**Conference for Food Protection**

**2016 Issue Form**

**Issue: 2016 III-041**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Council Recommendation:** | Accepted as  Submitted |  | Accepted as Amended |  | No Action |  |
| **Delegate Action:** | Accepted |  | Rejected |  |  |  |

*All information above the line is for conference use only.*

**Title:**

Biofilm definition

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

a letter be sent to the FDA requesting the 2013 Food Code be amended as follows (language to be added is underlined):

**Section 1-201.10**

"Biofilm" means an assemblage of microbial cells along with inorganic particles (minerals and soils) that bind to surface. Pseudomonas aeruginosa is a pathogen in many if not most biofilms. Other pseudomonads are often in the biofilm brew, some of which have long stalks enabling them to hold-fast the colony. Some common biofilm pseudomonads are motile, using flagella to propel themselves along with any of their attached friends. Protozoa (eg., amoeba) feed on the biofilm chunks that the colony sacrifices and cuts loose once they are no longer needed for processing their mineral and nutrient specialties. Mineral precipitates are an attraction to biofilms, both due to their functional structure, but also because that are necessary for the metabolic survival of the many and varied species of organisms that make the colony. Gentle rinsing of food contact surfaces or sanitization without effective prerequisite cleaning is not effective due to the variable bio-burden and adhesion characteristics of biofilms. Biofilms must be removed from food contact surfaces before the application of an approved food contact surface sanitizer. Plumbing lines that are used to convey liquid foods are especially vulnerable to biofilm propagation due to the inability to inspect, clean and sanitize internal wetted surfaces.

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.