

GIPSA Implements Improved Test for Salmonella in Grain and Processed Grain Products

WASHINGTON, DC (April 20, 1998)--The USDA Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration will implement a new method to test for the bacterial pathogen salmonella in grain and processed grain products on April 27, 1998.

GIPSA has been offering salmonella testing for grain and related products since 1985 using the FDA/Bacteriological Analytical Method (BAM). The improved method, Salmonella Assurance EIA, made by BioControl Systems, Inc., Bothell, WA, is faster, more efficient procedure. Customers will receive results an average of 2 working days faster than using the BAM method, which required 5 to 7 days to complete. The EIA also optimizes test specificity and decreases false positives.

GIPSA administrator Jim R. Baker said the new test is yet another way that GIPSA is better serving its customers by implementing improved and more efficient technology in the official grain inspection system.

Testing will be performed by GIPSA's Technical Center in Kansas City, MO.

The EIA is an AOAC International Official Action validated method.

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