

AOAC INTERNATIONAL
Seafood Contaminants
AOAC, FDA, Seafood Industry Meeting

Scope:

This high level meeting among AOAC, FDA, and the seafood industry will discuss a government-industry collaboration to develop and validate rapid and affordable detection systems for monitoring contaminants in seafood.

Where: FDA Wiley Building, 5100 Paint Branch Parkway, College Park, Maryland, 20740.

When: July 18, 19, or 25 (9 a.m. – 11 a.m.), or 26 (anytime) 2007.

Government: U.S. Food and Drug Administration

Dr. Robert Buchanan, Senior Science Advisor, FDA, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition

Dr. Nega Beru, Director, Office of Food Safety, FDA, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition

Dr. Donald Kraemer, Deputy Director, Office of Seafood, FDA, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition

Planning a meeting w/ Dr. Stephen Sundlof, Center Director, FDA-Center for Veterinary Medicine

Industry Representatives:

Mark Mignogna, Sysco Corporation

Ken Kimble, Costco Wholesale

Jim O'Brien and Carlos Sanchez, Beaver Street Fisheries, Inc.

Ana Hooper, Darden Restaurants

Need to identify 2 – 3 other importers of seafood

AOAC Advisory Board (Representative of 20 test kit companies)

Ron Johnson, BioMerieux Inc.

AOAC Staff Representatives:

Jim Bradford, AOAC Executive Director

Anita Mishra, Executive for Scientific Business Development

Krystyna McIver, Senior Director, Communications

Issues:

Seafood imported into the United States may be contaminated with antibiotics, pesticides, and other contaminants. Federal and state governments do not have the necessary resources to adequately monitor imported seafood. For the industry, reliable screening tools are essential to avoid the loss of seafood and revenue.

Stakeholders Working Together:

Rapid screening technologies, and possible confirmation technologies, that meet agreed upon performance criteria, would help the industry police itself for contamination in imported seafood. Exporters, upstream in the supply chain, could also screen their products before shipment. Such technologies would not only benefit the government and industry, but ultimately, the public by providing wholesome seafood.

Suggested Outcome of July Meeting at FDA, College Park:

AOAC, as an independent 3rd party, should organize a second stakeholder's meeting to help define the fitness for purpose statement (matrices, analytes, instrumentation, intended use, and analytical range) and performance criteria that will lead to the development and evaluation of rapid screening test methodologies and confirmatory technologies that meet the industry, the FDA, and state government needs. The cost for this stakeholders meeting would be \$120,000 and should be shared among several stakeholders.