



Technical Representatives Quarterly Meeting Minutes

June 15, 2017

Location

USDA South Building (Smithsonian Metro)
Room 4433, South Building, 1400 Independence Ave SW, Washington DC

9:30 - 10:00 am Welcome and Introductions – Alex Domesle (Technical Chair) and Janell Kause (Policy Co-chair)

9:15 – 10:30 am **PRESENTATIONS**

Effects of Extreme Weather on *Salmonella* Positives in Young Chicken Slaughter Establishment (Young Chicken Carcasses)

Presented by: John Linville
 USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS)

A six sigma fishbone analysis approach was used to develop a machine learning model in SAS 9.4 using stepwise linear regression. The model evaluated the effect of a wide variety of variables, including slaughter establishment operational measures, normal (30-year average) weather, and extreme weather events on the rate of *Salmonella* positive carcasses in young chicken slaughter establishments. Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) verification carcass sampling data, as well as corresponding data from the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration and the Federal Emergency Management Agency, from September 2011 through April 2015 was included in the model. The results of the modeling show that, in addition to basic establishment operations, normal weather patterns, differences from normal and disaster events, including time-lag weather and disaster variables, played a role in explaining *Salmonella* percent positive that varied by slaughter volume quartile. Findings show that weather and disaster events should be considered as explanatory variables when assessing pathogen-related prevalence analysis or research and slaughter operational controls. The apparent significance of time-lag weather variables suggested that at least some of the impact on *Salmonella* rates occurred after the weather events, which may offer opportunities for FSIS or the poultry industry to implement interventions to mitigate those effects.

New IRAC Signatory: FDA Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (CBER)

Presented by: Richard Forshee, FDA/CBER

10:30 – 11:30 am **UPDATES**

- Agency Updates
- Codex Updates
- Work Group Updates
 - Characterization and Evaluation of Dietary Exposure Assessment Approaches and Needs (Judith Spungen, FDA-CFSAN)
 - Implication of Whole Genome Sequencing and Quantitative Microbial Food Safety Risk Assessment (Janell Kause, USDA-FSIS, and Sherri Dennis, FDA)

11:30 am – 12:00 pm **DISCUSSION**

- Review and Discussion of Technical Representative Guidance
- Discuss IRAC Sharing of Models & Tools via Foodrisk.org (Janell Kause)
- Shared information and follow-ups:

The biweekly Codex News updates are posted at:

<https://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/topics/international-affairs/us-codex-alimentarius/codex-news>. This website contains a link for subscribing to receive email notification of updates to Codex News (Mark Powell, ORACBA)

- Next Meeting:
 - September 14, 2017 (APHIS-hosted webinar – details TBA)
- Upcoming presentations:
 - Request made for agencies to submit additional “hot topics” for presentation at future meetings.
 - Some ideas:
 - New tools and models
 - Database search apps
 - Update on USAID Food Safety efforts
 - How to increase efficacy in face of shrinking bud gets by improving cross-organization collaboration

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