

# Seafood Safety, Processing and Regulation



Aquaculture and  
Fish Tech 101



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Delaware Sea Grant Marine Advisory Service  
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Aquaculture and  
Fish Tech 101



# USA Per Captia Consumption

Rank	1990		2000		2010	
1	Tuna, C	3.7	Tuna, C	3.5	Shrimp	4.0
2	Shrimp	2.2	Shrimp	3.2	Tuna, C	2.7
3	Cod	1.4	Pollock	1.6	Salmon	2.0
4	Pollock	1.3	Salmon	1.6	Tilapia	1.5
5	Salmon	0.7	Catfish	1.1	Pollock	1.2
6	Catfish	0.7	Cod	0.8	Catfish	0.8
7	Clams	0.6	Clams	0.5	Crab	0.6
8	Flatfish	0.6	Crabs	0.4	Cod	0.4
9	Crabs	0.3	Flatfish	0.4	Pangasius	0.4
10	Scallops	0.3	Scallops	0.3	Clams	0.3

# USA Per Capita Consumption

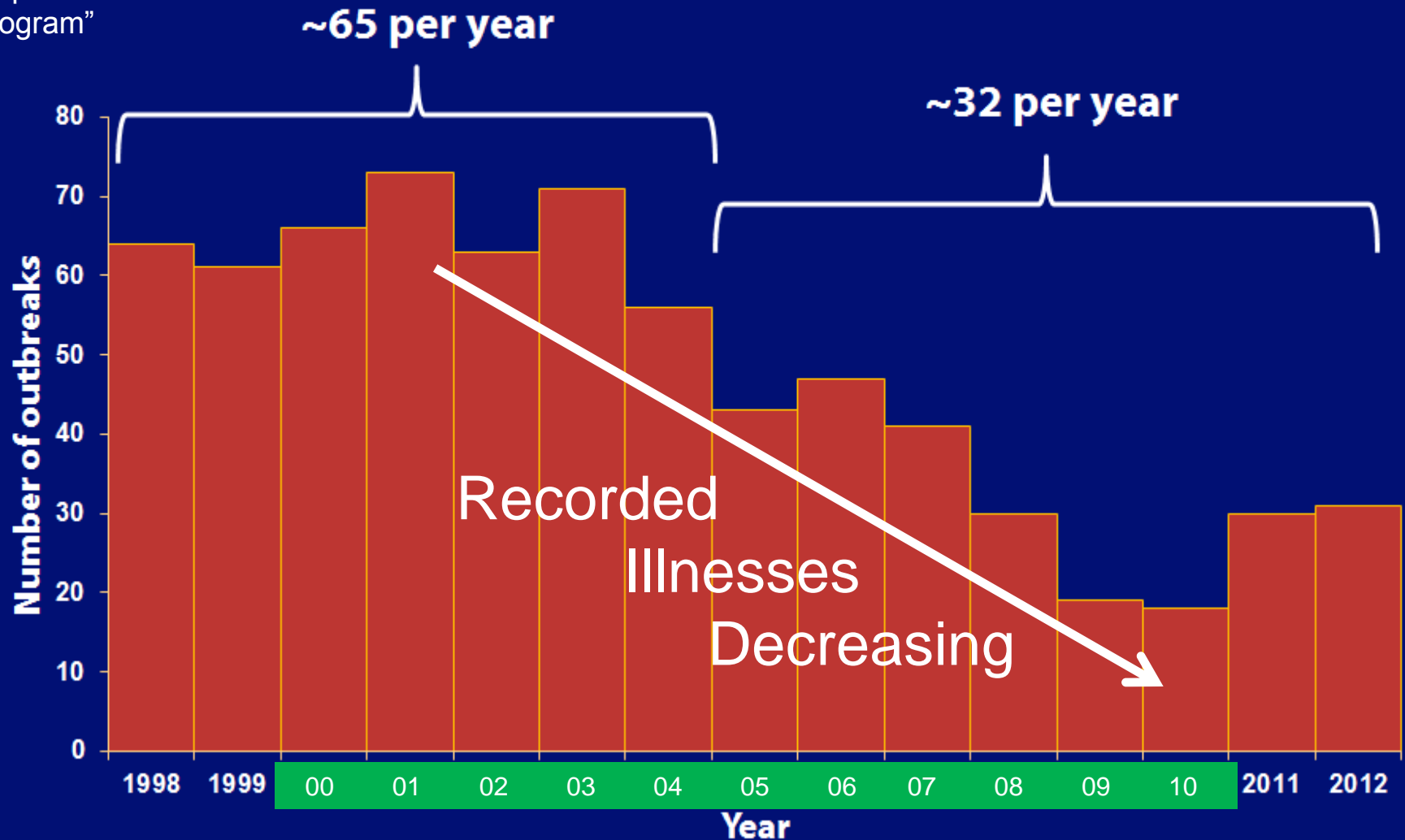
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# Fish-Attributed Outbreaks by Year, United States, 1998–2012

