



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Department of Public Health
Bureau of Environmental Health
Food Protection Program
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May 8, 2012

To:
Directors of Health Departments
Local Health Inspectors
Industry Partners
Interested Parties

From:
Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Food Protection Program

Re: Removal of all Korean Shellfish Shippers from the Interstate Certified Shellfish Shippers List

The MA Food Protection Program (FPP) received notification from the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) that the country of Korea has been removed from the Interstate Certified Shellfish Shippers List, as of Tuesday, May 1, 2012. All fresh and fresh/frozen shellfish from Korea, regardless of the production date, shall be considered to be an **unapproved source until further notice**. We recommend that existing product be removed from sale, returned or destroyed, and future shipments of Korean product be refused/rejected.

The FDA is currently working with the Korean government to resolve the water quality deficiencies that prompted their removal from the list.

Local health departments that inspect foodservice establishments that currently serve shellfish or have dishes on their menu containing shellfish ingredients should verify the source of such shellfish on site by utilizing the most current Interstate Certified Shellfish Shippers List, which can be found at <http://www.fda.gov/Food/FoodSafety/Product-specificInformation/Seafood/FederalStatePrograms/InterstateShellfishShippersList/default.htm>.

The MA Department of Public Health, Bureau of Environmental Health, Food Protection Program (FPP) is requesting that local inspectors verify removal of Korean shellfish products from the market and witness the destruction of any shellfish originating from Korea if found during routine inspections or site visits. Please notify FPP of the specific product(s) found and destroyed on-site further guidance from FDA related to this recall will be forwarded as received.

Questions and destruction notifications can be sent to Eric Hickey at eric.hickey@state.ma.us.

Questions regarding this notification may also be directed to the FPP at (617) 983-6712.