

 <p><b>Proposal for Task Force Consideration at the ISSC 2019 Biennial Meeting</b></p>	<p>1. a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Growing Area          b. <input type="checkbox"/> Harvesting/Handling/Distribution          c. <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative</p>
2. Submitter	NSSP Laboratory Evaluation Officers Team
3. Affiliation	FDA LEO and State LEO Team- represented by Melissa Farrell
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10. Proposal Subject	NSSP Microbiology Laboratory Evaluation Checklist
11. Specific NSSP Guide Reference	Section IV. Guidance Documents, Chapter II. Growing Areas .15 Evaluation of Laboratories by State Shellfish Laboratory Evaluation Officers Including Laboratory Evaluation Checklists
12. Text of Proposal/ Requested Action	The requested action is to adopt the modified text of NSSP microbiology checklist item 1.4.24 in the Laboratory Equipment section and 3.2.7 in the Preparation of Shellfish for Examination section and add an additional reference to item 3.2.7.
13. Public Health Significance	<p><u>1.4.24:</u> One of the most basic attributes of any thermometer is its accuracy, and because a thermometer is only as valuable as the temperature it measures, accuracy is of the utmost importance. Calibration defines the accuracy by quantifying and controlling uncertainties within the measurement process. The quality of data must be known and established beyond a reasonable doubt before it can be used logically in any application; thus, calibration is an integral part of the lab's Quality Assurance. When individuals record and maintain data, proof of calibration demonstrates that the measurements performed are consistent with the "true value."</p> <p>An intermediate check is an action that the user takes to verify that the measuring instrument continues to be suitable for its purpose. Currently, the NSSP requires laboratories to perform intermediate checks on incubator and water bath thermometers at the temperature at which they are used. This requirement does not include refrigerator or freezer thermometers; however, NSSP Microbiology checklist items 1.4.9 and 1.4.10 require laboratories to measure and record refrigerator temperature data.</p> <p>When properly performed, an ice point is recommended as a "fixed point" for calibration of liquid in glass thermometers as it provides a reliable reference temperature at 0 °C with an estimated measurement uncertainty of ± 0.002 °C for determining the thermometer's accuracy at all calibration points. The reliability and high degree of accuracy achieved by performing a proper ice point is due to the ice-water mixture stabilizing at its own "triple point." Due to the nature of an ice point, it is the most common calibration point used for intermediate checks.</p> <p><u>3.2.7 and reference addition:</u> This change corrects an oversight in the current checklist regarding the role of gloves when shucking.</p>
14. Cost Information	N/A