

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

NOTIFICATION

1.	Member to Agreement notifying: <u>UNITED STATES</u> If applicable, name of local government involved:
2.	Agency responsible: Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service
3.	Products covered (tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO. ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable): HACCP Systems, meat and poultry
4.	Title and number of pages of the notified document: Pathogen Reduction; Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) Systems - Sample Collection - Technical Amendments and Corrections: Direct Final Rule (available in English - 3 pages)
5.	Description of content: The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is making technical corrections and amendments to the final rule, "Pathogen Reduction; Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) Systems", published on 25 July 1996. In response to worker safety concerns, FSIS will permit samples collected for generic <i>E. coli</i> testing of turkeys to be collected by sponging two sites. Samples may still be collected by the whole bird rinse procedure (shaking turkeys in a bag, containing a buffer solution). FSIS will also permit chickens and turkeys to be taken from the end of the slaughter line if it is impracticable to take a whole bird from the end of the chilling process. Additionally, FSIS is amending the regulations to add the performance standard for <i>Salmonella</i> in fresh pork sausage, which was unavailable at the time the rule was published, and correct a minor editorial oversight.
6.	Objective and rationale: Food safety
7.	An international standard, guideline or recommendation does not exist [X]. If an international standard, guideline or recommendation exists, whenever possible, identify deviations:
8.	Relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available: 62 FR 61007, 14 November 1997; 9 CFR Parts 310, 381 and 417
9.	Proposed date of adoption: See paragraph 10

10.	Proposed date of entry into force: This rule will be effective on 13 January 1998, unless adverse or critical comments within the scope of the rulemaking are received on or before 15 December 1997. If adverse or critical comments within the scope of the rulemaking are received, FSIS will issue timely notice in the Federal Register.
11.	Final date for comments: 15 December 1997 Agency or authority designated to handle comments: Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA
12.	Texts available from: National enquiry point [] or address, telefax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body: United States SPS Enquiry Point: USDA/FAS/FSTSD Attn: Carolyn F. Wilson Room 5545 South Agriculture Building Stop 1027 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20250 Tel: (202) 720 22 39 Fax: (202) 690 06 77 E-mail: wilsonc@fas.usda.gov