Accreditation to the ISO/IEC 17025 Standard

Progress to date on the Cooperative Agreement

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Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL)
AAFCO Midyear Meeting - Mobile, AL
January 16-18, 2017
Resources

• Food and Feed Testing Accreditation Discussion Board
  ▪ On-line forum for the exchange of information related to becoming accredited to the ISO/IEC 17025 standard
  ▪ Open to state and local food and feed testing personnel

• Accreditation Resources
  ▪ Public-facing site
  ▪ Members only restricted site
Training

- Available on the APHL.org website
  - 18 webinars posted
  - Recorded presentations of past meetings
- Basic QMS webinar series / New-hire ISO/IEC 17025 training modules
- Filth training workshop
- 2017 Laboratory Accreditation Meeting in conjunction with the Manufactured Food Regulatory Program Alliance (MFRPA)
  - January 23-26, 2017 in St. Petersburg, FL
PFP Laboratory Science Workgroup

• Project Manager role
• Face-to-face meeting in Kansas City, MO
  ▪ Led to collaborations with other workgroups (IT, Outreach, Compliance & Enforcement)

• Projects
  ▪ Laboratory Best Practices Manual (Draft)
  ▪ Current Major Laboratory Initiatives
Current Major Laboratory Initiatives

The Partnership for Food Protection Laboratory Sciences Workgroup

August 2016


www.aphl.org
Data Acceptance White Paper

Best Practices for Submission of Actionable Food and Feed Testing Data Generated in State and Local Laboratories
APHL Position Statement

• “FDA and the Use of Governmental Food and Feed Testing Laboratories”
• Recommends that FDA gives preference to state and local food and feed testing laboratories for domestic regulatory testing
  ▪ Investment in accreditation and FERN
  ▪ Strengthens an integrated food safety system
  ▪ Capacity and capability to perform testing
• To be presented to APHL’s Board of Directors January 2017
Standardizing Laboratory Competency

- Collaborative project with APHL, AFDO and IFPTI
- Laboratory Training Curriculum Framework Workgroup
  - Brings together SMEs to develop standard core competencies for food and feed testing laboratorians
  - Meets 2x per year in Silver Spring (May and October 2016)
Accreditation Consultant

• APHL Consultant (Yvonne Salfinger) is working with 10 laboratories to help them achieve ISO 17025 accreditation

• In 2016, she made site visits to:
  ▪ New Mexico State University Food Safety Laboratory
  ▪ Michigan Department of Community Health
  ▪ Hawaii Department of Health
  ▪ Washington Department of Health
Successes from the Field: The Impact of Laboratory Accreditation

- South Carolina finds Listeria in Ice Cream
- NE Department of Agriculture finds Listeria in Ice Cream
- NY and MA Form Raw Milk Collaboration
- Virginia DCLS finds Listeria in Sprouts
- OH “Farm to Fork” Perspective Keeps Food Safer
Listeria in Sprouts Revealed Through Targeted Sampling and Testing in Virginia

Virginia’s Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services (DCLS) is one of 30 state laboratories in the final year of a five-year Cooperative Agreement with the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) aimed at achieving ISO/IEC 17025:2005 accreditation to advance a nationally integrated food safety system. Accreditation adds confidence and credibility to laboratory data, and supports the traceability and accountability of laboratory results that are submitted to a food regulatory agency for surveillance, compliance, enforcement and foodborne illness outbreak actions.

As part of the cooperative agreement, states are required to work with regulators to develop sampling agreements.
Sustainability

- What happens at the end of Y05?
- States need federal funding to continue their ISO programs
- Advocating for continued funding

**The Value of FDA’s Investment in Laboratory Accreditation**

**FDA’s Investment**

The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has invested over $50 million towards the accreditation of state laboratories to the ISO/IEC 17025:2005 standard (ISO 17025). Accreditation is an integral part of mutual reliance and a critical element of an Integrated Food Safety System (IFSS). A fully functioning IFSS allows for acceptance of state data in federal enforcement actions and means FDA and states can act efficiently in the prevention of foodborne illnesses.
Sustained Funding for ISO CAP Labs

• Letter to FDA supporting continued funding for ISO CAP laboratories

• Highlights:
  ▪ FDA’s investment into accreditation
  ▪ Success stories from the labs
  ▪ What could happen if funding is not sustained?
THANK YOU

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