



# Conference for Food Protection **FINAL** Committee Report

**Committee: Reduced Oxygen Packaging 2010-2012**

**Council: III**

**Date of report:** December 14, 2011

**Submitted by:** Brian Nummer and Dale Grinstead, Co-Chairs

## **Committee Charge:**

The Conference recommends the formation of a new committee that is charged with the following:

- 1.) Create a guidance document detailing the scientific evidence of ROP HACCP controls and preventive measures and provide implementation suggestions.
- 2.) Recommend clarifications to the Food Code based on charge one.
- 3.) Report back to the Conference in 2012.

## **Committee Activities and Recommendations:**

The committee has met approximately monthly from October 2010 until December 2011 via phone conference and email. The following is a summary of actions on charges:

- 1.) Create a guidance document detailing the scientific evidence of ROP HACCP controls and preventive measures and provide implementation suggestions.

The committee has extensively discussed preventative measures for the reduced oxygen packaging (ROP) hazards *C. botulinum* and *L. monocytogenes*. The Committee has decided to amend and update the Annex 6 public health reasons of the Food Code rather than create its own guide from scratch (Issue submitted: Updates to Annex 3 Public Health Reasons and References Annexes). Individual issues regarding hazard preventative measures or measures to improve the ROP portions of the Food Code were presented to the CFP ROP Committee along with the scientific rationale for safety. All issues presented were approved as amended by the CFP ROP Committee. Individual issues were then used to craft suggested changes to the Food Code (see below).

- 2.) Recommend clarifications to the Food Code based on charge one.

Issue outputs were submitted to 2012 CFP as follows:

- Definitions for Reduced Oxygen Packaging
- Sous Vide - Cook Chill Time and Temperature Changes
- Sous Vide and Cook Chill pH and Temperature
- Requirement to submit a HACCP plan to the regulatory authority
- Updates to Annex 3 Public Health Reasons and References Annexes

3.) Report back to the Conference in 2012.

This document serves as the 2012 Conference for Food Protection report. The committee report and five issues relating to this work will be submitted to council III as documented above.

### **Requested Board (or other) actions**

Acknowledge this final committee report, acknowledge the hard work of the committee members, and dissolve this committee.

### **Recommendation(s) for future charge**

To disband the committee because all charges have been completed.

This final report and the committee member roster are respectfully submitted by Brian A Nummer and Dale Grinstead, co-chairs of the 2010 – 2012 CFP Reduced Oxygen Packaging Committee.