact Brianna Robinson-Verloop at [Brianna.Robinson-Verloop@fsis.usda.gov](mailto:Brianna.Robinson-Verloop@fsis.usda.gov)