

**United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Library - Food Safety Information Center**

**Food Safety Research Web site Feedback**

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 5 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. **An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.** Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to: NAL, Information Services Division, 10301 Baltimore Ave., Beltsville, MD 20705-2351, ATTN:20705-2351, ATTN: PRA (0518-0040) John Gladstone. Do not return the completed form to this address.

**INTRODUCTION**

The Food Safety Information Center (FSIC) at the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National Agricultural Library (NAL) advances access to global information to educators, consumers, and the general public as it relates to food safety.

FSIC includes the Food Safety Research Information Office (FSRIO) created by the United States Congress to support the food safety research community. The Office provides the research community and the general public information on publicly funded, and to the extent possible, privately funded food safety research initiatives for the purpose of

- a) preventing unintended duplication of food safety research;  
and
- b) assisting the executive and legislative branches of the Government and private research entities to assess food safety research needs and priorities.

FSRIO was launched by the [USDA Secretary on July 6, 2001](#) with a Web site featuring a unique Research Projects Database. It also provides free reference service to people interested in food safety research.

**PURPOSE**

The online information products found within the FSRIO Web site are being evaluated to determine their appropriateness and ability to meet the growing information needs of the food safety community. To provide a more structured testing of the food safety information products, we have prepared the following questions.

It is expected that the survey will take approximately 5 minutes.

**SECTION A:**

**SURVEY PARTICIPANTS – TECHNICAL/INFORMATION SKILLS**

Please answer the following general questions before proceeding.

*Programmer: use radio buttons as much as possible and toggle based on their responses to speed the process*

1. Excluding e-mail, how many hours per week do you spend on the Internet browsing sites on the Web or searching for information? Consider both work-related and personal use.  
\_\_\_\_\_ 1 to 5 hours

- 5 to 10 hours
- 10 to 20 hours
- More than 20 hours

**SECTION B:  
SURVEY PARTICIPANTS – JOB FUNCTION**

1. Which organization are you affiliated with? Please select one.
  - Federal Government
  - State and local government
  - University and/or Community College
  - K-12
  - Agribusiness or related industry
  - Foodservice/Retail or related industry
  - Hospital/Healthcare or related industry
  - Other, please specify
  
2. What is your primary function at the organization listed above?
  - Research Scientist (reviews Database)
  - Educator/Trainer/Extension Agent (reviews Fact sheet)
  - Legislator/Policymaker (reviews Database)
  - Information Profession/Librarian/Media
  - Consumer (reviews Fact sheet)
  - Program Leader/Director (reviews Fact sheet)
  - Foodservice/Chef (reviews Fact sheet)
  - Epidemiologist (reviews Database)
  - Environmental Health Specialist/Regulator/Inspector (reviews Fact sheet)
  - Dietician/ Health Clinician (reviews Resource List)
  - Student (reviews Resource List)
  - Consultant (reviews Resource List)
  - Other

*Programmer: Based on the primary job function, the person should comment on specific FSRIIO online information as noted next to the job category.*

**SECTION C:  
SOURCES OF INFORMATION**

1. When seeking food safety information, which types/sources of information do you use most frequently? (1 being Least Frequently and 5 being Most Frequently)

Academic Journals					
	1	2	3	4	5
Books					
	1	2	3	4	5
County Extension Agent					
	1	2	3	4	5
Web sites					
	1	2	3	4	5
Email discussion groups					
	1	2	3	4	5

Hotlines or other expert systems	1	2	3	4	5
Magazines	1	2	3	4	5
Newspapers	1	2	3	4	5
Personal Contacts	1	2	3	4	5
Other	1	2	3	4	5

2. When seeking food safety information on the Internet, which web site(s) do you visit? (1 being Least Frequently and 5 being Most Frequently)

Centers for Disease Control (CDC)	1	2	3	4	5
Commercial or Industry	1	2	3	4	5
Food and Drug Administration (FDA)	1	2	3	4	5
Food Safety Research Information Office (FSRIO)	1	2	3	4	5
Foodsafety.gov	1	2	3	4	5
National Agricultural Library (NAL)	1	2	3	4	5
National Library of Medicine (NLM)	1	2	3	4	5
Other Government agencies	1	2	3	4	5
University and Cooperative Extension Service	1	2	3	4	5
United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)	1	2	3	4	5

Other Web site? Please list.

