Dixie Poultry, Hogs Reported Free of Taint

By The Associated Press

Analysis of more than 400 samples of slaughtered poultry and hogs from Southern states revealed no dangerous levels of an industrial chemical called PCBS, the U.S. Department of Agriculture reported Monday.

The tests were made after the discovery that fish meal, an ingredient in poultry and livestock feed, had been contaminated by PCBS (polychlorinated biphenyls) at a Wilmington, N.C., firm.

The U.S. Consumer and Marketing Service will continue to monitor poultry production involving breeder and layer fowl and turkey flocks, the USDA announced.

Abit Massey, executive director of the Georgia Poultry Federation, said earlier that 11 plants in north Georgia were included in the search for possibly contaminated broiler chickens.

He said there was no danger of human consumption of contaminated chickens, since the plants were notified not to use the fish meal.

The Food and Drug Administration has established a tolerance level for PCBS in poultry meat. None of the poultry slaughtered and analyzed so far has contained PCBS in excess of acceptable levels, the USDA report said.

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