

2012 Regulatory Update

Pasteurized Milk Ordinance Changes
Sanitation Inspections
Pasteurizer Broken Seal Program



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Sources of Information

- Agriculture and Markets Website – www.agriculture.ny.us
- FDA Milk Safety Website – www.fda.gov
- USDA Website – www.ams.usda.gov
- Dairy Practices Council – www.dairypc.org
- 3A Sanitary (Equipment) Standards – www.3-a.org



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Division of Milk Control and Dairy Services

- Personnel Update
Bill Fredericks retired April 2011
Bob Harrington retired April 2011
Dennis Moore retiring April 2012
Chris Hylkema promoted to Dairy Equipment Specialist (716) 725-5080
Christopher.Hylkema@Agriculture.ny.gov
Hired 2 new Dairy Products Specialists



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Bob and Bill



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2011 NCIMS Conference

- Held April 29 – May 4, 2011 in Baltimore
- 91 Proposals were deliberated/ 57 Proposals Passed
- 30 Changes to Methods, Rating Procedures, FDA Forms, Laboratory Forms, etc.
- 27 Changes to the PMO
- IMS-a-48 Actions from the 2011 NCIMS Conference



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Results of the 2011 Conference

- Proposal 301 – Aseptic processing and packaging program becomes a permanent part of the "Grade A" program and the PMO
- Aseptic "Grade A" milk/milk products will be jointly regulated under the PMO and CFR Parts 108, 110, and 113
- Aseptic Processing and Packaging Systems (APPS) regulated by CFR



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Results of the 2011 Conference

- Proposal 212 – Added criteria for the on-site production and use of electro-chemical activation (ECA) generated hypochlorous acid for sanitizing equipment
- ECA Device manufacturer shall be registered with the EPA under 40 CFR 152.500
- Salt used to generate the sanitizer shall be food grade quality (99.6% pure)



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Results of the 2011 Conference

- Proposal 205 – Deletes the requirement for the sampling and testing of bulk shipped heat treated milk products from the PMO
- Proposal 103 – Lowers bacterial limit on "Grade A" dry milk and milk products from 30,000/gm to 10,000/gm and eliminates quality testing standards (BF, moisture, titratable acidity, scorched particles)



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Results of the 2011 Conference

- Proposal 113 – Updated criteria for mix proof valves
- Provides exceptions to previous requirement of a drain opening size equal to the diameter of the largest pipe connected to the valve



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Results of the 2011 Conference

- Proposal 114 – Heat Exchangers not in a pasteurization system
- Raw milk to water to pasteurized milk plate or tubular heat exchangers may be used as long as pasteurized product is automatically under greater pressure than the heat transfer water
- Vacuum breaker w/. 12" rise prior to past. product entering HE and after leaving HE



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Results of the 2011 Conference

- Proposal 115 – Milk and milk products for pasteurization may be processed by micro-filtration (MF) systems prior to pasteurization for the sole purpose of the removal of micro organisms
- MF system must meet flow and temperature criteria



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Results of the 2011 Conference

- Proposal 116 – Requires reading and recording the airspace temperature on a batch pasteurizer temperature recording chart only at the beginning of the hold period if the airspace thermometer is a digital combination airspace/recording thermometer providing a continuous record of the airspace temperature



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Results of the 2011 Conference

- Proposal 118 – HTST Meter based timing systems. Removes responsibility of Regulatory Authority to conduct quarterly time accuracy check on flow recording chart



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Results of the 2011 Conference

- Proposal 117 – Allows for filling and storage of cold filled cottage cheese at temperatures above 45 F if potassium sorbate or another specific approved microbial inhibitor is used at specified concentrations
- These inhibitors are specified in M-a-97 which will be updated by FDA after their review of data



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Results of the 2011 Conference

- Proposal 119 – Blending or holding tanks used for flavoring slurry which contains milk/milk products shall be emptied and washed a minimum of every 4 hours unless the slurry is stored at 45 F or less or 150 F or greater
- Proposal 123 – Provides for a single slurry injection system to be used with multiple pasteurization systems if specified criteria is met



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Results of the 2011 Conference

- Proposal 124 – Provides updated criteria for acceptable magnetic flow meters to be used in meter based pasteurizer timing systems
- Proposal 126 – Computerized data collection and storage – adds pasteurizer and aseptic records operator signature requirement



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Results of the 2011 Conference

- Proposals 127 and 128 – Computer controlled public health controls – “cleans up” language used in previous PMOs
- Pump frequency drives may be controlled by non-public health computer systems provided that regulatory limits can't be disabled or altered



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Results of the 2011 Conference

- Proposal 308 – Establishes a retort pilot program for including retort processed milk and milk products in the Grade “A” program
- Proposal 101 – Establishes a study committee to address the use of UV light as an adjunct to pasteurization



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Results of the 2011 Conference



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Results of the 2011 Conference

- New NCIMS Executive Board Chairman – John Miller – Florida
- New NCIMS Executive Board Member – Casey McCue – New York
- Next NCIMS Conference – Indianapolis, IN April 17 – 25, 2013



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Plant Sanitation Inspections

Common Sanitation Concerns



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Plant Sanitation Inspections

- Material generated from Division's MIP "Repeat Debit" Data for 2011
- Examined data for most common issues in small plants and large plants (excluding floors, walls and ceiling debits)
- Tried to draw some conclusions regarding possible reasons for these issues



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Plant Sanitation Inspections Small Plants



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Plant Sanitation Inspections

Small Plant Sanitation Issues

1. Insects and Rodents

"Mouse droppings found on shelves in ingredient storage room"

