LOUISIANA FOOD PROCESSORS: Affected by Katrina or Rita?

If your company has been affected by Hurricane Katrina or Rita, the LSU AgCenter food scientists are here to assist you.

If your company was not directly affected by Hurricane Katrina or Rita, but you would like to help those processors who were, please see page 4 for more information.

If you are trying to get your facilities and/or equipment approved to resume operations, contact your regular regulatory authority:

Red Meat and Poultry

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Dr. Alfred Busch
Tech Center
985-878-8167
alfred.busch@fsis.usda.gov

Louisiana Meat Inspection
Henry Baxter
225-922-1358

All food other than red meat and poultry

U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
David LeRay
225-757-7745

Seafood and all foods other than red meats and poultry

Louisiana Department of Health and Human Services (DHH)
David Guilbeau
Lance Broussard
225-763-5467
225-763-5484

If you need specific assistance in the following areas, contact our scientists or experts directly:

Seafood
Jon Bell
225-578-5190
jonbell@agcenter.lsu.edu
Sally Soileau
225-389-3055
SSoileau@agcenter.lsu.edu

Red Meat, Poultry, Retail
Jim Farr
225-578-4482
jfarr@agcenter.lsu.edu
David Bankston
225-578-2907
dbankston@agcenter.lsu.edu

Ken McMillin
225-578-3438
kmcmillin@agcenter.lsu.edu

Dairy
Chuck Boeneke
225-578-4383
cboeneke@agctr.lsu.edu
Kai Aryana
225-578-4380
karayana@agctr.lsu.edu

Fruit/Vegetable
Paul Wilson
225-578-1025
pwwilson@lsu.edu

All other food products
David Bankston
225-578-2907
dbankston@agcenter.lsu.edu

Microbiological Testing
Marlene Janes
225-342-5812 ext 139
mjanes@agcenter.lsu.edu

Any NEWS???

If you have any news, announcements, job postings, suggestions, etc. related to our section, that you would like to include in our newsletter, please see my contact information at the top left corner. We appreciate and value your input!
Greetings from the Chair-Elect

Hello everyone I would like to welcome you to this year’s Gulf Coast IFT Section! Since our last newsletter several of our member’s lives have been devastated by the recent hurricanes. Our hearts and prayers go out to those members who had losses due to hurricane Katrina and Rita. Some of our members will not be able to attend the meetings this year because they have relocated to other states. Several Food Companies located in the Southern portion of Louisiana had to close due to flooding. For those companies who are looking for advice and help with recovery from the hurricanes we have included in this newsletter a list of experts and resources that could help.

Last year’s meetings were very successful, thanks to Jon Bell, we had a tour of Paul Piazza & Sons, Inc. shrimp processing facility and a tour of Celebration Distillation rum distillery. At this year’s meetings we are going to try and encourage more student participation by reducing the cost for the student’s at the meetings and providing transportation to the meetings. Last year we had three student scholarships presented at the annual crawfish boil.

I hope you will all join us for our first meeting this year at the Southern University Ag Center in Baton Rouge on November 10th 2005. Please check the newsletters for more information about the upcoming meetings. We are looking forward to a great year and hope to see you at the section meetings.

Sincerely,
Marlene E. Janes
Chair – Elect

Scholarship Sponsors

We would like to thank our Student Scholarship Sponsors for their continued support:

Central Analytical Laboratories
Tom Quinn & Associates
LA Gulf Coast IFT Section

The IFT Gulf Coast Web site: www.ift.org/sections/gulf/index.htm

Disclaimer

The opinions expressed in this newsletter are the opinions of the contributors and do not necessarily represent the official position of IFT, nor of the Regional Section and should not be interpreted as such.

