

Texas Poultry HACCP Roundtable

May 24, 2007

Notes: Thanks to the folks who were able to make to the May Roundtable. The next scheduled Roundtable will be in late August or early September. We hope to have a Poultry Processors Workshop at this time as well. If you have questions before then, please email them to me. As always, if I can be of assistance, please call or email me, and I will do what I can. (mdavis@poultry.tamu.edu)

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Questions

1. What is new with food security and biosecurity?

USDA is holding a Food Security Exercise on June 20th & 21st at the Embassy Suites Market Center in Dallas. Contact Jennifer McKean or Al Almanza for information on attendance. There has also been a Pandemic Influenza meeting, but this is mainly aimed a human infection. USDA has held a joint Food Security Exercise with the FDA. Currently there are no new regulatory requirements, tasks are performed from revised directives and the program is still considered voluntary.

2. What is the latest on the Salmonella initiative?

There are no changes in the initiative currently. Letters should be sent in the mail soon for determining category. USDA wanted 2 sets of samples for those that are going to be Category 1 or 2. The letters to plants have been delayed somewhat, but USDA is on target with CFR Notice.

3. Is there a zero tolerance for marked birds (i.e. IP, AirSac, cut-up, etc.) being missed at reprocessing?

Should stop the line and remove the bird. Testing is prescribed at twice per shift per line. There really is no need to do more. There should not be an NR issued for missing a bird at reprocessing. Instead it should be a 10 point deduction on Finished Product Standards. This is a Finished Product Standards issue.

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4. Are the new split shifts that the CSI 8's are doing going to do away with the rotation of shifts?

The 8's should still rotate. The move away from limited inspection should not affect rotation.

5. Can finished product standards be discussed? (See attached)

When testing for Finished Product Standards product should be retained when pre- at post fails. After pre-chill testing has passed two consecutive tests, the time should be noted and pre- at post can stop testing when the time interval has reached the post-chill area. Two (2) consecutive passes will stop testing at pre-chill. Two (2) consecutive passes will stop testing at pre- at post.

Other Notes:

Risk-based inspection is on hold for the time being. It is planned for it to go forward in July. There has been discussion of algorithms on how testing is taking place and how larger plants may be higher risk. These issues should be resolved before inspection resumes in July.

There is team inspection that is taking place in major metro areas (Dallas, Houston, San Antonio). The concept is there are groups of patrol inspectors. They will have a team meeting each week to determine how they will cover the plants. Tasks, etc. during the coming week. This has been and will continue to be a learning process for the inspectors. They learn from each other and the variety of inspections that they are exposed to.