

Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Research Service

Notice of Federal Invention Available for Licensing and Intent To Grant Exclusive License

AGENCY: Agricultural Research Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of availability and intent.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that a Federally owned invention U.S. Serial No. 09/053,261-601 filed March 6, 1998, entitled "Modified Live *Edwardsiella ictaluri* Against Enteric Septicemia in Channel Catfish" is available for licensing and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, intends to grant to Intervet, Inc., of Millsboro, Delaware, an exclusive license to Serial No. 09/053,261-601.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before October 13, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to: USDA, ARS, Office of Technology Transfer, Room 415, Building 005, BARC-West, Beltsville, Maryland 20705-2350.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: June Blalock of the Office of Technology Transfer at the Beltsville address given above; telephone: 301-504-5989.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Federal Government's patent rights to this invention are assigned to the United States of America, as represented by the Secretary of Agriculture. It is in the public interest to so license this invention as Intervet, Inc., has submitted a complete and sufficient application for a license. The prospective exclusive license will be royalty-bearing and will comply with the terms and conditions of 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.7. The prospective exclusive license may be granted unless, within ninety (90) days from the date of this published Notice, the Agricultural Research Service receives written evidence and argument which

establishes that the grant of the license would not be consistent with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.7.

Richard M. Parry, Jr.,

Assistant Administrator.

[FR Doc. 98-18592 Filed 7-10-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-03-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Research Service

Notice of Intent To Grant Exclusive License

AGENCY: Agricultural Research Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, intends to grant to Satake USA Inc., of Modesto, California, an exclusive license to S.N. 07/550,310-601, "Machine Vision Apparatus and Method for Sorting Objects" filed October 30, 1995, Patent No. 5,703,784 issued on December 30, 1997. Notice of Availability was published in the **Federal Register** on July 18, 1996.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before September 11, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to: USDA, ARS, Office of Technology Transfer, Room 415, Building 005, BARC-West, Beltsville, Maryland 20705-2350.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: June Blalock of the Office of Technology Transfer at the Beltsville address given above; telephone: 301-504-5989.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Federal Government's patent rights to this invention are assigned to the United States of America, as represented by the Secretary of Agriculture. It is in the public interest to so license this invention as Satake USA Inc., submitted a complete and sufficient application for a license. The prospective exclusive license will be royalty-bearing and will comply with the terms and conditions of 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.7. The prospective exclusive license may be granted unless, within sixty (60) days from the date of this published Notice, the Agricultural Research Service receives written evidence and argument which establishes that the grant of the license would not be consistent with the

requirements of 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.7.

Richard M. Parry, Jr.,

Assistant Administrator.

[FR Doc. 98-18593 Filed 7-10-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-03-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. 98-035N]

Salmonella Enteritidis Risk Assessment: Shell Eggs and Egg Products; Availability of Document

AGENCY: Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In December 1996, the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) began a comprehensive risk assessment of *Salmonella enterica* serotype Enteritidis (*Salmonella* Enteritidis (SE)) in response to an increasing number of human illnesses associated with the consumption of shell eggs and egg products. The final report on risk assessment is now available on the FSIS website and in the FSIS Docket Room. This document summarizes the risk assessment process from the development of a conceptual framework through the incorporation of available data into a comprehensive quantitative model, which characterizes the public health effects associated with the consumption of SE-infected shell eggs and egg products.

ADDRESSES: The document is available electronically on the FSIS website at <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/ophs/risk/index.htm>. Hard copies of the executive summary are available in the FSIS Docket Room, Room 102, Cotton Annex Building, 300 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20250-3700.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Ruth A. Etzel, Director, Epidemiology and Risk Assessment Division, Office of Public Health and Science, by telephone at (202) 501-7472 or by FAX at (202) 501-6982.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The risk assessment model consists of five modules. The Egg Production Module estimates the number of eggs produced that are infected (or internally contaminated) with SE. The Shell Module, the Egg Products Module, and

the Preparation and Consumption Module estimate the increase or decrease in the numbers of SE organisms in eggs or egg products during storage, transportation, processing, and preparation. The Public Health Module then calculates the incidences of illness and four clinical outcomes (recovery without treatment, recovery after treatment by a physician, hospitalization, and mortality) and cases of reactive arthritis associated with consuming SE positive eggs.

The baseline model for shell eggs presented in the executive summary simulates an average production of 46.8 billion shell eggs per year, 2.3 million of them contaminated with SE. The model predicts that consumption of these eggs would result in a mean of 661,633 cases of human illnesses per year within a range of 126,374 to 1.7 million cases annually. It is estimated that about 94 percent of these cases recover without medical care, 5 percent consult a physician, 0.5 percent are hospitalized, and 0.05 percent of the cases result in death.

