

# **USDA Meat Animal Research and FREMONTA Corp.**

## **RENEW CRADA in 2018**

### **Clay Center, Ne-November 20, 2018**

The USDA Agricultural Research Service and FREMONTA Corp. signed a renewed and updated Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA). It continues the partnership between the USDA Meat Animal Research Center and FREMONTA Corp. to develop and commercialize dramatically improved and more representative beef trim sampling methods. The research conducted by Dr. Wheeler and Dr. Arthur, two USDA/ARS Scientists, resulted in the development of Manual Sampling Devise (MSD) and Continuous Sampling Devise (CSD) beef trim sampling methods. These two sampling methods were granted a No Objection Letter by USDA/FSIS for sampling beef trim combos for pathogen testing. The new CRADA, extending through Oct. 31, 2021, expands and broadens the focus of the original agreement.

There are four major objectives of the new expanded CRADA:

1. To establish the ability of N60, N60+ and CSD/MSD methods to detect low inoculation levels of *E.coli* and to establish their lower limits of detection in beef trim.
2. To integrate CSD, MSD and the newly developed mobile Continuous Sampling Devise or mCSD by collecting data in commercial settings and extending their applications
3. To determine if the time-consuming enrichment step required for analysis of product for bacterial contamination can be eliminated in exchange for speed of testing and the larger effective sample size.
4. To collect data to determine and characterize the effectiveness of CSD and MSD sampling for both beef trim and other products.

Both USDA ARS and FREMONTA Corp. are committed to enhanced food safety through improved sampling techniques. These improved techniques are more representative, effective and efficient than the current industry standard. The results of our cooperative efforts will benefit all Food Safety Quality Assurance industry wide.

#### **FREMONTA Corp. - Advancing Testing Technology**

FREMONTA is an independent Corporation created to bring the latest advancements in sampling and analysis technology to the Food Processing Industry. Partnering with USDA Meat Animal Research Scientist and Food Industry Leaders, FREMONTA is producing and delivering the latest testing methodology and sampling devises to the market. FREMONTA's mission is to provide the most effective sampling techniques that guarantee the most comprehensive and accurate results. FREMONTA is a US company producing sampling devises and analysis equipment in the United States.

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