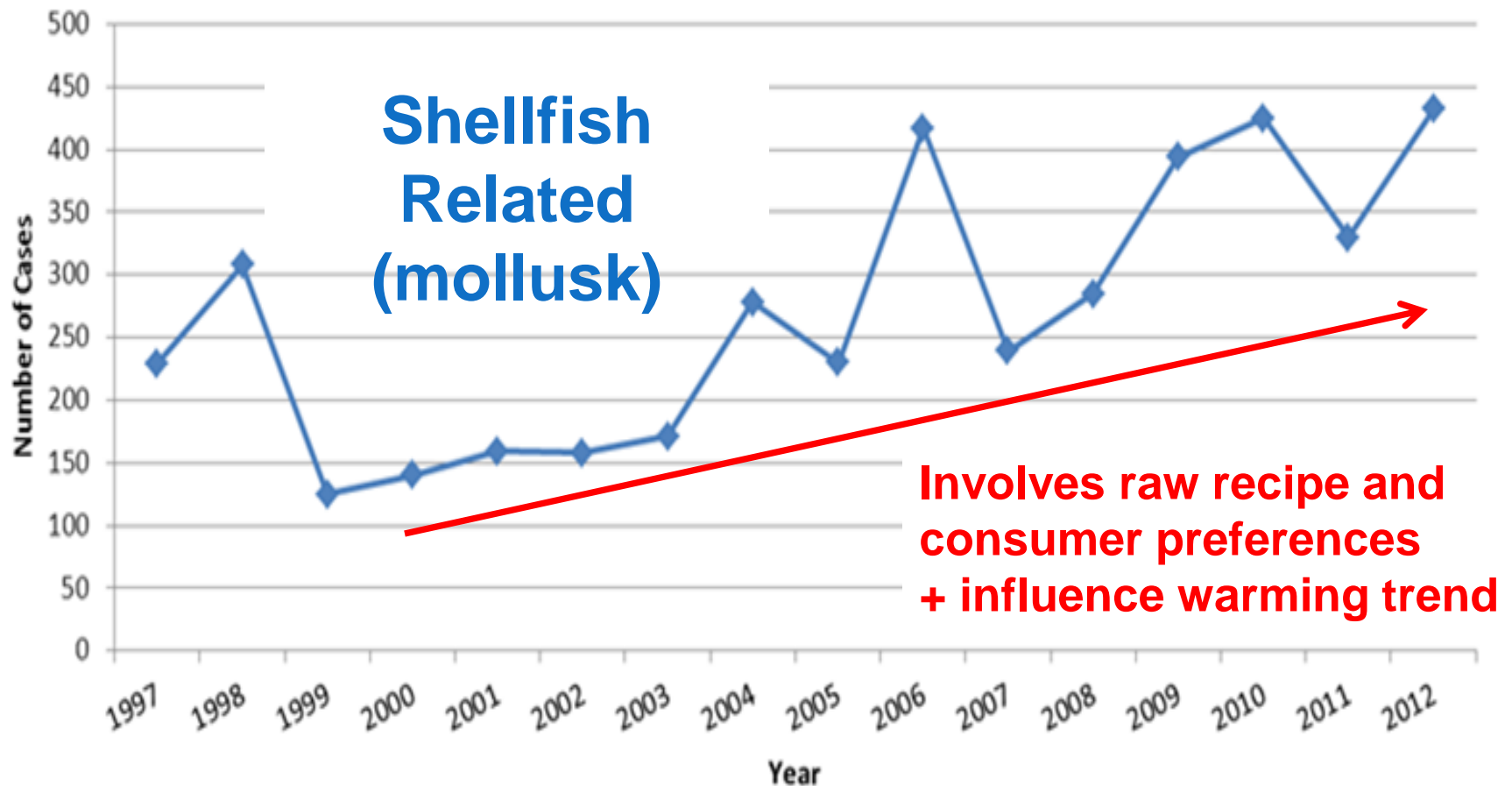
CDC Presentation  
Aug 13, 2014  
Baltimore, MD  
“Implications  
Program”