*Programmer Note: If user responds with #4 or 5, then display the following question – with the exception of the FSRIIO web site.*

2. How often do you visit these web sites?

- \_\_\_\_\_ Daily
- \_\_\_\_\_ Weekly
- \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly
- \_\_\_\_\_ Less frequently than monthly

*Programmer: Display next question if answer is daily, weekly, monthly – display.*

Please explain why you visit these web sites frequently?

**SECTION D:**

**EXPERIENCE with FSRIO WEB SITE**

1. On average, in the past 6 months, how many times have you used the FSRIO Web site to help you obtain information? Select only one.
  - Daily
  - Several times a week
  - Once a month
  - Less then once a month
  - Have not used in the past six months
  
2. How did you first hear about FSRIO?
  - Conference/Meeting (please list)
  - Search engine (Google, Yahoo, etc.)
  - Email discussion Group (please list)
  - Word of Mouth
  - Marketing materials
  - Librarian/information specialist referred it
  - Other web sites (please list)
  - Do not remember
  - Other (please explain)

*Programmer: Display next question if answer is less then once a month/past 6 months)?*

3. Why do you **not** use the FSRIO Web site frequently?
  - It does not have the information I need
  - Not user friendly/difficult to use
  - Did not know it existed prior to this survey
  - I rely on other food safety web sites
  - I use the results given by a Search Engine
  - Don't know
  - Other (please explain)

*Programmer: Display a screen with the option to select one of FSRIO's online information products using a radio button scheme as shown in Section E, F, and G) based on the input received on their job description.*

**SECTION E:**

**WEB SITE CONTENT (RESOURCE LISTS)**

1. The FSRIO web site is a gateway to online information. Each web page provided contains a list of Web sites evaluated by staff and chosen as the "best of the best" on a specific subject. Select a topic of interest and review the information provided on the web page. Links will open in the same **NEW** window.

[Avian Influenza](#)

2. Based on the topic you selected, please rate the web page in general terms (1 being poor and 5 being very good).

Accuracy of information

1                      2                      3                      4                      5

User friendliness

	1	2	3	4	5
Ease of finding information					
	1	2	3	4	5
Comprehensiveness					
	1	2	3	4	5
Reliability					
	1	2	3	4	5
Usefulness					
	1	2	3	4	5
Timeliness					
	1	2	3	4	5

If you designated below a 3 (i.e. 1 or 2) for any of the above choices, please explain why.  
*Programmer: Display the rating options that scored # 1 or #2 again so the user can explain why.*

3. I would use the web page I reviewed or a similar web page on another topic in the future and/or recommend it to others.
- Strongly Agree      Agree      Indifferent      Disagree      Strongly Disagree
4. Who do you consider to be the target audience(s) for the web page you viewed? Choose as many as you wish, but number them in order (1 being the main target audience 10 being the least target audience).
- \_\_\_\_\_ High school Students
  - \_\_\_\_\_ College level Students
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Graduate level Students
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Scientists/Researchers
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Consumers
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Educators (professors/teachers)
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Extension agents
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Environmental Health Specialist/Regulator/Inspector
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Dietician/Health Clinician
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Information Professional/ Librarian/ Media
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Food Service Worker/Chef
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Legislator/Policy maker
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Consultant
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Other

## **SECTION F: RESEARCH PROJECTS DATABASE**

The FSRIIO Research Projects Database provides a summary of food safety research projects funded by a variety of organizations, including U.S. and international government agencies when available. We ask that you perform a [search in the Database](#) which will open in a new window.

1. Please let us know what search criteria you selected.

*Programmer: list the search options available in the database so they can quickly input the criteria that was used.*

2. Please rate the Research Projects Database based on what you reviewed today (1 being poor and 5 being very good).

Accuracy of information	1	2	3	4	5
Usefulness (in terms of helping you perform your job)	1	2	3	4	5
Design/Format	1	2	3	4	5

If you designated below a 3 (i.e. 1 or 2) for any of the above choices, please explain why.  
*Programmer: Display the rating options that scored # 1 or #2 again so the user can explain why.*

3. Who do you consider to be the target audience(s) for the database? Choose as many as you wish, but number them in order (1 being the main target audience 10 being the least target audience).

