



United States Department of Agriculture

Food Safety and
Inspection Service

1400 Independence
Avenue, SW.
Washington, D.C.
20250

MVZ [REDACTED] (b)(6)
Director de Importaciones y Exportaciones
Dirección General de Salud Animal
Servicio Nacional de Sanidad, Inocuidad y Calidad Agroalimentaria,
SENASICA
Insurgentes Sur 489, Piso 10
Col. Hipódromo, C.P. 06100
Alcaldía de Cuauhtémoc, Ciudad de México

Dear [REDACTED] (b)(6)

I am responding to your letter (B00.02.03.01.02.-0270-2022), dated April 1, 2022, in which the Servicio Nacional de Sanidad, Inocuidad y Calidad Agroalimentaria (SENASICA) informed the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), about two shipments of chilled pork that were refused entry to Mexico because SENASICA detected Clenbuterol, a toxic residue. These products were produced at Establishment (Est.) 18079, Smithfield Fresh Meats Corp. of Tar Heel, North Carolina, and Est. 3W, Swift Pork Company of Worthington, Minnesota. After receiving SENASICA's letter, FSIS began an investigation into these point of entry violations (POEVs). FSIS appreciates the opportunity to respond to your concerns.

FSIS's investigation revealed the following:

- Est. 18079 confirmed with its live animal suppliers that Clenbuterol is not used, and has never been used, in their animal production system. On February 1, 2022, March 22, 2022, and March 28, 2022, FSIS collected samples from Est. 18079 for the National Residue Program. On each of the three dates, all the samples tested negative for beta agonists. To date, Est. 18079 has never had a violative test result from samples collected under the National Residue Program.
- Est. 3W notified its live animal suppliers of the presence of Clenbuterol in the affected product. The establishment performed a risk analysis and concluded that non-traditional hogs (*i.e.*, hogs from fairs or shows) may have been inadvertently mixed in with the market hogs they received. The non-traditional hogs may have been fed Clenbuterol. As a preventative measure, 3W has discussed this concern with all its live animal suppliers. Additionally, a randomized screening test for Clenbuterol was implemented on September 30, 2022. These testing results will be made available to FSIS inspection personnel.

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FSIS has verified the implementation of these corrective actions and finds them to be fully responsive. If you have any questions, please contact the Office of International Coordination at InternationalCoordination@usda.gov or Ciarra Toomey Director of our Mexico office at ciarra.toomey@usda.gov.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to this issue.

Sincerely,

Michelle Catlin, PhD
International Coordination Executive
Office of International Coordination