NOTIFICATION

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| **1.** | **Notifying Member:** United States of America  **If applicable, name of local government involved:** |
| **2.** | **Agency responsible:** US Department of Agriculture (USDA), Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) |
| **3.** | **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):** Meat (pork) and poultry products |
| **4.** | **Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable:**  **[****X]** **All trading partners**  **[ ]****Specific regions or countries:** |
| **5.** | **Title of the notified document:** Changes to the Salmonella Verification Testing Program: Proposed Performance Standards for Salmonella in Raw Comminuted Pork and Intact or Non-Intact Pork Cuts and Related Agency Verification Procedures.**Language(s):** English. **Number of pages:** 7  <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2022/02/16/2022-03301/changes-to-the-salmonella-verification-testing-program-proposed-performance-standards-for-salmonella>  https://www.regulations.gov/document/FSIS\_FRDOC\_0001-0710  <https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2022/SPS/USA/22_1690_00_e.pdf> |
| **6.** | **Description of content:** The US Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is announcing and requesting comment on proposed pathogen reduction performance standards for *Salmonella* in raw comminuted pork and raw intact or non-intact pork cuts. FSIS is also announcing how it plans to assess whether US establishments producing these products are effectively addressing *Salmonella* using a moving window of FSIS sampling results. Approximately one year (52 weeks) after the new performance standards are made final, FSIS plans to post online each US pork establishment's performance category, based on the most recent 52 *Salmonella* sample results. The notice discusses other verification activities related to FSIS *Salmonella* sampling and testing of raw pork products.  Finally, the notice provides a brief summary of FSIS's recent announcements concerning *Salmonella* in poultry products.  FSIS will consider comments received on this notice before announcing the final performance standards in the Federal Register and assessing whether US pork establishments meet them. Please submit comments on or before 18 April 2022.  Full text for this Federal Register notice (87 FR 8774) can be accessed at: <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2022/02/16/2022-03301/changes-to-the-salmonella-verification-testing-program-proposed-performance-standards-for-salmonella> |
| **7.** | **Objective and rationale: [****X]****food safety, [ ]****animal health, [ ]****plant protection, [ ]****protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, [ ]****protect territory from other damage from pests.** |
| **8.** | **Is there a relevant international standard? If so, identify the standard:**  **[ ]****Codex Alimentarius Commission *(e.g. title or serial number of Codex standard or related text)*:**  **[ ]****World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) *(e.g. Terrestrial or Aquatic Animal Health Code, chapter number)*:**  **[ ]****International Plant Protection Convention *(e.g. ISPM number)*:**  **[****X]** **None**  **Does this proposed regulation conform to the relevant international standard?**  **[ ]****Yes [ ]****No**  **If no, describe, whenever possible, how and why it deviates from the international standard:** |
| **9.** | **Other relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available:** Information available on the USDA FSIS website: <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/policy/federal-register-rulemaking/federal-register-notices/changes-salmonella-verification-0> (available in English) |
| **10.** | **Proposed date of adoption *(dd/mm/yy)*:** To be determined.  **Proposed date of publication *(dd/mm/yy)*:** 16 February 2022 |
| **11.** | **Proposed date of entry into force: [ ]****Six months from date of publication**, **and/or** ***(dd/mm/yy)*:** To be determined.  **[ ]****Trade facilitating measure** |
| **12.** | **Final date for comments: [ ]****Sixty days from the date of circulation of the notification and/or *(dd/mm/yy)*:** 18 April 2022  **Agency or authority designated to handle comments: [ ]****National Notification Authority, [ ]****National Enquiry Point.** **Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:**  Rachel Edelstein, Assistant Administrator, USDA FSIS Office of Policy and Program Development by telephone at +(202) 205 0495 |
| **13.** | **Text(s) available from: [ ]****National Notification Authority, [ ]****National Enquiry Point.** **Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:**  <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2022/02/16/2022-03301/changes-to-the-salmonella-verification-testing-program-proposed-performance-standards-for-salmonella> |