Proposal Number: 97-205

Proposal Subject

Nomenclature and handling procedures for "raw" shellfish

Specific NSSP Guide Reference 1999 Model Ordinance Definition (92) (a)

Text of Proposal/ Requested Action

REQUESTED ACTION #1:

Modify 1999 Model Ordinance Definition (92)(a), by adding new subsection (iii):

(iii) Raw, where processing is insufficient to ensure the destruction of vegetative cells of microorganisms of public health concern; and

Renumber existing subsection iii. to iv.

REQUESTED ACTION #2:

Propose that the ISSC explore the utility of modifying the Model Ordinance to set forth nomenclature and handling procedures for molluscan shellfish which falls under the "raw" category (as described above) for shellfish, e.g. mildly heat-treated shellfish. Particular attention should be given to processing controls and trace ability requirements to ensure the integrity of the Model Ordinance and dealer certification process.

Public Health Significance

- 1. The present Model Ordinance definition does not include raw processed products. Such products may have received mild heat treatment so they cannot be labeled fresh, but the treatment was insufficient to kill a broad spectrum of microorganisms, making Model Ordinance controls necessary to protect public health. The proposed wording is consistent with the HACCP regulation, Subpart C raw molluscan shellfish.
- 2. The collective integrity of Model Ordinance safeguards requires proper product identification, handling, trace ability, and dealer certification. Developing a rationale and consensus for applying these controls to new products will help provide industry with needed guidance in developing new products to meet emerging public health concerns and consumer demands.

Cost Information (if available)

N/A

Action by 1997 Task Force II Recommended referral of Issue 97-205 to appropriate committee as determined by the Conference Chairman.

Action by 1997 General Assembly Adopted recommendation of 1997 Task Force II.

Action by 1998 Processing/ Handling Committee

FINDINGS:

The committee discussed the need for definitions of shellstock, live vs. dead, raw, frozen and other product forms. This discussion occurred in consideration of this issue as well as in reference to the Product Enhancement Subcommittee's report with regard to Issue 98-219. There are broad opinions as to how the Conference should address products in other than the traditional "shucked" or "shellstock" forms.

CONCLUSIONS

In light of these new product forms appearing before the Conference, the ISSC should consider developing definitions for "processing" and "handling", "raw", and other processed product forms.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Refer Issue 97-205 to committee.

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Action by 1998 Task Force II Recommended referral to appropriate committee as determined by the Conference Chairman.

Action by 1998 General Assembly Adopted recommendation of 1998 Task Force II.

Action by 1999 Processing And Handling Committee FINDINGS:

There is room for further work on definitions of several terms commonly used in the Model Ordinance. Some of these terms arise as a result of developments in new product forms and new processes that are being used.

CONCLUSIONS:

A new chapter encompassing the different types of post harvest processing may be appropriate, but is beyond the charge given to the committee. In addition, the committee felt that the scope of any new Model Ordinance section should be determined and any such section designed prior to developing these new definitions. To do otherwise may limit the work of those writing such a new section and would lead to conflicts with existing provisions of the Model Ordinance.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The committee recommended that the Task Force refer Issue 97-205 to the committee appointed as a result of the Definitions Committee's action on issue 98-219 and that the charge to the committee should be broadened to include post harvest processing with the recommendation that the committee ensure consistency with other Model Ordinance sections.

Action by 1999 Task Force II Recommended adoption of 1999 Processing and Handling Committee recommendations on Issue 97-205.

Action by 1999 General Assembly Adopted recommendation of 1999 Task Force II.

Action by USFDA

Concurred with Conference action.

Action by 2000 Vibrio Management Committee Recommended Task Force II refer Issue 97-205 to appropriate committee for development of a new Post Harvest Treatment (PHT) section.

Action by 2000 Task Force II Recommended adoption of 2000 Vibrio Management Committee recommendation.

Action by 2000 General Assembly

Adopted recommendation of 2000 Task Force II.

Action by USFDA

Concurred with Conference action.

Action by 2001 Vibrio Management Committee No Committee Action.

Action by 2001 Task Force II Recommended referral of Issue 97-205 to appropriate Committee as determined by Conference Chairman.

Action by 2001 General Assembly Adopted recommendation of 2001 Task Force II.

Action by USFDA

Concurred with Conference action.

Action by 2003 VMC

Not addressed by Vibrio Management Committee.

Proposal Number: 97-205

Action by 2003 Task Force II Recommended referral of Proposal 97-205 to appropriate committee as determined by the

Conference Chairman.

Action by 2003 General Assembly Adopted recommendations of 2003 Task Force II.

Action by USFDA

Concurred with Conference Action.

Action by 2005 PHP Committee

No action on Proposal 97-205.

Rationale – Proposal 97-205 is addressed by action in Proposal 05-200.

Action by 2005 Task Force II Recommended adoption of Post Harvest Processing Committee recommendation of no action

on Proposal 97-205.

Rationale – Proposal 97-205 is addressed by action in Proposal 05-200.

Action by 2005 General Assembly Adopted recommendation of 2005 Task Force II.

Action by USFDA Concurred with Conference action.