



IAFP

Applied Laboratory Methods PDG

TELECONFERENCE MINUTES – June 30th 2009

MEETING ATTENDEES:

Present: Patricia Rule, Yvonne Salfinger, Michael Brodsky, Pat Mach, Patrice Arbault, Christine Hilbert, Leslie Thompson, Vanessa Cranford

AGENDA

- Brief Update on Produce Washing teleconference
- Update on IAFP 2009 Symposium
- Discussion for 2010 Symposium ideas and educational topics
- IAFP 2009 Meeting reminders

SUMMARY:

- The Produce Washing teleconference on June 24th had three expert panel participants:
Dr Donald Schaffner – Rutgers University
Dr Katherine Swanson- Ecolab Inc
Dr Bassam Annous- USDA Food Safety Intervention Technologies Research
There were 30 participants who attended the call. The expert panel overview included the important components to consider in performing a produce validation. The primary purpose of antimicrobial used in produce washing and monitoring their effectiveness in the system via verification. Conventional washing technologies were discussed as well as novel methods for sanitation treatments. The discussion portion of the call was interactive between the panel and PDG members questioning the challenges and issues observed in produce washing.
- IAFP 2009 Symposium Updates:
S26 Shigatoxin Escherichia coli: The Bad, the Worse and the Pathogenic (Wednesday afternoon)
ABSTRACT
Shigatoxigenic *E. coli* (STEC) are of importance in food safety, having been implicated in several foodborne outbreaks worldwide for the last years. However available evidences have indicated that many STEC are not actually pathogenic to humans. What is clear is that an expanded group of STECs are present on the radar screen of public health and food regulatory authorities. The increasing concern over STEC has raised a number of questions among scientists, epidemiologists, food producers, retailers, regulators and consumers worldwide.

S28 (Beverage PDG Sponsored Short Symposium Wednesday afternoon). CSI Beverage Plant: On the Trail of Hot and Cold Spoilers

ABSTRACT

An exploding package is a telltale sign that there is an issue. However, microbes do not always announce their presence so loudly. From fermentation to formula degradation to

visible outgrowth, the impact of yeasts, molds, and lactic acid bacteria can be profound. The focus of this short symposium is the detection, investigation and mitigation of spoilage incidents involving high-acid beverages. The speakers will provide an update on current and future-state tools available to identify the culprits, and present a root-cause analysis of these incidents. Case studies involving microbiological contamination of hot-fill and aseptic beverages will be presented by expert investigators.

S19 Round Up Your Pathogen Plan: Enrichment, Sample Preparation and the Legal and Social Perspectives (Tuesday afternoon).

ABSTRACT

This symposium will discuss the current and new technologies of enrichment and sample preparation, while covering the legal and social dimensions for a pathogen-testing plan. Sample preparation after enrichment is a critical step for making food matrices suitable for many advanced detection technologies. In recent years, some proprietary media products have been launched and new technologies including bacteriophages have been developed to improve the efficiency of conventional enrichment. The development of novel approaches for sample preparation will be critical in the development of future, more rapid detection methods. The initial presentations will focus on enrichment and sample preparation, which can have the largest impact on the success of any pathogen detection plan. The concluding presentations will discuss the legal and social historical case studies related to a pathogen plan. Highlighting what is needed in an outbreak investigation, what will be needed in a court of law, and the legal ramifications of those choices.

- 2010 Symposium Overview and Ideas

The deadline for symposia and workshop proposals from IAFP for 2010 has been changed to October 19, 2009 in an effort to provide you the opportunity to fine tune your proposal ideas and to allow more meeting time to discuss topics of interest to your members.

Therefore at the PDG meeting we will be discussing ideas for submission. This past year 11 symposia were submitted and 2 were accepted by the IAFP program committee. In addition we faced the challenge of combining two topics accepted by the program committee to become one symposium. It was decided on the call that a voting procedure would be implemented to promote well-developed symposia and workshops to IAFP. Symposia submissions should be expected to be turned in to the Applied Lab Methods PDG by September 25th and PDG voting will occur by the PDG on October 6th. The goal is to improve the development of proposed symposia outlines that will be submitted to IAFP for acceptance on Oct 19th.

Symposia Topic Suggestions Discussed on the call:

- Novel methods for non-pathogenic *E.coli* and non-E.coli O157:H7 detection (Michael Brodsky)
- Bacterial toxins: *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Clostridium botulinum* and *Bacillus cereus* (Patrice Arbault)
- Toxigenic mold and Food Safety (Michael Brodsky)
- Less recognized and Presumptive Pathogens (Purnendu Vasavada)

- 2010 Educational Ideas for PDG teleconference calls
 - Issues with emerging food commodities (peanut butter, cookie dough)
 - Lab Accreditation
 - USDA or FDA program on sampling and guidelines.
 - Using Six Sigma to improve your lab's efficiency
 - Statistical Trending and Data Analysis

- IAFP 2009 Meeting Reminders
 - Applied Lab Methods PDG Meeting – July 12th 1-3pm Grapevine 1-2
 - Symposium Submission Outline
http://www.foodprotection.org/files/annual_meeting/2010-call-for-symposia-2009.pdf

 - The PDG would like to welcome the new Vice Chair- Leslie Thompson at Silliker Inc and her enthusiasm to the PDG.

 - (From Tamara Ford's email)
 - Program and Abstract
http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/trilix/iafp_programabstract/

 - Plan Your Itinerary
<http://iafp2009.abstractcentral.com/planner.jsp>

CONCLUSION:

- Thank you for all your hard work and commitment to this PDG, look forward to seeing you at IAFP with great symposia ideas!