**Conference for Food Protection**

**2012 Issue Form**

**Internal Number: 059**

**Issue: 2012 I-009**

**Title:**

Wild Harvested Mushroom Record-Keeping and Traceability

**Recommended Solution: The Conference recommends...:**

that a letter be sent to the FDA requesting the 2009 Food Code (as modified by the Supplement issued in 2011) be modified by placing into Annex 3, Section 201.16 guidelines indicated below for **wild harvested mushroom recordkeeping and tracebacks** (new language in underline format).

In order to assure traceability, the responsibility of the **approved mushroom identifier** must be delineated. Therefore each batch of mushrooms obtained from a wild mushroom approved identifier must be accompanied by a tag or label and include the following information:

1. Approved identifier name;
2. Address & phone number;
3. Latin binomial name and locally used common name;
4. Harvest date;
5. Harvest location (town, county, township, etc);
6. Harvest weight;
7. Name of forager if not harvested by an approved identifier;

All foodservice establishments and retail or wholesale stores that receive wild harvested mushrooms should retain the wild harvested mushroom tag or label and make them available upon request by the regulatory authority. The wild harvested mushroom tags are to remain attached to the container in which the wild harvested mushrooms were received until the container is empty. The tags are to be retained for at least sixty (60) calendar days from the date the container is emptied as illness may take up to two (2) weeks to present, two (2) more weeks for diagnosis, and up to thirty (30) days for epidemiological investigation and traceback. Commingling of wild harvested mushroom lots is not recommended as it serves to confound traceback investigations and hinder efforts to remove implicated product from the food chain.

The Conference also recommends that the above language be incorporated into a single **Wild Harvested Mushroom Guidance Document** and posted on the CFP website so that state and local jurisdictions can use this information to develop and implement their own wild harvested mushroom program.

It is the policy of the Conference for Food Protection to not accept Issues that would endorse a brand name or a commercial proprietary process.