



Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NATIONAL MEAT INSPECTION SERVICE
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23 May 2018

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR

NO. DS-2018-012

Series of 2018

TO : ALL CONCERNED

FROM : THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

SUBJECT : 2018 NMIS SURVEILLANCE GUIDELINE FOR IMPORTED INDIAN BUFFALO MEAT (IBM) AND MECHANICALLY SEPARATED MEAT (MSM)

Pursuant to Section 3.4.6.4 of the Department of Agriculture (DA) Administrative Circular (AC) No. 12 Series of 2015 "Updated Rules and Regulations Governing the Allocation, importation and Utilization of Fresh Frozen Buffalo Meat from India", Section 7 of DA Department Circular No. 09 Series of 2015 "Procedures for the Hygienic Handling Practices and Use of Mechanically Separated Meat (MSM)" and NMIS Memorandum Circular No. 04-2018-010 Series of 2018 "NMIS Surveillance Program for Imported Meat", this surveillance guideline for IBM and MSM is issued for the guidance of all concerned.

RATIONALE/OBJECTIVES

The results of the surveillance program shall be used in the risk assessment and profiling of importers and foreign meat establishments.

I. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

A. NMIS Personnel

1. The Meat Import Export Division (MIED) staff shall monitor the daily arrivals of IBM and MSM, through the use of the DA Trade System. The NMIS Plant Officer (PO) shall be informed, with the guidance of the RTOC Meat Import Export Section (MIES) focal of the shipment/container's arrival and identified container for sampling.
2. The assigned PO shall identify and collect the samples during unloading of the commodities at the approved designated Cold Storage Warehouse (CSW).
3. The MIED or MIES focal and PO, shall transport to the Central Meat Laboratory (CML) or Regional Technical Operation Center (RTOC) Satellite Laboratories the collected samples, following the approved transport procedure.
4. The CML and RTOC Satellite Laboratories shall release the laboratory results to the concerned RTOC for them to provide copies to the importers. Copies of the laboratory results shall be immediately provided to the MIED for profiling of foreign meat establishments and importers.
5. The MIED, with the assistance of the Information Technology Section, shall create and maintain a database for the results of the surveillance program.
6. The Technical Working Group (TWG) shall evaluate the results of the surveillance and report to the Office of the Executive Director.

B. Importer and Cold Storage Warehouse Personnel

1. The importer/duly assigned personnel shall notify the NMIS MIED and RTOC prior to the arrival of the shipment at the port of entry, for proper coordination with the assigned PO.
2. The importer/duly assigned personnel/CSW personnel shall follow prescribed regulations and procedures on meat inspection at the CSW.
3. The importer/duly assigned personnel/CSW quality control officer shall be present during the sample collection.

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4. The importer/duly assigned personnel/CSW personnel provide utility workers to assist the PO in the conduct of the samples collection, in order to expedite the process to prevent adulteration.
5. The CSW personnel shall provide a clean, functional and designated sampling room to be used by the PO. The CSW personnel shall provide an identified and secured area at the CSW for samples which cannot be transported immediately.

II. PROCEDURES

A. Procedures on the collection, transport and storage of IBM and MSM samples obtained during import inspection

- Before each collection, the sampling area shall be cleaned and disinfected using detergent and chlorinated water. The band saw and its blade shall be cleaned and disinfected with alcohol and chlorinated water prior to use every batch or lot (container van).
- Each sample shall be placed in a properly sealed sterile storage bag and labeled properly. The PO shall duly accomplish the NMIS Laboratory Request Form (see attached ANNEX A) and label (see ANNEX B) upon submission of the samples.
- The samples shall be kept in an ice chest with suitable refrigerant (avoiding thawing) and brought as soon as possible to the Central Meat Laboratory or concerned RTOC Satellite Laboratory. In the event that it cannot be transported immediately, it shall be stored in an identified and secured area of the CSW.
- The samples shall be submitted to the following assigned laboratory:

Region	Laboratory
NCR	Central Meat Laboratory
3	
4A	
7	
11	RTOC 11 Satellite Laboratory