# Critics will suggest otherwise ...

ISSC Presentation  
Aug 13, 2014  
Baltimore, MD  
"Implications Meeting"

## Total *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* Infections, 1997-2012, USA



Critics will suggest otherwise ...



**FY 2013  
SEAFOOD\*  
IMPORT  
REFUSALS**

\*wild & farm raised

REFUSAL CHARGES	ENTRIES REFUSED
FILTH	695
SALMONELLA	503
VET DRUGS	144
MFR HACCP ISSUE	135
LISTERIA	85
INSANITARY	60
HISTAMINE	50

- Focus is Risk Based
- Issues are Known



# Primary Food Safety Risks associated with seafood are known

**BIG  
3**

**1. Microbial  
Contamination**



**2. Temperature Abuse  
for Microbial Growth**



**3. Chemical  
Contamination**





# BIG 3

## Microbial Pathogens

- General
- *Salmonella*
- *Vibrios*
- *S. aureus*
- *C. botulinum*

## Microbial Growth and Decomposition

## Environmental Chemicals

- Water Quality
- Exposure (pesticides, herbicides, & fertilizers)

## Therapeutic Drugs

- Illegal Drugs
- Improper Use

FOOD SAFETY PROBLEMS	RECOMMENDED CONTROLS		
	GAQP's (Farming)	GMP's (Processing)	GTP's (Transporting)
Microbial Pathogens <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General</li> <li>• <i>Salmonella</i></li> <li>• <i>Vibrios</i></li> <li>• <i>S. aureus</i></li> <li>• <i>C. botulinum</i></li> </ul>	Monitoring daily farm practices to reduce presence in growing waters and feeds, and potential growth after harvest	Sanitation Control Procedures and monitoring routine practices through processing steps	Sanitation Controls Procedures and monitoring transit time and temperatures
Microbial Growth and Decomposition	Controls for time and temperature exposure	Controls for time and temperature exposure	Controls for time and temperature exposure
Environmental Chemicals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water Quality</li> <li>• Exposure (pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers, etc)</li> </ul>	Monitoring conditions  Site selection, monitoring and maintenance	Monitoring at receiving, if suspect	
Therapeutic Drugs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Illegal Drugs</li> <li>• Improper Use</li> </ul>	Monitoring selections and practices	Monitoring at receiving	
Parasites	Reduce exposures	Monitoring for presence and	Parasites
Natural Toxins <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Algal Blooms</li> </ul>	Reduce occurrence and exposure	Monitoring at receiving, if suspect	
Food Allergens		Proper product labeling for product identification and any additions	
Physical Contamination <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Metal or Glass</li> </ul>	Monitoring daily farm practices	Sanitation Control Procedures and monitoring routine practices	Sanitation Controls Procedures and monitoring transit time and temperatures
Processing Errors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improper Use</li> <li>• Food Additives</li> <li>• Improper Cooking</li> </ul>		Monitoring specific processing steps	

