

Conference for Food Protection Executive Board Meeting Committee Report

This report must be submitted to your Council Chair for review so that it can be approved and submitted to the Executive Board via the Executive Director 30 days before each Executive Board Meeting (held in April and August of each year). The report must be accompanied by an updated committee roster on the Excel spreadsheet provided (Committee Members Template) located here: <http://www.foodprotect.org/work/>.

COMMITTEE NAME: *Listeria* Guidelines Committee

COUNCIL (I, II, or III): III

DATE OF REPORT:

SUBMITTED BY: Dale A. Grinstead and Haley F. Oliver

COMMITTEE CHARGE: (indicate Issue Number and text from Issue stating the Committee Charge)

Issue #: III-022

Charge: The Conference recommends that a CFP Committee be created to revise the 2006 CFP "Voluntary Guidelines of Sanitation Practices Standard Operating Procedures and Good Retail Practices to Minimize Contamination and Growth of *Listeria monocytogenes* (Lm)" to incorporate the following:

1. Sanitation guidance for slicers,
2. Information on cross contamination and harborage points for Lm,
3. More detailed information about how sampling for Lm can be conducted as part of a strategy for preventing Lm contamination at retail,
4. Updating outdated links to other documents, and
5. Other relevant information identified by the Committee.

The Conference also recommends that the Committee report its recommendations back to the 2014 Biennial Meeting with Issues to address the above charges and include recommendations that a letter be sent to FDA requesting that Annex 2 (References, Part 3-Supporting Documents) be amended by adding a reference to the revised voluntary guidelines.

COMMITTEE'S REQUESTED ACTION FOR BOARD (If Applicable):

I have been contacted by another individual that would like to join the CFP committee. His contact information is:

Dan Okenu, Ph.D.
Food & Product Safety
Chick-fil-A, Inc.
5200 Buffington Road
Atlanta, GA 30349
W 404.305.3166
Dan.Okenu@chick-fil-a.com

In principle I have no issue with another committee member, however it is rather late in the life of the committee to add a new member. Having said that, I have worked with Dan before and he is very sharp. I would see this as a mechanism to get him more involved with CFP and I think that he could provide a valuable addition to the Conference in the future. Therefore I would like the board to approve Dan's participation in this committee.

PROGRESS REPORT / COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES WITH ACTIVITY DATES:

The committee has had 2 conference calls since the April update. A call was held on May 9 2013. Prior to that call a web vote was conducted to determine if the committee was going to ask the CFP board to change our charge. The committee decided that we would be able to address the charge as it was given to the committee. The committee also decided to break into subgroups to address the first 3 charges which the committee believes will comprise the majority of the work that needs to be accomplished. Each subgroup will take a charge and craft first pass changes to the 2006 guideline that addresses that charge. The subgroups will have those changes to the committee as a whole by July 31. At that point the committee will then have a draft of the guideline with major edits in place to work from going forward. At that point edits and consensus can be established on all the changes to the guideline. Subgroup volunteers are:

- 1. Sanitation guidance for slicers: Henry Blade, Laurie Williams, Neil Ylanan**
- 2. Information on cross contamination and harborage points for LM: Dave Konop and Haley Oliver**
- 3. More detailed information about how sampling for Lm can be conducted as part of a strategy for preventing Lm contamination at retail Matthew Colson, Dale Grinstead, Kristina Barlow, and Sue Kowalczyk,**

The committee was also reminded about the FSIS/FDA public meeting on May 22 Interagency Risk Assessment—**LISTERIA MONOCYTOGENES** in Retail Delicatessens.

Another call was held on June 7, 2013. The purpose of this call was to check with the subgroups to make sure that they were all making adequate progress.

Each of the subgroups indicated that they were and all anticipated no problems meeting the July 31 deadline. The other topic on this call was a summary from Kristina Barlow and other who had attended the May 22nd interagency risk assessment meeting. Kristina gave a synopsis of the topics covered and supplied some links to documents presented at the meeting.

Many members of the committee will be attending the IAFP conference in Charlotte NC at the end of July so the members that are there will try to get together for an informal face to face meeting.