



25 November 2022

(22-8792)

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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

**NOTIFICATION**

<b>1.</b>	<b>Notifying Member:</b> <u>UNITED STATES OF AMERICA</u> <b>If applicable, name of local government involved:</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Agency responsible:</b> US Department of Agriculture (USDA), Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS)
<b>3.</b>	<b>Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers should be provided in addition, where applicable):</b> Bovine meat products
<b>4.</b>	<b>Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>All trading partners</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Specific regions or countries:</b>
<b>5.</b>	<b>Title of the notified document:</b> Use of a Non-Destructive Surface Sampling Device To Sample Domestic Beef Manufacturing Trimmings and Bench Trim. <b>Language(s):</b> English. <b>Number of pages:</b> 4 <a href="https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2022/11/22/2022-25333/use-of-a-non-destructive-surface-sampling-device-to-sample-domestic-beef-manufacturing-trimmings-and">https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2022/11/22/2022-25333/use-of-a-non-destructive-surface-sampling-device-to-sample-domestic-beef-manufacturing-trimmings-and</a> <a href="https://www.fsis.usda.gov/policy/federal-register-rulemaking/federal-register-notice/use-a-non-destructive-surface-sampling">https://www.fsis.usda.gov/policy/federal-register-rulemaking/federal-register-notice/use-a-non-destructive-surface-sampling</a> <a href="https://www.fsis.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media_file/documents/FSIS-2022-0019.pdf">https://www.fsis.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media_file/documents/FSIS-2022-0019.pdf</a> <a href="https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2022/SPS/USA/22_8048_00_e.pdf">https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2022/SPS/USA/22_8048_00_e.pdf</a>
<b>6.</b>	<b>Description of content:</b> On 1 February 2023, the US Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) intends to stop using the N60 excision sampling method to sample domestic beef manufacturing trimmings and bench trim for adulterant Shiga toxin-producing <i>Escherichia coli</i> ( <i>E. coli</i> ) (STEC) and <i>Salmonella</i> . FSIS intends to replace the N60 excision sampling method with a non-destructive surface sampling method that uses a cloth manual sampling device. FSIS has found that the cloth sampling method is as effective as the N60 excision sampling method at recovering organisms in beef manufacturing trimmings. Additionally, the cloth sampling method is faster and safer for FSIS inspection program personnel (IPP) to use because it does not require IPP to use hooks or knives to collect samples. Moreover, the cloth sampling method allows FSIS to sample without destroying product, which reduces food waste.  The text of the Federal Register notice (87 FR 71291) published on 22 November 2022, can be accessed at: <a href="https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2022/11/22/2022-25333/use-of-a-non-destructive-surface-sampling-device-to-sample-domestic-beef-manufacturing-trimmings-and">https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2022/11/22/2022-25333/use-of-a-non-destructive-surface-sampling-device-to-sample-domestic-beef-manufacturing-trimmings-and</a> .  <b>Dates</b>  FSIS will implement the cloth sampling on 1 February 2023, unless the Agency receives substantive comments that warrant further review. Submit comments on or before 23 January 2023.

<p><b>Addresses</b></p> <p>FSIS invites interested persons to submit comments on this notice. Comments may be submitted by one of the following methods:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Federal eRulemaking Portal:</i> This website provides commenters the ability to type short comments directly into the comment field on the web page or to attach a file for lengthier comments. Go to <a href="https://www.regulations.gov">https://www.regulations.gov</a>. Follow the on-line instructions at that site for submitting comments.</li> <li>• <i>Mail:</i> Send to Docket Clerk, US Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Mailstop 3758, Washington, DC 20250-3700.</li> <li>• <i>Hand- or Courier-Delivered Submittals:</i> Deliver to 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Jamie L. Whitten Building, Room 350-E, DC 20250-3700.</li> </ul> <p><i>Instructions:</i> All items submitted by mail or electronic mail must include the Agency name and docket number FSIS-2022-0019. Comments received in response to this docket will be made available for public inspection and posted without change, including any personal information, to <a href="https://www.regulations.gov">https://www.regulations.gov</a>.</p> <p><i>Docket:</i> For access to background documents or comments received, call +(202) 205 0495 to schedule a time to visit the FSIS Docket Room at 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-3700.</p>
<p><b>7. Objective and rationale:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> food safety, <input type="checkbox"/> animal health, <input type="checkbox"/> plant protection, <input type="checkbox"/> protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, <input type="checkbox"/> protect territory from other damage from pests.</p>
<p><b>8. Is there a relevant international standard? If so, identify the standard:</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Codex Alimentarius Commission (e.g. title or serial number of Codex standard or related text):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) (e.g. Terrestrial or Aquatic Animal Health Code, chapter number):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> International Plant Protection Convention (e.g. ISPM number):</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None</p> <p><b>Does this proposed regulation conform to the relevant international standard?</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><b>If no, describe, whenever possible, how and why it deviates from the international standard:</b></p>
<p><b>9. Other relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available:</b>  <a href="https://www.fsis.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media_file/documents/FSIS_N60vClothSampling-RawBeefTrim_20221107_v2.7B.ppt">https://www.fsis.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media_file/documents/FSIS_N60vClothSampling-RawBeefTrim_20221107_v2.7B.ppt</a> (available in English)</p>
<p><b>10. Proposed date of adoption (dd/mm/yy):</b> 1 February 2023</p> <p><b>Proposed date of publication (dd/mm/yy):</b> 22 November 2022</p>
<p><b>11. Proposed date of entry into force:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Six months from date of publication, and/or (dd/mm/yy): 1 February 2023</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Trade facilitating measure</p>

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| <b>12.</b> | <b>Final date for comments:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Sixty days from the date of circulation of the notification and/or ( <i>dd/mm/yy</i> ): 23 January 2023<br><br><b>Agency or authority designated to handle comments:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Notification Authority, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:<br><br>For further information contact: Rachel Edelstein, Assistant Administrator, USDA FSIS Office of Policy and Program Development by telephone at +(202) 205 0495. |
| <b>13.</b> | <b>Text(s) available from:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Notification Authority, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:   |