FOOD SAFETY PROBLEMS	RECOMMENDED CONTROLS		
	GAqP's (Farming)	GMP's (Processing)	GTP's (Transporting)
Microbial Pathogens <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General</li> <li><i>Salmonella</i></li> <li><i>Vibrios</i></li> <li><i>S. aureus</i></li> <li><i>C. botulinum</i></li> </ul>	Monitoring daily farm practices to reduce presence in growing waters and feeds, and potential growth after harvest	Sanitation Control	Sanitation Controls
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Therapeutic Drugs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Illegal Drugs</li> <li>Improper Use</li> </ul>	Monitoring selections and practices		
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Natural Toxins <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Algal Blooms</li> </ul>	Reduce occurrence and exposure		
Food Allergens		for product identification	
Physical Contamination <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Metal or Glass</li> </ul>	Monitoring daily farm practices	Sanitation Procedures	
Processing Errors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improper Use</li> <li>Food Additives</li> <li>Improper Cooking</li> </ul>		Monitoring practices	

# ← Controls

FOOD SAFETY PROBLEMS	FARMING	PROCESSING	TRANSPORT
'Germ' Contamination	<b>CONTROLS for PREVENTION</b>  GAqP's      GMP's      GTP's		
'Germ' Growth			
Chemical Contamination			

