

# Minnesota State Meat Inspection Survey

## Appendix D-2

**Final Results: 17 responses/27 surveys = 63.0%**

1. Please tell us about your facility and your operations:

a. How old is your facility? \_\_\_\_\_ years

**Minimum: 2                      Maximum: 63                      Average: 19.8**

b. How long has your plant operated under state inspection? \_\_\_\_\_ years

**Minimum: 0                      Maximum: 3                      Average: 1.5**

c. Have there been any major upgrades or repairs made to the facility?    yes: **7**                      no: **6**

d. If so, what upgrades were made and in what year? \_\_\_\_\_

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2. What was your plant/operation before becoming state-inspected under the "equal to" program?

a. Custom-                      b. Federal                      c. has always been                      d. other: **3**  
exempt: **9**                      plant: **1**                      state-inspected: **0**

3. Which of the following types of slaughter do you do? (Circle all that apply.)

- a. **64.3%:** slaughter under state inspection (state inspector present for ante- and post-mortem inspections)
- b. **64.3%:** custom-exempt slaughter and processing (product is returned to the owner for his/her own household consumption)
- c. **50.0%:** slaughter and processing of non-amenable (exotic) species or wild game (bison, ostrich, deer, etc.)
- d. **28.6%:** my operation is only processing; there is no slaughter that takes place at my facility.

4. Which of the following types of products are produced at your facility? (Circle all that apply.)

- a. **100.0%:** single-ingredient products (cuts of meat, hamburger, etc.)
- b. **92.9%:** uncooked multi-ingredient products (sausage, etc.)
- c. **92.9%:** ready-to-eat products (cured or smoked meats, jerky, hot dogs, cold cuts, etc.)

Additional information about the products you make: \_\_\_\_\_

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5. Do you process any products that are marketed under a brand name or a label?    yes: **10**    no: **4**

If yes, please circle the option(s) that describe your affiliation with the brand or labeled product:

- a. **71.4%:** I process products under my own label which I market directly to the public
- b. **50.0%:** I process products under my own label which I sell at wholesale
- c. **28.6%:** I am hired to do the processing for products others market under their own label
- d. **7.1%:** I process products specifically requested by stores or restaurants

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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6. How many full-time workers, including yourself and family members, did you employ in the past year? \_\_\_\_\_

**Minimum: 2                      Maximum: 9                      Average: 5.3**

How many part-time workers, including yourself and family members, did you employ in the past year? \_\_\_\_\_

**Minimum: 1                      Maximum: 11                      Average: 4.2**

What was the average hourly wage for your workers in 2000? \_\_\_\_\_

**Minimum: \$8                      Maximum: \$13                      Average: \$9.85**

7. Do you foresee your business getting larger, smaller, or staying about the same over the next five years?

**Larger: 7**

**Smaller: 0**

**Same: 6**

Why? \_\_\_\_\_

8. Where do your products go when they leave your facility? (Please provide year-end estimates for 2000.)

**(data inconclusive)**

	total volume (lbs.)	total sales (\$)
a. other state facilities for further processing:	_____ lbs.	\$ _____
b. custom/retail-exempt facilities for processing or retail:	_____ lbs.	\$ _____
c. directly to individuals or households:	_____ lbs.	\$ _____
d. churches, schools, halls, clubs, or organizations:	_____ lbs.	\$ _____
e. restaurants:	_____ lbs.	\$ _____
f. grocery stores, convenience stores or other retail:	_____ lbs.	\$ _____
g. other: _____	_____ lbs.	\$ _____
h. Overall Volume and Sales for 2000:	_____ lbs.	\$ _____

9. Small to medium-sized plant owners in Nebraska are interested in learning about how their peers in other states dispose of their inedible byproducts, such as intestines, hides, etc.

a. What arrangements do you currently have for selling/disposing of inedible byproducts?

**(answers varied)**

b. How do you feel about these arrangements? What changes, if any, would you like to see?

**(answers varied)**

10. Why have you not pursued federal inspection in order to ship interstate? (Circle all that apply)

- a. **50.0%:** I am not interested in shipping products interstate
- b. **35.7%:** I would have more rules to worry about under Federal inspection
- c. **35.7%:** I would rather work with state employees/inspectors than with Federal employees/inspectors
- d. **7.1%:** I don't have enough information on how to go about becoming a Federal plant
- e. **14.3%:** I am in the process of seeking Federal inspection
- f. **21.4%:** I would have to make changes to my facility or equipment before going under Federal inspection (please describe the changes and what you estimate they would cost):  
\_\_\_\_\_

g. **7.1%:** I would have to change my normal operating procedures in order to be Federally inspected (describe): \_\_\_\_\_

h. **14.3%:** Other: \_\_\_\_\_

11. As you know, state-inspected plants are currently not allowed to ship their products across of state lines. However, there is an ongoing discussion about the possibility of changing this law to allow interstate shipment of state-inspected products.

a. In your opinion, what is the likelihood that this change will occur in the next 5 years?

Very unlikely	unlikely	it depends/don't know	likely	very likely
<b>14.3%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>14.3%</b>	<b>35.7%</b>	<b>28.6%</b>

b. What effect (if any) would this change have on your business? \_\_\_\_\_

12. Is there any additional information you feel we should know about your operation in particular, or about state meat inspection generally? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. Please return it by **January 20, 2001** in the enclosed postage-paid envelope, or fax your completed survey to: 402-472-5679.*

*If you have any questions about this survey, please contact:  
Kara Slaughter, 402-472-1191, ext. 2*

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The address below is the one that we will use to send you a copy of the survey results. Please verify this mailing address and make any necessary corrections or updates.

(Please note: the lower portion of this page will be removed once we receive your survey. At no time will your name or other identifying information be reported with your responses or any survey results.)

[Plant Name and Address]