

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

FSIS NOTICE

12-19

5/2/19

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR OFFICIAL ESTABLISHMENTS PRODUCING SILURIFORMES FISH AND FISH PRODUCTS

I. PURPOSE

Before May 24, 2019, inspectors-in-charge (IICs) in official establishments that produce Siluriformes fish and fish products are to complete the “Siluriformes Fish” questionnaire in the Public Health Information System (PHIS). The purpose of this questionnaire is to collect information on whole, unviscerated Siluriformes fish for the wholesale market (hereafter referred to as “fish in-the-round”).

II. BACKGROUND

A. On December 2, 2015, FSIS published the final rule “Mandatory Inspection of Fish of the Order Siluriformes and Products Derived from Such Fish” ([80 FR 75590](#)). The final rule amended the Agency’s regulations to establish a mandatory inspection program for fish of the order Siluriformes and for products derived from these fish.

B. The questionnaire results will assist FSIS in understanding how official establishments are handling fish in-the-round and inform future Agency decision making.

III. IIC RESPONSIBILITIES

A. The questionnaire appears in PHIS as a PHIS Profile Questionnaire and can be found on the left navigation menu under “Establishment Profile.” IICs in official establishments that produce Siluriformes fish and fish products are to complete and submit the questionnaire during their next scheduled PHIS establishment profile task as instructed in [FSIS Directive 5300.1, *Managing the Establishment Profile in the Public Health Information System*](#).

B. The IIC may view or print the questions before completing the questionnaire by following the instructions in FSIS Directive 5300.1, Chapter II, Part IX.

IV. QUESTIONNAIRE

The following questionnaire will appear under the Profile Questionnaire tab. When responding, the IIC is to keep in mind that fish in-the-round may be produced infrequently. The IIC is to respond to the question if the product is shipped or sold by the establishment, even if it is not being shipped or sold on the day the questionnaire is being completed.

DISTRIBUTION: Electronic

NOTICE EXPIRES: 5/1/20

OPI: OPPD

1. Does the establishment ever ship or sell Siluriformes fish "in-the-round," i.e., whole, unviscerated, and unprocessed fish?
 - Yes
 - No
 - (If "Yes," go to Question #2. If "No," questionnaire is complete.)

2. From where does the establishment receive the Siluriformes fish destined to be shipped or sold in-the-round? (Check all that apply.)
 - Farmer/pond owner
 - Wild-caught by fisherman
 - Import broker/distributor
 - Domestic fish dealer/distributor
 - Other (explain) _____

3. Are Siluriformes fish in-the-round being stunned at the establishment and then shipped or sold?
 - Yes
 - No

4. Do Siluriformes fish destined to be shipped or sold in-the-round enter areas of the establishment where fish are processed (e.g., de-headed, filleted, etc.) under FSIS inspection?
 - Yes
 - No

5. Does the establishment mark Siluriformes fish in-the-round (directly or indirectly on the immediate container) with the official inspection legend?
 - Yes
 - No

6. To whom does the establishment ship or sell Siluriformes fish in-the-round? (Check all that apply.)
 - Another official establishment for further processing
 - A fish wholesaler/dealer to resell (e.g., for fish market)
 - A retail establishment (e.g., a grocery store or restaurant)
 - End consumers
 - For export
 - Other (explain) _____

7. About how long do Siluriformes fish in-the-round typically remain at the establishment before being shipped or sold?
 - A few hours
 - No more than 24 hours
 - 2-5 days
 - More than 5 days
 - Other (explain _____)

8. On average, when the establishment sells Siluriformes fish in-the-round, how much does the establishment ship or sell weekly?

- 1 – 100 lbs.
- 101 – 1,000 lbs.
- 1,001 – 3,000 lbs.
- 3,001 – 6,000 lbs.
- 6,001 – 50,000 lbs.
- More than 50,000 lbs.

V. DATA ANALYSIS

The Office of Policy and Program Development will analyze the data collected from this questionnaire. The data will primarily be used to inform the Agency decision-making process related to fish in-the-round.

VI. QUESTIONS

Refer questions regarding this notice to the Office of Policy and Program Development 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 12-19**.
Question Field: Enter question with as much detail as possible.
Product Field: Enter **General Inspection Policy** from the drop-down menu.
Category Field: Select **Regulations/Agency Issuances** 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.



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