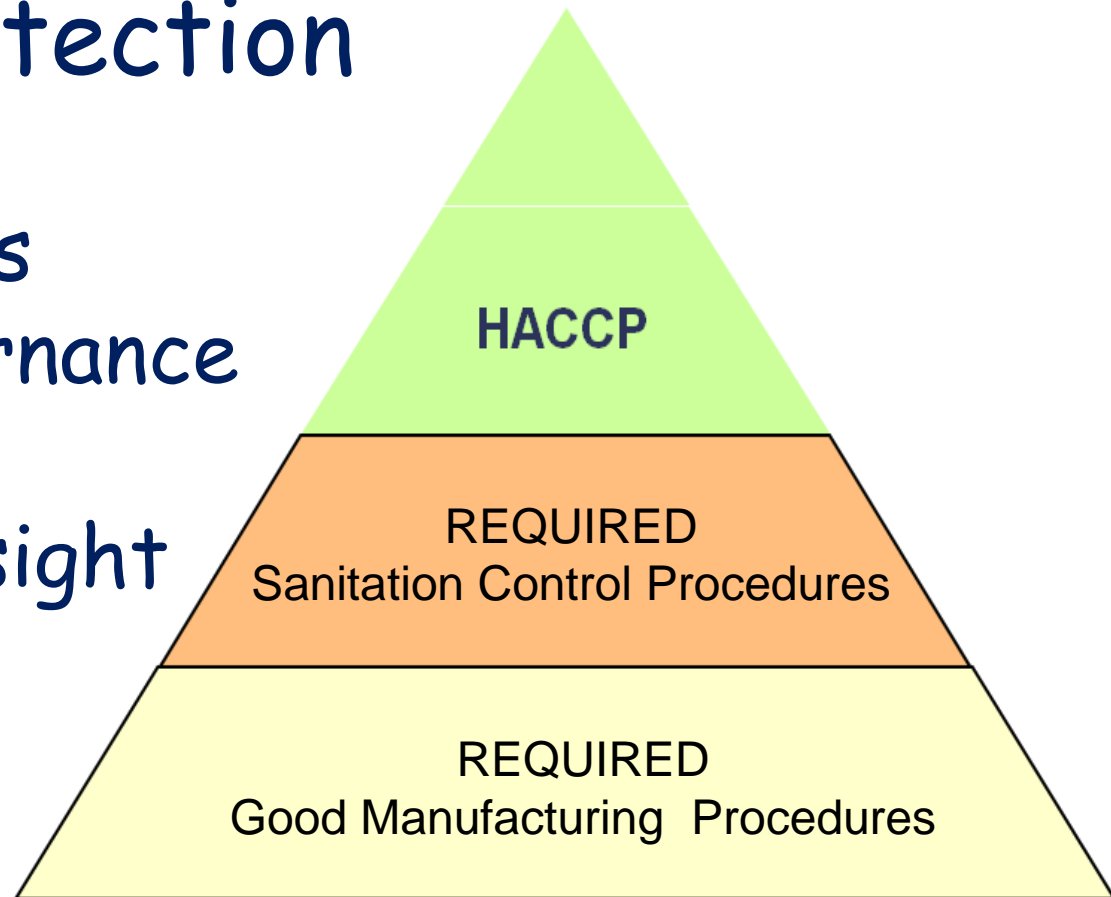
**GAqP's** - Good Aquaculture Practices

**GMP's** - Good Manufacturing Practices

**GTP's** - Good Transportation Practices

# Regulatory Network is 'layered' for prevention rather than sole reliance on detection

Layered mandates  
and layered governance  
by county, state  
and federal oversight



# First USA food industry to implement mandatory **HACCP**

Fish and Fishery Products  
Hazards and Controls Guidance  
Fourth Edition – APRIL 2011

Began in 1996



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE  
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION  
CENTER FOR FOOD SAFETY AND APPLIED NUTRITION  
OFFICE OF FOOD SAFETY

