

CFP-ISSC Shellfish Committee Call – Meeting Notes
(RE: CFP Issue 2016-I-023)
March 22, 2019
10:00 am – 11:00 am Eastern Time

Attendees:

CFP Representatives: Julie Henderson; Joe Graham; Kathleen O'Donnell; David Plunkett; CFP Executive Director, David McSwane; Absent – Barry Parsons (due to emergency)

ISSC Representatives: Johnathan Gerhardt; Kim Stryker; Eric Hickey; Bill Dewey

Consultant - ISSC Executive Director, Ken Moore

FDA Consultants from its Shellfish and Retail Programs: Melissa Abbott (FDA Shellfish Consultant) Glenda R. Lewis (FDA Retail Consultant)

Committee Charge:

The **ad hoc committee** will undertake the **charge in Issue 2016-I-023** as follows:

In 2016, the Interstate Shellfish Sanitation Conference (ISSC) submitted Issue 2016-I-023 to the Conference for Food Protection (CFP) for consideration. The CFP adopted the Issue as submitted. Recommendation #2 of the Issue requested the FDA begin discussions with the ISSC and the CFP to identify steps that can be taken to enhance implementation and enforcement of shellfish record keeping at retail establishments. **This committee is requested to address recommendation #2 by investigating opportunities and activities that will educate and advise State and Local retail food inspectors and retail food establishments of the importance of compliance with Food Code Section 3-203.12.** These efforts would explain how the source information associated with record keeping requirements is used by Shellfish Control Authorities and the USFDA in illness investigations that can subsequently result in shellfish growing area closures and recalls. The purpose of this effort would be to enhance compliance of record keeping requirements to improve the ability of retail food establishments to provide complete and accurate source information in illness investigations.

Discussion:

Discussion focused on the key areas to address the charge. Points raised were:

- There are differences between the level of understanding between inland and coastal states; inland states may not understand what is required for source states to be able to do traceback
- The ISSC is presenting a training presentation at the 2019 four (4) regional Shellfish meetings. It is a presentation that focuses on the kinds of records that need to be kept for proper traceback for harvest to retail = maybe some of that could be used by those at the retail level to better understand all the information and think of ways that they could achieve compliance = almost complete (within next 4-5 days) and could be used as a resource for retail
- Could the committee have a presentation developed for the right audience to explain the importance at the retail level to explain how to achieve compliance in maintaining the tags /recordkeeping?
- Alaska has adopted materials from WA for AK use at retail; developed PPTs from SSO to retail food inspection staff

- Presentation at regional meetings – from harvest to retail; need to think about recordkeeping when there is not an outbreak (routine) versus during an outbreak; if routine recordkeeping is done well, then it will be available during illness situation; ORA course = handout or video related to a shellfish outbreak would be great to develop
- Education materials that are good on how and why to keep records, and how to safely handle shellfish would be of benefit
- The ISSC presentation should go to retailers; 2018 CFP Issue 2018-I-033 considered when shellstock tags go with shellstock when it is sold to the consumer (essentially the tag is lost when consumer bought an entire bag and they keep the tag); would be helpful to traceback efforts, to cover this kind of situation during this group’s discussion
- For today, we need to stay focused on this particular charge for 2016-I-023 and narrowed to educational piece for now; we can revisit Issue 2018-I-033 upon review and get back to the committee at a later meeting.
- States should make an effort to ensure that Food Code language matches the NSSP Model Ordinance language for shellfish language. If not, that can cause confusion for retailers also; Let’s make sure that we have the Food Code language and Model Ordinance language available for review; don’t use acronyms
Action Item: provide the Food Code language and NSSP Model Ordinance language to the group at the next meeting;
- Massachusetts has training resources developed for use within MA, ‘Oyster School’; education is part of it, but you have to have inspectors that know how to conduct the investigation; coastal states with huge oyster industry, but local health inspectors were not trained on how to do proper traceback; training component for those that are doing the traceback investigation is important; there is an absence of training for conducting proper investigation; training needs to be provided at the retail end
- Bill Dewey chairs the ISSC traceability committee and this is where the proposal was generated; often have breakdown at retail level when we try to do the traceback; interested in the coordination here to try to find tools for retailers to use in improving recordkeeping; looking at technology to improve recordkeeping also; another piece of information besides the date when the last SHELLSTOCK from the container is sold or served it is helpful to have recorded on the tag the date that product is first used from the container; knowing when they start and finish serving from a container is helpful to avoid overly broad growing area closures and product recalls thus reducing the impact on shellfish growers.
- **Action Item = Create list of existing educational materials and models that have already been developed and that were highlighted during the meeting the Committee to consider**

Meeting Outcomes:

- The committee decided to start developing a list of current educational materials and models in use
- Review for consistency of regulatory requirements for recordkeeping/tags – explore any differences between the Food Code and the NSSP Model Ordinance and identify any gaps.
- The Committee could work toward providing recommendations to the respective Boards of the ISSC and CFP

Committee Structure = Designate co-leads = Julie Henderson and Bill Dewey
 ISSC Executive Office (Cathy Mantooth) = can offer administrative assistance
 Meetings will be held third Tuesday of each month at 1pm eastern time.

Next meeting: Tuesday, April 16, 2019 @ 1 pm eastern time