Technical Brief for the week beginning Monday 10 October 2011

1. Reminder for NMD - (Paul Dansted & Piers Harrison)

Notification: This technical brief has been published as a reminder that all new NMD data will be entered into the 2011-2012 ledger for all data sampled after 3rd October.

Operators need to check that all NMD data has been entered up until the last week of September for the 2010-2011 ledger so that it can be included in the latest national profiles which are to be calculated shortly.

Background: The NMD year begins on the first full week of October and finishes on the last week of September. The NMD national profiles (which are posted on the <u>Foodsafety Website</u>) are calculated each quarter from the past quarter's data. The final quarter of the 2010/2011 season is about to be reviewed. It is essential that all data from Monday 4 July up to and including Sunday 2 October 2011 is entered into the database.

Under the Animal Products (National Microbiological Database Specifications) Notice 2011, clause 13(b), the Authorised Representative **and** operator must ensure that all results are entered on the NMD website within 24 hours of completion but no later than 1 week after sampling. This is particularly important to check as the NMD quarterly profiles are about to be calculated.

2. EU Shellfish Harvest Information – Certification Requirements (Valentina Martinovic-Pavkovic & Phil Ward)

Notification: Section 6.14.2 (e) of the EU OMAR specifies new format in which shellfish harvest data must be entered into the EU302 template certificates.

Historically, this information had been entered in the item comment box on the certificate as either:

- 1. A combination of Lot numbers and Pack Dates, or
- 2. As a combination of Growing Area, Lease/Licence Number and Harvest Dates. The new OMAR and the updated version of EU302 certificate require only the growing area number information in a specifically allocated data box on the PDF certificate.

All growing area numbers from which product is sourced are to be entered under premises, with "harvest" as the process type. Harvest dates are not mandatory but may be entered under dates.

Exporters wanting to maintain correlation of harvest information on existing labels with the certificate may continue to add this information to the comments box as a discretionary activity.

Exporters are advised that:

- 1. Harvest process is shown for growing areas only and not for the processing premises.
- 2. The eligible growing areas are provided in the EU listings for live bivalve molluscs
- 3. The Growing Area will be included on new transfer EDs as per other processes. EDs already issued for past production do not need amending. The harvest information on these EDs, in association with other records, should be sufficient to support addition of the growing areas to the export certificate or its supporting ED.

Background: The certification requirements for shellfish were updated in the latest EU OMAR amendment.

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