- \_\_\_\_\_ High school Students
- \_\_\_\_\_ College level Students
- \_\_\_\_\_ Graduate level Students
- \_\_\_\_\_ Scientists/Researchers
- \_\_\_\_\_ Consumers
- \_\_\_\_\_ Educators (professors/teachers)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Extension agents
- \_\_\_\_\_ Environmental Health Specialist/Regulator/Inspector
- \_\_\_\_\_ Dietician/Health Clinician
- \_\_\_\_\_ Information Professional/ Librarian/ Media
- \_\_\_\_\_ Food Service Worker/Chef
- \_\_\_\_\_ Legislator/ Policymaker
- \_\_\_\_\_ Consultant
- \_\_\_\_\_ Other

4. On average, in the past 12 months, how many times have you used the FSRIO Research Projects Database? Select only one.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Today for the survey
- \_\_\_\_\_ Daily
- \_\_\_\_\_ Weekly
- \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly
- \_\_\_\_\_ Used in the past six months
- \_\_\_\_\_ Yearly
- \_\_\_\_\_ Have not used in the past year

5. I intend to use the Research Projects Database featured in the FSRIO Web site in the future and/or recommend it to others.

Strongly Agree      Agree      Indifferent      Disagree      Strongly Disagree

Please explain your answer.

## SECTION G:

### Fact sheets

The fact sheets developed by FSRIO provide an analysis of a specific topic by describing current research activities, providing background information on the topic and other relevant information. Please select a fact sheet and review before answering the following questions.

Avian Influenza or BSE

1. Please rate the fact sheet in terms of length.  
Too Long      Somewhat Long      Just Right      Somewhat Short      Too Short

2. Please rate the fact sheet in terms of currency.  
Very Current      Current      Outdated

3. Please rate the fact sheet in general terms (1 being poor and 5 being very good).

Accuracy of information

1                      2                      3                      4                      5

Comprehensiveness

1                      2                      3                      4                      5

Usefulness

1                      2                      3                      4                      5

Design/Format

1                      2                      3                      4                      5

If you rate below a 3 for any of the above choices, please explain why.

4. Who do you consider to be the primary target audience for the fact sheet? \_\_\_\_\_

College level students

\_\_\_\_\_ High school Students

\_\_\_\_\_ College level Students

\_\_\_\_\_ Graduate level Students

\_\_\_\_\_ Scientists/Researchers

\_\_\_\_\_ Consumers

\_\_\_\_\_ Educators (professors/teachers)

\_\_\_\_\_ Extension agents

\_\_\_\_\_ Environmental Health Specialist/Regulator/Inspector

\_\_\_\_\_ Dietician/Health Clinician

\_\_\_\_\_ Information Professional/ Librarian/ Media

\_\_\_\_\_ Food Service Worker/Chef

\_\_\_\_\_ Legislator/ Policymaker

\_\_\_\_\_ Consultant

\_\_\_\_\_ Other

5. On average, in the past six months, how many times have you used the FSRIO fact sheets? Select only one.

\_\_\_\_\_ Today

\_\_\_\_\_ Weekly

\_\_\_\_\_ Monthly

\_\_\_\_\_ Less than Monthly

\_\_\_\_\_ Have not used in the past six months

6. I intend to use the Research Projects Database featured in the FSRIO Web site in the future and/or recommend it to others.

Strongly Agree

Agree

Indifferent

Disagree

Strongly Disagree

Please explain your answer.

**SECTION H:  
IMPROVEMENTS/POTENTIAL SERVICES**

1. What improvements do you suggest be made to the FSRIO Web site?  
Please rate the top 3 in each list. (1 being least desired and 3 being most desired).

Broader Access to Content

- \_\_\_\_\_ Digitize historical food safety related information
- \_\_\_\_\_ Provide access to scientific journals
- \_\_\_\_\_ Provide access to grey literature (conference proceedings and etc.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Translate web site and information products to other language

Technology

- \_\_\_\_\_ Offer chat environment for collaboration
- \_\_\_\_\_ Provide an alerts service with What's New in program/web site
- \_\_\_\_\_ Host web conferences
- \_\_\_\_\_ Provide environment for video/audio sharing
- \_\_\_\_\_ Host and manage electronic discussion groups
- \_\_\_\_\_ Integrate food safety data with maps using GIS technology and other visualization technologies
- \_\_\_\_\_ Develop on-line interactive learning modules
- \_\_\_\_\_ Develop more news feeds on emerging food safety topics

- \_\_\_\_\_ No other services/products are needed
- \_\_\_\_\_ Other, please specify