

Update on Extracted Issues Regarding Allergens

There were two extracted issues (2014-I-016 and 2014-I-018) from the 2014 biennial meeting that dealt with allergens. The CFP Executive Board created an ad hoc committee following the biennial meeting to study these issues and make recommendations to the Board. The following recommendations were presented to the Board by the Chair of the Allergens Ad hoc Committee on August 26, 2014. The Board accepted the recommendations of the ad hoc committee and will follow up with the appropriate actions.

Issue 2014-I-016 - Amend Food Code Annex by Adding FSIS Allergen Compliance Guidelines - Allergens and Ingredients of Public Health Concern: Identification, Prevention and Control, and Declaration through Labeling

The Allergen Ad Hoc Committee worked with FSIS during the comment period to include language in the document's "Introduction" which provides more targeted information regarding who would benefit from this document. The Ad Hoc committee recommends that the Board consider taking the following steps:

- On behalf of the CFP Executive Board, the Chair send a letter to FSIS Recommending that FSIS consider modifying the introductory sections of the Compliance Guidelines to make it clearer that they were developed for the processing plant setting. The Ad-hoc committee has provided suggested modifications in the attached FSIS Compliance Guidelines.
- On behalf of the CFP Executive Board, the Chair send a letter to FDA recommending that, upon modification of the Compliance Guidelines by FSIS, FDA consider identifying the FSIS Compliance Guidelines among the list of Resources and References contained in Part 9 of Annex 4 of the FDA Food Code.

Issue 2014-I-18 - Amend Food Code - Prevention of Food Allergen Cross-Contact

The Allergen Ad Hoc Committee recommends that the Board should move to act on the following:

- Sustain the recommendation of Council I to take No Action on the Recommended Solution originally submitted in Issue 2014-I-018;
- Acknowledge that while the Conference is not recommending additional allergen control requirements be incorporated into the FDA Food Code at this time, allergen control at retail is important to the CFP;
- Encourage the CFP membership to carefully consider any related issues that may be submitted for deliberation at the 2016 biennial meeting in Boise, Idaho.
- Acknowledge that other organizations have developed or are developing educational and training materials that may assist operators of foodservice and retail establishments seeking to prevent exposing allergic customers to food allergens (these organizations include but are not limited to AFDO, NRA Solutions, FAAN, FARE).