



Guidance for Slaughterers
FSIS Notice 04-09



Guidance to Slaughterers

- ✦ Establishments must limit multiple residue violations from the same supplier to the greatest extent possible.
 - ✦ -They should strive to find the actual source of animals they are going to slaughter.
 - ✦ Traceback should provide the actual producer of the livestock.



Guidance to Slaughterers

- ✦ An Establishment's residue program must have controls that constitute the best available preventive measures.
- ✦ Then, an establishment must implement those controls effectively, supply FSIS with information about residue violators, and follow with appropriate corrective actions with reference to 9 CFR 417.3.



Guidance to Slaughterers

- ★ FSIS expectations are for plants to establish preventive measures to prevent reoccurrence.
- ★ So, if a slaughterer continues to purchase animals from the same supplier after repeated violations are identified, this would be a failure to implement meaningful and effective preventive measures.



Best Preventive Practices

- ✦ Ensuring all animals brought to slaughter identified for traceback to the producer.
- ✦ Notification to the producer, in writing, of violative, and high but not violative, residue findings including a discussion of the issues and the company's future expectations.
- ✦ Exploration of live animal testing, as rapid screening methods become commercially available.



Issues with Traceback

- ✦ Problems arise with transactions with sales barns and auction markets.
 - ✦ Establishments are often unable to get information provided upfront.



Possible Solutions for Traceback

- ✦ Establishments set up an understanding prior to transactions that traceback information be provided from the sales barn and auction markets, or a transaction will not take place.
- ✦ NMA is currently working to get a cooperative effort with GIPSA to require sales barns and auction markets to divulge information of actual producers.
- ✦ NMA recommends a cooperative effort by FSIS, FDA, GIPSA and industry groups to require traceback information from sales barns and auction markets.



Repeat Violators

- ✦ In accordance with Notice 04-09, if an establishment has three or more FSIS violative residue result from a repeat supplier, FSIS will issue an NR to document the establishment's failure to prevent animals with violative residue levels from entering slaughter as indicated by the multiple residue violations reported from the same source supplier.

Repeat Violators

- Further violations will be documented and NRs will be linked.
- The NR will be documented even if the establishment has a program to address residue control (basis is failure to prevent violations).



Repeat Violators

- ✦ Upon notification of a repeat violator, the establishment should ensure that the supplier of the animals is notified and is aware of the establishment's concern that animals are not presented with residue violations (e.g., the establishment should follow best practices).



Compliance and Non-Compliance

- ✦ Upon receiving violative residue samples from a same source supplier on at least two occasions, the PHV will notify a plant via an MOI of the violative residues and review the plant's residue control program.
- ✦ If the residue control program is deemed in compliance, then an NR is not documented, even though there were two violative test results.



Compliance and Non-Compliance

- ✦ The PHV will take increased testing of the supplier, which would entail two or more tests per shipment, until there are four consecutive shipments tested and found negative.
- ✦ If the establishment's residue program is in compliance, the PHV does not issue an NR until there is an additional violation from the same supplier, which would be the third violation.



Compliance and Non-Compliance

- ✦ With the third violative residue sample and additional violations, an NR is issued for the reason that the establishment's preventive measures were inadequate to prevent reoccurrence at this point.



Best Available Practices Revisited

- ✦ Identify all animals received at slaughter (traceback to producers).
- ✦ Provide traceback information to FSIS when testing is conducted.
- ✦ Contact producers when there is a violation to educate them and express concern regarding violations.
- ✦ Use of FSIS repeat violators list in purchase decisions.



Best Available Practices Revisited

- ✦ Visit supplier, if appropriate (e.g., large feedlot or dairy)
- ✦ Explore the use of live animal residue tests, none of which are validated at the moment.
- ✦ Establish a termination point of not purchasing from that producer.