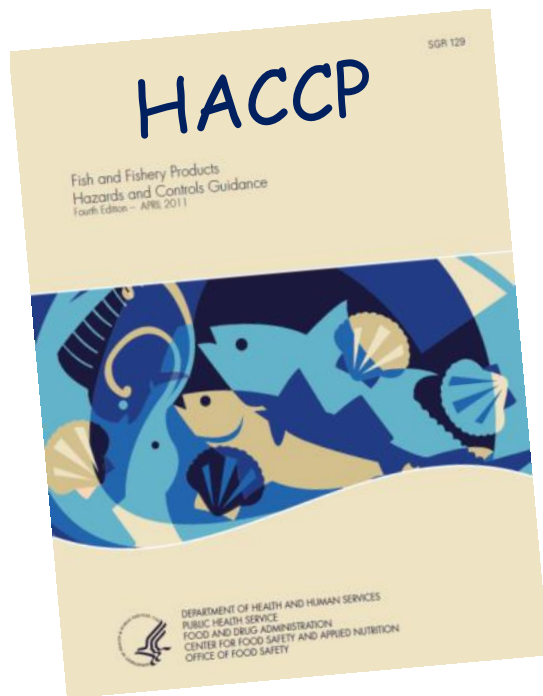
**HA** - Hazard Analysis

**CCP** - Critical Control  
Points

**Mandated for all...**

- Fishery Products
- Processors
- Importers

# Mandate for all processors intending commerce in USA if...

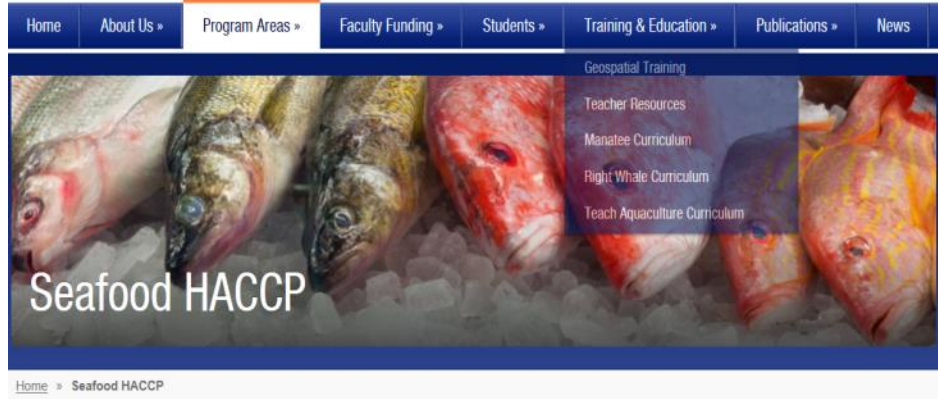
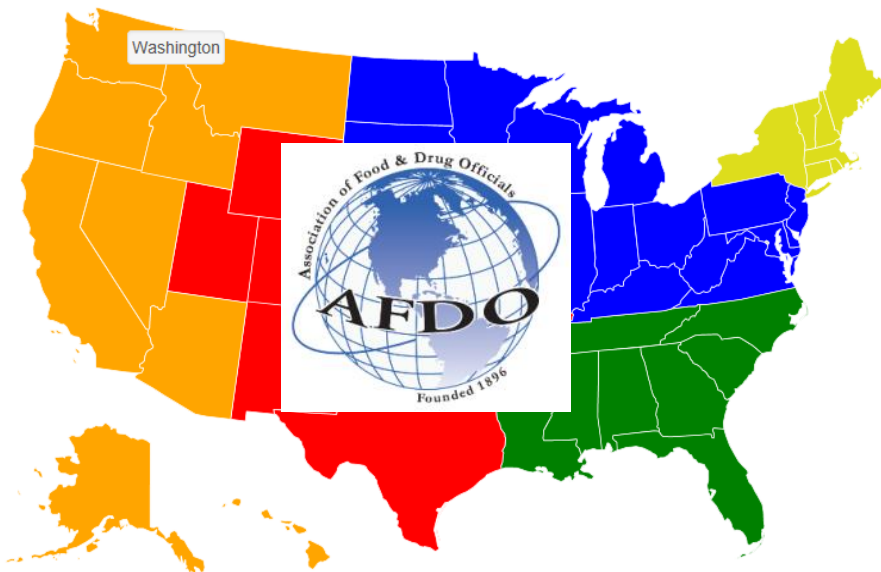


... handling, storing, preparing, heading, eviscerating, shucking, freezing, changing into different market forms, manufacturing, preserving, packing, labeling, dockside unloading or loading.



# Aligned with educational support for national and international commerce in the USA

## Map for Trainers



### Seafood Safety

The U.S. seafood industry faces many challenges – global competition, complex trade policies, strict regulations and a limited seafood supply. Keeping seafood fresh and safe for consumers is a challenging task for importers, wholesalers, restaurants and retailers.



# What's Next ..... HACCP +



## Food Safety Modernization Act

Remains an 'ACT' since signatures in 2011

Actual rules are still pending





# FSMA intends to add more Preventative Controls

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- Accreditation of Third Party Auditors
- Sanitary Transportation of Foods
- Prevention of Intentional Adulteration (i.e., Food Defense)
- Preventive Controls for Animal Food
- Designating High Risk Foods
- Emphasis on Product Traceability



# Seafood Exemptions in FSMA

- Sec. 103. Hazard Analysis and Risk-Based Preventive Controls (HACCP)
  - ...shall not apply to a facility if ...  
required to comply with, and  
**is in compliance** with HACCP
- Sec. 301. Foreign Supplier Verification Prgm.

# What in FSMA Applies to Seafood ?

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- Mandatory facility registration
  - Biennial renewal
- Risk designation for all domestic food firms
  - Risk based resource allocation
- Mandated inspection frequency
  - At least once every 3 years for high-risk facilities
  - At least once every 5 years for non high-risk facilities



# FSMA- Proposed Rule: **Sanitary Transportation** of Human and Animal Foods

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Shippers, carriers by motor vehicle and rail vehicle, and receivers engaged in the transportation of food, ..... to ensure the safety of the food they transport



# USDA's New Farm Raised Catfish Regulation - Domestic & Imports



- **USDA/FSIS:**  
Food Safety  
& Inspection Service
- **CATFISH** currently  
define as  
*Siluriformes*
- **Features**  
**Equivalence**

# USDA's New Farm Raised Catfish Regulation - Domestic & Imports

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- FSIS inspection based on 21 U.S.C. 606—processed products inspection— and other provisions
- Pre-harvest provisions
- Mandatory Sanitation SOPs and HACCP plans
- HACCP plan validation requirement
- Import requirements and other features similar to those for meat and meat food products



