

ISSC Vibrio Education Subcommittee
May 5, 2009 – Manchester, New Hampshire
Committee Report

Chairperson: Dot Leonard

Roster:

Dot Leonard	Johnathan Gerhardt
Bill Dewey	Robin Downey
David Heil	Doris Nelson
Lori Howell	Ruth Posadas
Chris Nelson	Al Sunseri
Charles Newell	David Guilbeau
Debbie Rouse	Keith Skiles
Tori Stivers	Ken Stauffer
Kirk Wiles	Susanne Straif-Bourgeois
Bill Kramer	Al Rainosek
Sandra Sharp	Marc Glatzer

Charge 1:

Continue its efforts to improve and enhance Vv education.

Findings:

Vv education efforts need to be continued. The potential exists to use the Consumer Survey by the University of West Florida to address the effect of Vv education on the at-risk population. The industry reports anecdotally that while the market may be depressed immediately following media coverage of an oyster related illness there is an ensuing increase in oyster consumption. There is interest in presenting the positive benefits of consuming oysters and the effect on consumption in our education materials. State reports: Tori Stivers gave the Georgia report, Susanne Straif-Bourgeois presented a report for Louisiana. Sally Soileau is no longer funded and LA is in need of additional support for a state vibrio educator. Ruth Posadas reported for Mississippi. Kirk Wiles gave a report for Texas.

Conclusions: University of West Florida will provide experimental design to Vibrio Education Subcommittee for review and comments

Recommendations:

1. Establish a number of 13% to be used in Vv Risk Calculator to show consumption differences between at-risk and healthy oyster eaters on an annual basis.
2. Develop an educational brochure targeting all vibrios.
3. Request breakdown on the results of the online course (physicians, nurses, dieticians).
4. Recommend that statistics (from CDC) on Vv educational brochure be updated and add positive nutritional aspects.
5. Recommend ISSC recognize the state vibrio education coordinators for their efforts.
6. Develop a proposal to ISSC to require certified dealers and harvesters participate in 3 hours education annually to be certified.

Charge 2:

Consider effective ways to communicate information to harvesters and dealers regarding risks associated with post harvest growth of *Vibrio parahaemolyticus*.

Findings: PCSGA has designed industry workshops and brochures and presented for review and comment.

Recommendations:

1. Committee recommends Executive Office proceed with the design and posting of the Vp brochures (3 different audiences).