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

# FSIS NOTICE	21-12	3/20/12

RANDOMLY SELECTING BEEF TRIM TO BE COLLECTED UNDER THE BEEF MANUFACTURING TRIMMINGS (MT50) SAMPLING PROGRAM

I. PURPOSE

A. This notice provides inspection program personnel (IPP) with instructions on how to randomly select beef manufacturing trimmings for collection under the beef manufacturing trimmings MT50 project code. In addition, when the establishment produces multiple types of these trimmings, this notice instructs IPP to ensure that they collect all such types of beef manufacturing trimmings over time.

B. In addition, this notice specifies that product that is intended for exposure to the anhydrous ammonia antimicrobial treatment (to be ammoniated) is subject to FSIS sampling at the slaughter establishment before it is sent elsewhere to be ammoniated. FSIS conducts product sampling as one of its verification activities under 9 CFR 417.8(g).

II. BACKGROUND

A. Beef manufacturing trimmings are two-piece chucks (i.e., the blade portion and an arm roast from the forequarter individually packaged and placed into the same container), raw beef source materials from subprimal cuts (e.g., steaks and roasts) or primal cuts (e.g., round, loin, rib and other primals listed in 9 CFR 316.9 or boxed beef parts of boneless beef that establishments frequently use as components of raw ground beef). FSIS samples beef manufacturing trimmings at the slaughter establishment. IPP submit information on the type of trim collected through PHIS.

B. For a given sampling event, IPP are to collect only one type of trim (i.e., IPP are not to combine samples from two piece chucks with source materials designated for anhydrous ammonia treatment). The intent is that, through random selection, all products that fall under the beef manufacturing trim sampling program will likely be selected over time. Therefore, IPP are not to collect bits and pieces from different types of trim.

C. Some establishments may transfer trim to another establishment that is in the same building as the slaughter establishment or is separated from the slaughter facility by only a wall. IPP are to sample this trim at the slaughter establishment, just as if an establishment would send this product to a more distant location.

III. IPP INSPECTION RESPONSIBILITIES

A. When IPP receive an MT50 sampling task through PHIS, IPP are to schedule this task on their task calendar and then randomly select only one type of beef manufacturing trimmings for collection.

B. IPP are to randomly select the type of beef manufacturing trimmings for sampling under the MT50 sampling program. Below is an optional method that IPP may use for random selection:

1. Number cardboard chips to correspond with the different types of trim available for sampling at the establishment.

2. Place the chips in a container large enough to permit thorough mixing of the chips.

3. Before each sample collection, mix the chips and then draw one to determine the type of beef manufacturing trimmings to collect under the MT50 sampling program.

4. Return the chip to the container.

C. Record the type of beef manufacturing trimmings selected for collection under the "product name" field on the screen on the PHIS Sample Analysis Request Form, PHIS Form 8000-18. All data entered to the screen will then print. However, if IPP must print a draft of the form in advance of the sample collection because of the disconnected state (i.e., the establishment where IPP are to collect the sample has no connectivity), then they would record the type of beef manufacturing trimmings collected under the product name on the draft PHIS Form 8000-18.

NOTE: If IPP print a "draft" form and complete by hand, IPP are to input all that information into PHIS as soon as they have connectivity. Without the electronic record, the sample data will not be recorded in the databases (i.e., PHIS, M2K, DW).

D. In addition, IPP are to record the type of product collected under the "Additional Information" tab on the sampling screen in PHIS. Finally, IPP are to keep a written record in the USDA office of the type of beef manufacturing trimmings selected for collection.

E. The goal of random selection over time is to collect all eligible boneless manufacturing trimmings produced at an establishment under the MT50 sampling program.

F. After collecting the sample but before shipping the sample to the laboratory, IPP are to click on the "Additional Information" tab on the sampling screen in PHIS and select

the type of trim collected from the list. If the type of trim collected is not included in the list, select “other” and write in the type of trim collected in the text box.

G. In some slaughter and fabrication establishments, product intended for use in ammoniated product may be moving on a conveyor belt directly into a second establishment. In this situation, IPP are to safely sample product from the belt before it enters the other establishment.

IV. DATA ANALYSIS

The Office of Policy and Program Development (OPPD) will collect the information reported in PHIS on the type of product collected and use the information to assess if FSIS field personnel are randomly collecting the trim. OPPD will use the information to inform future policy decisions.

Refer questions regarding this notice to the Risk, Innovations and Management Division through askFSIS at http://askfsis.custhelp.com or by telephone at 1-800-233-3935.

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