The risk assessment model can be continually refined and updated for use in future risk assessments for shell eggs and egg products. FSIS plans to use the risk assessment data to conduct cost-effectiveness studies and cost-benefit analyses.

Done, at Washington, DC, on July 5, 1998.

Thomas J. Billy,

Administrator.

[FR Doc. 98-18466 Filed 7-10-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-DM-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. 98-036N]

National Advisory Committee on Meat and Poultry Inspection; Public Meeting

AGENCY: Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is announcing that the National Advisory Committee on Meat and Poultry Inspection will conduct a public meeting by audio teleconference to consider a proposed public notice on the Agency's protocol for experimentation with the point and frequency of inspection verification of the zero tolerance standard in Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) establishments that slaughter livestock. FSIS is seeking advice and comment from the Committee.

DATES: The audio teleconference will be held on July 29, 1998, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: Members of the public may attend the teleconference in Room 0745 in the South Agriculture Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington DC. People should enter the building at Wing 4 on Independence Avenue. Seating in Room 0745 South is limited, and seating will be available on a first-come, first-served basis beginning at 12:30 p.m. Please send written comments on the discussion topic to the FSIS Docket Clerk, Docket No. 98-036N, Room 102, Cotton Annex Building, 300 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20250-3700. The comments and official transcript of the teleconference will be kept in the Docket Clerk's office.

TELEPHONE LINES: Teleconference lines are limited. Please call Mr. Michael Micchelli at (202) 720-6269 if you are interested in participating in the call to obtain the dial-in number.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Persons planning to attend the teleconference in person will be required to register at the meeting. No pre-registration is required. For further information, contact Mr. Micchelli at the number above, by FAX at (202) 690-1030 or E-mail to Michael.Micchelli@usda.gov. Copies of the draft proposed notice under discussion are available on the FSIS Homepage at <http://www.usda.gov/agency/fsis/homepage.htm>. The draft proposed notice is also available by FAST FAX, FSIS' automated FAX retrieval system, at 1-800-238-8281 or (202) 690-3754 (the reference number for the FAST FAX system is 4000) or from the FSIS Docket Clerk, Room 102, Cotton Annex Building, 300 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20250-3700, between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, telephone (202) 720-3813.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

On February 12, 1997, the Secretary of Agriculture renewed the charter for the Advisory Committee on Meat and Poultry Inspection. The Committee provides advice and recommendation to the Secretary on Federal and State meat and poultry programs pursuant to sections 7(c), 24, 205, 301(c) of the Federal Meat Inspection Act and sections 5(a)(3), 5(c), 8(b), and 11(e) of the Poultry Products Inspection Act. The FSIS Administrator is the Committee Chair. Committee membership is drawn from representatives of consumer groups, producers, processors, and marketers from the meat and poultry industry and State government officials.

The current members of the Committee are:

Dr. Deloran M. Allen, Excel Corporation
 Dr. William L. Brown, ABC Research Corporation
 Terry Burkhardt, Wisconsin Bureau of Meat Safety and Inspection
 Caroline Smith-DeWaal, Center for Science in the Public Interest
 Nancy Donley, Safe Tables Our Priority
 Michael J. Gregory, Tyson's Foods Inc.
 Dr. Cheryl Hall, Zacky Farms, Inc.
 Dr. Margaret Hardin, National Pork Producers
 Alan Janzen, Circle Five Feedyards, Inc.
 Dr. Daniel E. LaFontaine, South Carolina Meat-Poultry Inspection Department
 Dr. Dale Morse, New York Office of Public Health
 Rosemary Mucklow, National Meat Association
 William Rosser, Texas Department of Public Health
 J. Myron Stolfus, Stolfus Meats
 Dr. David M. Theno, Jr., Foodmaker Inc.

The Committee deliberates on specific issues and makes recommendations to the whole Committee and the Secretary of Agriculture. The principal topic that the Committee will consider at the meeting is the point and frequency of inspection verification for the zero tolerance standard in HACCP establishments that slaughter livestock. FSIS plans to publish a notice announcing experimentation that may lead to new procedures for FSIS verification of the zero tolerance standard for visible fecal matter and ingesta on livestock carcasses. Interested persons will have an opportunity to discuss issues relating to the activities of the committee and may file comments as discussed above in **ADDRESSES**.

Done in Washington, DC, on: July 5, 1998.

Thomas J. Billy,

Administrator.

[FR Doc. 98-18464 Filed 7-10-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-DM-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Foreign Agricultural Service

RIN 0551-AA26

Notice of Request for Extension and Revision of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this