

Proposal Subject: Growing Area Classification Criteria

**Specific NSSP
Guide Reference:** To Be Determined

**Text of Proposal/
Requested Action** The ISSC has adopted evaluation criteria for several program elements within the NSSP. These include laboratories, plant sanitation, and patrol. The development of these criteria has seemed to provide a better understanding of expectations, improve uniformity in State evaluations and enhance compliance. The ISSC should expand its evaluation criteria efforts to include growing area classification. Most illnesses associated with molluscan shellfish can be traced to problems associated with growing area classification. Although more complex, this element of the program could benefit from the development of evaluation criteria. The purpose of this proposal is to request the Evaluation Criteria Committee be charged with the task of developing evaluation criteria for the growing area element.

**Public Health
Significance:** Growing area classification criteria will enhance State classification efforts and ensure a high level of uniformity and effectiveness in FDA evaluations.

**Cost Information
(if available):**

**Action by 2013
Task Force III** The submitter of Proposal 13-301 requested that the following sentence be deleted from the proposal.

~~Most illnesses associated with molluscan shellfish can be traced to problems associated with growing area classification.~~

The Task Force recommended adoption of Proposal 13-301 with the amendment as requested by the submitter.

**Action by 2013
General Assembly** Adopted recommendation of 2013 Task Force III on Proposal 13-301.

**Action by FDA
May 5, 2014** Concurred with Conference action on Proposal 13-301.