



# *Salmonella* Initiative Program

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# *History of Salmonella Risk Management Activities*

- 1983: FSIS initiated regulatory microbiological testing of ready-to-eat meat and poultry products for *Salmonella*
- 1996: PR/HACCP – established performance standards for *Salmonella*
- 1998-2000: Phased implementation of *Salmonella* testing
- 2002-2005: Noted an adverse upward trend in % positives seen with *Salmonella* verification testing

# ***Salmonella* Risk Management Activities**

- ❑ 2005: Poultry pre-harvest interventions public meeting
- ❑ 2006: Poultry post-harvest interventions public meeting:
  - *Salmonella* Verification Sample Result Reporting: Agency Policy and Use in Public Health Protection; policy actions announced

# ***Salmonella* Risk Management Activities**

- 2008: SIP FRN to follow up to 2006 FRN on *Salmonella* policies and announce SIP
- 2011: FRN responding to comments and implementing new performance standards for *Salmonella-Campylobacter* pathogen reduction testing

# July 13, 2011 FRN “SIP FRN”

- *Salmonella Verification Sampling Program: Response to Comments on New Agency Policies and Clarification of the Timeline for the Salmonella Initiative Program (SIP)*  
<http://www.fsis.usda.gov/OPPDE/rdad/FRPubs/2008-0008.htm>

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# July 13, 2011 FRN

- **Comment period:**
  - July 13, 2011 through Monday, September 12, 2011

## **July 13, 2011 FRN**

- **Timeline for existing waivers to come under SIP Thursday, November 10, 2011**
  - ---On-Line Reprocessing (OLR), the HACCP-based Inspection Models Project (HIMP), or any other slaughter process waiver

# Why SIP?

Win/win between industry and FSIS

Prevention (decreases pathogen levels  
before reaches consumer)

Collaboration (industry and FSIS)

Establishments receive waivers,  
demonstrate consistent *Salmonella*  
process control and share data with FSIS



# Waiver of Regulations Review

- FSIS authority to waive regulations 9 CFR 381.3(b) and 9 CFR 303.1(h)
- Sets aside provisions of regulations to permit experimentation
- New procedures, equipment, and processing techniques can be tested to facilitate definite improvements

# Waiver of Regulations

- FSIS grants waivers of regulations and
- Has no objection to allowing alternative procedures in place of the waived portion of regulation
- FSIS defines control programs for waivers that ensure enhancing public health--SIP

# Waivers of Regulations

- Under SIP the waiver is granted based on providing microbial data results to FSIS
- Includes documenting and responding to microbial test results

## July 13, 2011 FRN

- Establishment conducts microbial sampling:

Daily *Salmonella* sampling (at least 1 sample per evisceration line per shift)

Weekly matched sampling at re-hang and post chill: *Campylobacter*, *E. coli* (or other indicator organism), *Salmonella*

## July 13, 2011 FRN

Share data with FSIS--- complete a monthly electronic template and mail to SIP Mailbox

Template is down loaded and FSIS aggregates data

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- Line speed waiver: Up to 5 establishments to participate in study that impacts inspection
- Expect to increase inspectors
- Separate from other waivers
- In planning stages, not yet implemented

## July 13, 2011 FRN

- Establishments meet *Salmonella* standard in SIP Letter
- If changes FSIS will notify in writing
- (Minor species may conduct own baseline to determine process control parameters)

# FSIS Verification

- SIP Directive to issue
- SIP Letter and SIP Protocol contains all information on waiver (comprehensive)
- ***Salmonella* status of establishment is based on FSIS Pathogen Reduction verification testing**
  - (not by the establishment's *Salmonella* testing)
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# FSIS Verification

- Weekly meeting discuss
  - SIP Letter (no objection letter)
  - Verification Overview—quick guide to verification procedures according to location of alternative procedures/regulation citations if non-compliance
  - RIMD will assist with conference calls on first SIP waivers (includes establishment/IPP)

# FSIS Verification

- FSIS verifies establishment is following SIP Letter including SIP protocol and alternative procedures:
  - Establishment Is collecting, analyzing and recording and responding with corrective actions to their microbial data: are implementing

# FSIS Verification

- Establishment is monitoring alternative procedures and parameters according to HACCP, SSOPs or other pre-requisite program where they have elected to include their protocol and procedures
- If not following procedures/protocol may receive NR with regulation citations according to program and 381.3(b) (or 303.1(h))

# FSIS Verification

- No NRs are written solely for exceeding the acceptable number of *Salmonella* positives in a set, if comply with all other requirements
- May receive sample request forms from FSIS for unannounced *Salmonella* sampling: if so IPP will receive instructions

# FSIS Verification

- FSIS may revoke waivers when repeated NRs documenting failure to maintain alternative procedures or to follow SIP protocol occur; waivers will *not* be revoked based solely on the establishment's *Salmonella* sample results
- FSIS will issue a directive on verification of SIP

# SIP Request for Waivers

- Send e-mail requests for all waivers to Isabel Arrington  
([Isabel.arrington@FSIS.USDA.gov](mailto:Isabel.arrington@FSIS.USDA.gov))
- Include protocol detailing plant's proposal to meet criteria

# Questions?

Dr. Arrington

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402 344-5016

Contact RMID: askFSIS questions

301- 504-0884