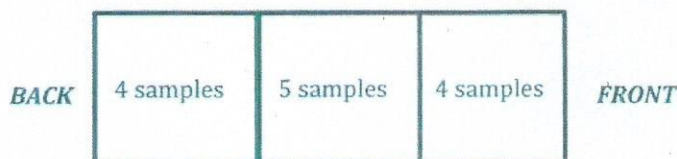
B. Sampling Plan and Analysis of IBM

- The following approved establishments of India based on DA Memorandum dated 09 January 2018 "Updated DA List of Accredited Countries Approved to Export Meat into the Philippines" shall be included in the surveillance activity:
 1. Al-Kabeer Exports (Est. 16)
 2. Frigerio Conserva Allana Ltd. (Est. 121)
 3. Indagro Foods Limited (Est. 36)
 4. M.K. Oversease Pvt. Ltd. (Est. 55)
 5. Abbott Cold Storages Pvt. Ltd. (Est. 47)
 6. Al-Hamd Agro Food Products Pvt. Ltd. (Est. 66)
 7. M/S Al Faheem Meatex Pvt. Ltd. (Est. 111)
 8. M/S Amroon Foods Pvt. Ltd. (Est. 42)
 9. M/S HMA Food Export Pvt. Ltd. (Est. 61)
 10. M/S Frigerio Conserva Allana Ltd. (Est. 21)
 11. M/S Al-Quresh Exports (Est. 71)
 12. M/S Frigorifico Allana Pvt. Ltd. (Est. 23)
 13. M/S Al Noor Exports (Est. 56)

- The target number of samples per RTOC are as follows:

Region	RTOC Target Samples
NCR	156
3	156
4A	143
7	130
11	26
TOTAL	611

- The PO shall collect thirteen (13) samples of 250 grams each, from randomly selected areas per container van. The random selection of the 13 boxes for sample collection shall be from strategically determined areas of the container van: 4 samples from the back end, 5 samples from the middle and 4 samples from the front end.



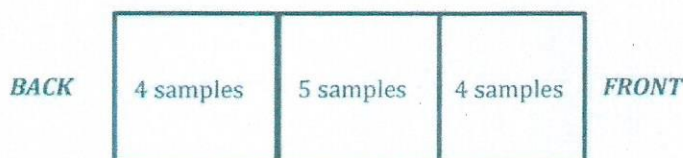
C. Sampling Plan and Analysis of MSM

- The following exporting countries of MSM based on the 2017 import data from INS shall be part of the NMIS Surveillance Program:

1. Netherlands	7. Australia
2. Poland	8. United Kingdom
3. Brazil	9. New Zealand
4. USA	10. Germany
5. Belgium	11. Denmark
6. Canada	12. Ireland
- The target number of samples per RTOC are as follows:

Region	RTOC Target Samples
NCR	156
3	156
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TOTAL	611

- The PO shall collect thirteen (13) samples of 250 grams each, from randomly selected areas per container van. The random selection of the 13 boxes for sample collection shall be from strategically determined areas of the container van: 4 samples from the back end, 5 samples from the middle and 4 samples from the front end.



The random selection of the 13 polyblocks for sample collection shall be from topmost of each pallet until the 13th sample is obtained.

D. Laboratory Tests, Result and Assessment

- The samples of IBM and MSM shall be tested for the following:
 1. Microbial identification/isolation
 - a. *Salmonella* sp.
 - b. *Staph. aureus*
 - c. *E. coli*
 - d. *Campylobacter jejuni*
 - e. Total Plate Count
 2. Screening Antimicrobial Residue (Microbial Inhibition Test)
 3. Meat Species Identification

	DESCRIPTION	NO. OF IBM SAMPLES	NO. OF MSM SAMPLES
1	Microbial Analysis	611	611
2	Screening Antimicrobial Residue	140	140
3	Meat Species Identification	100	100

- Assessment of the microbial identification shall be guided by NMIS Memorandum Circular No. 9-2008-5 Series of 2008 "Guidelines on the Assessment of Microbiological Quality of Fresh, Chilled and Frozen Meat".

E. Timeline of Activities

ACTIVITY	TENTATIVE SCHEDULE
Collection and Testing of Samples	June 2018-December 2018
Creation of MIED Information System Planning Analysis and Design	June-December 2018
Evaluation of data and drafting of report	October 2018 - December 2018
Submission and Approval of Report	January 2019

For compliance.



DR. ERNESTO S. GONZALES

The production of clean, wholesome, healthy and sound meat for food is the concern of everyone.