# Controls for Persistent Issues

## MERCURY

**Updating Advice on EATING SEAFOOD**  
Steve Ottwell, Florida Sea Grant seafood safety and technology specialist, University of Florida/IFAS Extension

**Sea Grant Florida**

There are no two ways about it—deciding whether or how much seafood to eat can sometimes be confusing. That's because we hear a variety of messages that seem at times to oppose each other. We hear that seafood is good for us, but then we hear reports that seafood has dangerous levels of mercury. This publication will provide an update on this confusing topic in general terms with more current information. No food source is without risks. But this article makes the case that mercury risks can be managed to enable you to obtain the health benefits that seafood can offer and that might be lost if you choose to avoid eating fish. *Note: When the article refers to mercury, it is actually talking about methylmercury, which is the form of concern in fish.*

**What are the potential major benefits from eating seafood?**

Seafood is an excellent, typically low-calorie source of protein and essential nutrients. It also tends to be low in saturated fats (the bad stuff), and many selections are rich in long-chain polyunsaturated fatty acids, also known as the omega-3s (good stuff your doctor tells you to get more of). There is a lot of evidence that eating fish can help prevent cardiovascular disease—in fact, the American Heart Association has recommended for years that we should eat at



*Shrimp is the most popular seafood eaten in the U.S. It makes up over a third of the average person's seafood consumption—and it has a negligible amount of mercury.*

**Do healthy diet guidelines consider mercury in seafood?**

Yes. Every five years the departments of Agriculture (USDA) and Health and Human Services (HHS) issue 'Dietary Guidelines for Americans,' a scientific evidence review that provides information and advice for choosing a healthy eating pattern. The current Dietary Guidelines recommend eating at least 8 and as much as 12 ounces of a variety of fish lower in mercury per week during pregnancy, for the visual and cognitive development of the unborn child. The guidelines further recommend that adults eat 8 ounces per week for heart health. The Dietary Guidelines recommend that at least some of these fish be high in omega-3 fatty acids. These guidelines were developed and issued by national health experts mindful of concerns about mercury in our nation's seafood supply.



*Mercury contamination in seafood is largely misunderstood and often overstated. Eating a variety of fish will help you manage concerns for mercury in your diet.*

Just two servings a week for a healthy heart. Fish eaten during pregnancy has also been associated with proper neurological and eye development in children. Research published in 2012 found that the children of mothers who ate at least two fish servings a week during their pregnancies had a roughly 60 percent lower risk of developing behaviors such as hyperactivity associated with ADHD (attention deficit hyperactivity disorder). There is also evidence that when young children eat fish it improves their cognitive development.

**What are the concerns tied to mercury in seafood?**

Methylmercury, the type of mercury in seafood, can affect the nervous system when the amounts are high enough. The primary concern is for the developing fetus, which has been shown to be more sensitive to methylmercury than adults.

New EPA+FDA advisor regarding methylmercury in seafood aligning with USDA Dietary Guidelines calling for more seafood consumption based of recent risk-benefit assessments



# Controls for Persistent Issues

## MERCURY



*“Eat 8 to 12 ounces of a variety of fish each week from choices that are low in mercury. The nutritional value of fish is important during growth and development before birth, in early infancy for breastfed infants, and in childhood”*

# Controls for Persistent Issues

Historical analytical efforts in terms of details and methodology find no significant food safety concerns with seafood subject to the 2010 oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico



