



Constituent Update

Protecting Public Health Through Food Safety and Food Defense

Florida Men Charged with Food Safety and Humane Slaughter Violations

Gelio Hernandez, of Hialeah, Fla., and Angel Busurot, of Miami, Fla., were arrested on Aug. 10, as a result of an indictment by a federal grand jury in Miami on multiple charges of violating the Federal Meat Inspection Act (FMIA) and the Humane Methods of Slaughter Act (HMSA). The men allegedly engaged in the inhumane slaughter of swine and the sale of uninspected and adulterated swine meat for human consumption.

According to the indictment, Hernandez and Busurot were the co-owners and operators responsible for the day-to-day activities of Finca El Novillo, an unincorporated enterprise in Miami, where they engaged in the commercial slaughter of swine and goats. Hernandez and Busurot also processed, handled, stored and sold the meat and meat food products at the site for human consumption. They were each charged with knowingly distributing and attempting to distribute swine capable of use as human food on Nov. 23, 2011, and March 17, 2012, which had been prepared, packed and held under unsanitary conditions where it may have become contaminated and been rendered harmful to health. The same meat products were also placed into commerce without first being inspected and approved, as required by the FMIA.

The indictment further charges that on Nov. 23, 2011, Hernandez and Busurot knowingly slaughtered and handled swine without first rendering the swine insensible to pain. If convicted on the charges, Hernandez and Busurot face possible terms of imprisonment of up to 3 years on each of the fives charges brought against them.

Wilfredo Ferrer, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Florida, commended the investigative efforts of FSIS' OPEER-CID compliance officers and expressed appreciation for the

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United States
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Export Requirement Updates



The Library of Export Requirements has been updated to reflect changes in export requirements for the following countries:

Japan

Complete information can be found at www.fsis.usda.gov/Regulations_&_Policies/Export_Information/index.asp.

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...*Humane Slaughter Violations*

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assistance rendered by the United States Marshal's Service Florida Fugitive Task Force in effecting the arrest in this case.

For more information about FSIS Humane Handling process, visit www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations_&_policies/Humane_Methods_of_Slaughter/index.asp.

FSIS Improves Aminoglycoside Lab Method

The FSIS Chemistry Laboratory Guidebook method *Screening and Confirmation for Aminoglycosides by LC-MS-MS* has been made more versatile. The method now allows for beef and pork samples to be ground using dry ice instead of blending. Also, different types of LC-MS-MS instrumentation can now be used for the analysis of these antibiotics in muscle, liver and kidney.

The method will be posted to the FSIS Chemistry Laboratory Guidebook once finalized, listed as method number R01b. The agency intends to begin using the method on September 17. To review the revisions to the guidebook, visit www.fsis.usda.gov/Science/Chemistry_Lab_Guidebook/index.asp.

FSIS Policy Update

FSIS issues notices and directives to protect public health. All notices and directives are available at www.fsis.usda.gov/Regulations_&_Policies/index.asp. The following policy update was recently issued:

Directive 5000.6, Performance of the Hazard Analysis Verification (Hav) Task

Get Answers at AskFSIS

AskFSIS is a web-based technology and policy question-and-answer forum on topics such as exporting, labeling, inspection, programs and procedures. In addition, *AskFSIS* offers Really Simple Syndication (RSS) feeds that link back to the Q&As. Visit <http://askfsis.custhelp.com/> to view recently posted topics.