IFT accepts and adopts the concept of diversity which views society as a mixture of all backgrounds each with a unique contribution. IFT seeks to retain and celebrate individual differences and therefore will not discriminate based on race, color, gender, sexual orientation, age, religion, national origin, disability, or veteran status.
Meeting Notice
Southern University Ag Center
Dinner and Tour/Presentation

Dr. Fatemeh Malekian will lead the tour of the research and extension facilities available at Southern University and Dr. James McNitt will give a presentation titled “Pasture Rearing of Poultry and Rabbits”.

Where: Southern University Ag Center
Ashford O. William Hall
B.A. Little Drive
Baton Rouge, LA 70813
Phone (225) 771-2242
Fax (225) 771-4374

When: Thursday, November 10, 2005
Tour begins at 5:00 pm
Followed by dinner and presentation

Cost:
$25.00 for Members
$12.50 for Student IFT Members
$5.00 for Student Food Science Club Members (discounted price)

Registration and Payment:
Mail: Marlene Janes
(include payment)
LSU Dept Food Science
111 Food Science Bldg
Baton Rouge, LA 70803-4200

Phone/Fax/E-mail: phone (225) 578-2755
fax (225) 578-5300
mjanes@agcenter.lsu.edu
And bring your payment.

Special Note & Thanks:
The Food Science Club is donating $5.00/dinner (for student Food Science Club Members ONLY) to help curtail the cost of the meal.

Directions to Ashford O. Williams Hall from LSU campus
From LSU campus take I-10 to 110 N
Take Exit 8A Left turn on Scenic Highway(See the Highway)
Right turn at Mills Avenue (@Mount Pilgrim Baptist Church on the left side)
(You will cross the railroad track on Southern Campus)
1st Left Turn (You will see the 2 story building)
For Map see http://www.suagcenter.com/directions.html

Registration IS NECESSARY and payment (cash or check) by November 4, 2005 will be GREATLY APPRECIATED! Make check payable to: LA Gulf Coast IFT

Tour and Dinner at Southern University Ag Center
Name: _________________________________
Affiliation: _____________________________
Please reserve _____ Wild Rice Stuffed Chicken dinner(s) OR _____ Fried Fish dinner(s)
Deadline for registration is November 4, 2005.
Our Invited Speakers

James McNitt, Southern AgCenter Professor of Animal Science
“Pasture Rearing of Poultry and Rabbits”, November 10, 2005

Interests: For many years, he has carried out research on production systems for meat rabbits and, within the past 8 years, has expanded his work to include pastured poultry. In addition to many publications in scientific journals, he has produced numerous fact sheets and other informational materials for producers. He is currently developing a pasturing system for rabbits as well as participating in a research program to evaluate the effects of pasturing on the meat of rabbits and the meat and eggs of chickens.

Fatemeh Malekian, Southern AgCenter Associate Professor of Nutrition

Interests: She is Principal Investigator (PI) for Dietary Assessment and Intervention for Katrina Victims Settled in Baker, Louisiana project and Co-PI in the Pasture Rearing of Chicken and Rabbit project. She has published a number of scientific publications, and produced fact sheets and other informational materials.

Next Meetings:

January- Chef John Folse & Company, Donaldsonville, LA
March- Tentative IFT Distinguished Speaker
April- Crawfish Boil, LSU campus

We will have a number of distinguished speakers giving presentations at our meetings.
Processors Helping Processors
For processors who would like to help the Food Industry affected by hurricane Katrina or Rita

Please contact our clearinghouse at 225-578-5207, jking@agcenter.lsu.edu if you have or know of any:

- facilities to lease or purchase for use by a food company
- any willing co-packers and their contact information to work with a food company
- new or used equipment that might be available in the immediate area
- looking for additional employees to work in your food processing company
- looking for food handling and/or sanitation training for new hires in your business

We are trying to help our food processing industry by providing any assistance that we possibly can. If we have not listed any need or concern that you have in regard to food processing, handling, distribution, and safety, please contact our clearinghouse at 225-578-5207 or jking@agcenter.lsu.edu. Please also contact us if you are aware of food processing companies needing our help that may not have received this information about our assistance to the industry.

Technical Guidance Documentation for Slaughter Establishments