# Who Gets What Fish ?



Recreational

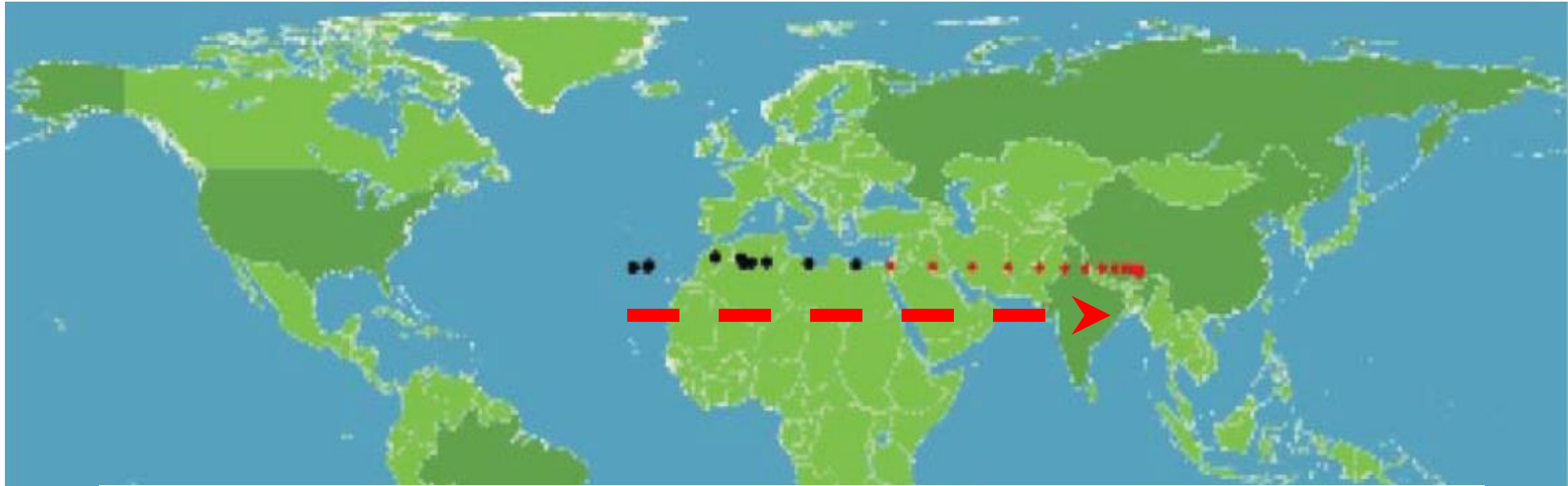


Commercial & Consumers

... a continuing debate



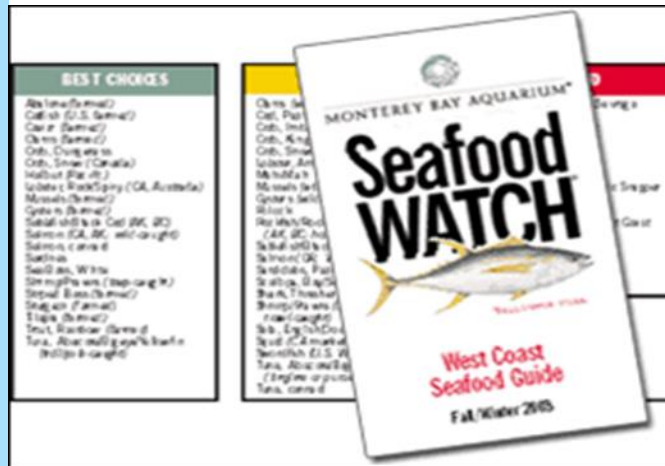
# Shifting Demand & Services



World's Center of Economic Gravity  
is shifting in favor of buying power



# Seafood Choices: Are You Confused ?



# Situation ...

- Education can be an effective approach to ease apprehension and direct choice, but price will remain the dominant driver
- Seafood buyers trust their 'primary provider' more so than an agency or declared certification





# Sustainable ... vs ... Full Utilization

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If controlled to sustain the resource, then don't waste the harvested portion !

Estimates indicate US consumers waste 30-40% of their food supply





# Expect new trends ...

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New product choices vs. traditional expectations

- Mode of introduction (convenience)
- New product forms
- Differences in shelf-life and preparations





*“Seafood, as eaten  
in the USA, is the  
safest and healthiest  
source of muscle  
protein eaten in the  
world !”*

Dr. Steve Otwell  
University of Florida  
4/20/15

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