

NR# 78-99

At approximately 2350 HRS, Inspector Prescott following the procedures outlined in Directive 6420.1 for an unscheduled agency verification of procedure O3JO1, based on information relayed by Dr. Schwochert that while giving breaks carcasses were being presented at final rail inspection with many more defects than normal, did an online AQL. After notifying superintendent, Felix Ortiz, he began his check of 11 carcasses (22 sides). The following defects which include identifiable fecal deficiencies were observed on 7 carcasses of the eight put on the out rail:

1. A 3mm X 12mm green smear on the hock tendon and a 2mm dark brown colored round spot of foreign material (unknown origin) also on the same hock.

2. A 6mm X 6mm brown smear with no fiber on 1 part of the hock and a 2mm X 5mm brown plantlike fiber on the lead hock. A 3mm X 6mm Brown plantlike fiber and a 6mm X 25mm piece of partially attached hide complete with hair was found on the trailing hock.

3. A 3mm X 4mm green colored plantlike fiber on the hock.

4. A 6mm X 13mm piece of hide complete with hair on the hock and an area 12mm X 20mm of light green smear with several small plantlike fibers spread within on the same hock.

5. Green smear 8mm X 8.5cm with a few hairs laying in over the smear on the hock.

6. Green smear with plantlike fibers within over a 7.5mm X 2.5cm area on the hock. Also a 3mm X 5mm dark colored speck of unknown origin on the same leading hock. On the trailing hock a 5cm X 10cm green smear with plantlike fibers and hairs too numerous to count.

October 27, 1999

NR# 78-99

7. No defects were found on this carcass the suspect area was ink splatter.

8. A 2.5cm X 5cm Green smear with no fiber but a significant number of hairs over the area on the lead hock. Also on the trailing side a 1.5cm X 6.5cm green smear with plantlike fiber on the outside bung.

(All measurements visual approximation.)

This online carcass reinspection failed zero tolerance for fecal contamination. All carcasses back to the last acceptable company QA - AQL will be retained by QA department.

No verbal corrective and preventative plan was asked for nor received as the days production was complete by the completion of the AQL.

Examples of previous responses to similar or related NR's are evidenced by the following;

NR# 56-99 (Dated 9-21-99) Written response (FASCAR #56-99)

Superintendent Felix Ortiz gave a verbal corrective action of adding a trimmer low in front of final rail stairs. He would add a trimmer high in steam vac alley and he would make a management tour of the skinning area to determine what modifications to make.

NR# 59-99 (Dated 9-22-99) Company Action Plan as a response to this NR.

NR# 61-99 (Dated 9-29-99) Written response (FASCAR #1890)

In a phone conversation between DR Schwochert and Mike Chabot (plant manager), Mr. Chabot asked for the opportunity to cease operations for the night and develop a written action plan and provide the necessary personnel for implementation of the action plan prior to second shift operations 9-30-99. This request was granted by DR Schwochert.

October 27, 1999

NR# 78-99

NR# 64-99 (Dated 10-01-99) Written response (FASCAR #1887)

NR# 65-99 (Dated 10-02-99) Written response (FASCAR #1885)

Superintendent Lenny Hochnadel gave a verbal corrective action plan of taking the tissues around to all affected production and QA personnel to show them the defects they were missing. He was also going to check on side pullers to insure proper operation.

NR# 66-99 (Dated 10-4-99) Written response (FASCAR #1888)

Verbal preventative measures of extra monitoring and extra trimming personnel being added until process was brought into control and verified was given.

NR# 70-99 (Dated 10-9-99) Written response (FASCAR #1968)

Lenny Hochnadel gave a verbal corrective action of retraining his employees.

The verbal corrective and preventative plan presented by Felix Ortiz (Production Superintendent) and Tom Allen (QA Superintendent) was;

(b) (4)

Based upon the previously referenced NR's it appears the corrective actions and preventative measures and/or action plans developed have either not been effectively

October 27, 1999

NR# 78-99

implemented or have been ineffective in preventing product contamination. Further these NR's are documenting repetitive occurrences of the establishment failing to meet the zero requirement as outlined in FSIS Directive 6420.1. Continued failure to implement effective corrective and preventative measures to prevent product contamination and/or adulteration could result in additional regulatory administrative or enforcement actions.