"Observed numerous flies in pasteurizer room"

"Rat droppings were noted on the floor throughout the back storage room"

"Spiders and cobwebs in processing area"



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Plant Sanitation Inspections

- Possible Reasons for Insect and Rodent Problems
 - Direct openings into the plant
 - Dirty Floors and surfaces
 - Open or ripped ingredient containers/bags or spilled product not cleaned up
 - Unused equipment stored in the plant
- All the above are common issues listed on inspections



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Plant Sanitation Inspections

• Small Plant Sanitation Issues

2. Protection from Contamination

"Cooler condensate leaking onto finished product"

"Boxes of cheese stored uncovered on cooler floor"

"Styrofoam cups stored on the floor in the stalls of the men's room"

"Light shields missing in processing or storage areas"



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Plant Sanitation Inspections

- Possible Reasons for Protection Issues
 - Lack of space for proper storage
 - Demands of processing and running business create time issues
 - Lack of knowledge of the risks involved



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Plant Sanitation Inspections

- Small Plant Sanitation Issues
 3. Equipment Construction
 - "Cheese strainers in very poor condition"
 - "Rough and pitted welds observed on filler bowl cover"
 - "Rough welds on cheese molds"
 - "Dasher/scrapper shaft seals on batch freezer leak excessively"



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Plant Sanitation Inspections

- Possible Reasons for Equipment Issues
 - High salt concentrations used in cheese making
 - Use of inexperienced stainless steel welders
 - Use of dairy processing equipment not specifically constructed for commercial dairy purposes
 - Lack of an equipment maintenance schedule



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Plant Sanitation Inspections Large Plants



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Plant Sanitation Inspections

- Large Plant Sanitation Issues
 1. Equipment Construction
 - " Cheese molds are cracked"
 - " Rough and pitted welds observed ..."
 - " Agitator shaft seals are leaking product"
 - " Cheese conveyor belts are frayed and rough surfaced "



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Plant Sanitation Inspections

- Possible Reasons for Equipment Issues
 - Mostly the same as small plants i.e. salt and chemical erosion, bad welders, maintenance schedules not in place or followed
 - Lack of "down time" for equipment repairs/maintenance
 - Use of "emergency" fabricated equipment or repairs



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Plant Sanitation Inspections

- Large Plant Sanitation Issues
 2. Protection from Contamination
 - " Shielding over open containers on the cottage cheese filler is missing"
 - " Product air blow filters are missing (torn, dirty)"
 - " Cleaned processing equipment parts are being stored on dirty carts (racks, shelves)"



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Plant Sanitation Inspections

- Possible Reasons for Protection Issues
 - Carelessness/Lack of Accountability
 - Lack of Employee Training
 - Inadequate Supervision
 - Lack of Knowledge of the Risks Involved (Training)



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Plant Sanitation Inspections

- Large Plant Sanitation Issues
 3. Product Cooling and Thermometers
 - “ Cream in silo was stored at 48 to 52F for up to 15 hours...”
 - “ Incorrect chart was used to record product temperatures on tank...”
 - “ The thermometer in the refrigerated storage room is broken (missing)”



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Plant Sanitation Inspections

- Possible Reasons for Cooling Issues
 - Inadequate cooling equipment (lack of or undersized PHE, pumps, reservoirs, plugged lines)
 - Lack of Training
 - Lack of Oversight/Supervision
 - Thermometers aren't being used, therefore no one notices when missing, broken, or inaccurate



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Plant Sanitation Inspections

- Other Common Issues
 - Restrooms (doors not self closing, no soap, towels, water)
 - Outside Openings (gaps under and around doors, screens torn or missing)
 - Inadequate Lighting – very common in both plant sizes
 - Pipe Labeling – Part 2 Requirement (Red, Blue, Green, Yellow, Orange)



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Plant Sanitation Inspections

-Remember-

Sanitation Regulations are the minimum requirements for producing safe food not necessarily the highest quality food



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Broken Pasteurizer Seal Program

A Short Review for Processing Plant Superintendents



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Pasteurizer Seals

- Broken seal program allows plants to legally pasteurize milk or milk products with a broken regulatory seal if certain conditions are met
- Applies to DMC/DS applied seals on public health controls on HTST, HHST, or certain vat pasteurizers (Anderson AJ 300 R/C)



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Pasteurizer Seals

- Order of Events
 - Plant determines repairs are needed to a sealed piece of equipment
 - Plant contacts (by phone) DPS assigned to plant or Supervisor
 - Plant makes necessary repairs to equipment
- Note- Repairs must actually correct a problem with the public health control



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Pasteurizer Seals

- Order of Events (con't)
 - Relevant tests are performed on the equipment by certified plant personnel and the test results are recorded
 - A temporary seal is applied to the equipment
 - Contact DPS to set up time for testing
 - Take samples for phosphatase analysis upon start up and every 2 hours during processing and/or whenever product change overs occur



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Pasteurizer Seals

- Order of Events (con't)
 - Samples are tested by a laboratory accredited (IMS) or licensed and approved (NYS) for testing and the results recorded
 - Product processed under the temporary seal is placed on hold
 - DPS conducts relevant tests, re-seals equipment, reviews plant broken seal report, equipment test and phosphatase test results. If OK- product released for sale



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Pasteurizer Seals

- What is Needed to Participate in the Program?
 - Trained and certified plant employee(s) (Re-certified annually)
 - Written test procedures specific to each pasteurizer
 - Testing equipment *
 - Temporary seals (no specifications)
 - Report form (no specifications)
 - Proper sampling equipment



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Questions ?



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