

CONSULTATION

Topic: National Rules for On-Farm production of Small Quantities Poultrymeat for Local Supply

Start date of consultation: Monday 19th February 2007

Closing date of consultation: Monday, 23rd April 2007

Consultation details

The introduction last year of new European Regulations on food hygiene established a “farm to fork” approach to food safety Regulation (EC) No. 852/2004 lays down common rules for all food businesses and Regulation (EC) 853/2004 applies additional requirements to businesses handling foods of animal origin.

In the case of slaughter of poultry the general requirement of the regulations is that this activity takes place at approved slaughterhouses. However, there is acknowledgement of close existing relationships between consumers and farmers slaughtering small quantities of poultry for local supply. That type of activity is exempt from specific approval requirements but Member States are required to draw up National Rules regulating this activity to ensure protection of public health.

With this in mind it is proposed to introduce national legislation in Ireland in relation to the direct supply by the producer of small quantities of meat from poultry slaughtered on the farm to the final consumer or to local retail establishments directly supplying such meat to the final consumer as fresh meat.

The proposed national legislation sets out the scope of activities that will be permitted under the rules and also includes definitions of:

- Small quantities
- Local
- On the farm

The general hygienic requirements of such operations are also outlined along with provision for inspection.

The FSAI welcomes your views in regard to these proposed national rules and in particular, we invite you to submit your comments in relation to scope and the definitions in the proposal.

Responses should be submitted by 5pm on Wednesday, 25th April 2007 to: consultation@fsai.ie

Or via post to:

Consultations, Food Safety Authority of Ireland, Abbey Court, Lwr Abbey Street, Dublin 1.
Fax +353 1 817 1301

If you have any difficulty accessing the documents please telephone us on 01 -817 1300