3717-1-08.4 Special requirements: acidified white rice preparation criteria.

A retail food establishment or food service operation that acidifies white rice for the purpose of rendering it a non-time/temperature controlled for safety food shall to meet the applicable requirements of this chapter and shall have a HACCP plan that includes:

- (A) A description of the products produced;
- (B) A recipe for the production of the acidified rice that specifies:
 - (1) The water to rice ratio prior to cooking, and the cooking schedule;
 - (2) The vinegar solution recipe including salts and sugars;
 - (3) The cooked rice to vinegar solution ratio that is to be thoroughly mixed to acidify the rice;
 - (4) The cooked and acidified rice shall is to have a targeted pH of 4.1, not to exceed a pH of below 4.34.2; and
 - (5) The vinegar solution shall is to be added to the rice within thirty minutes of cooking.
- (C) The method used to determine the pH of the cooked, acidified rice that includes the following:
 - (1) Conducting the pH test within thirty minutes after acidification of the cooked rice and as often as necessary to assure a targeted pH of 4.1, not to exceed a pH of below 4.34.2;
 - (2) Making a rice slurry by gathering a one-quarter cup sample of the cooked acidified rice taken from various locations in the batch and add three-quarter cup of adding enough distilled water in a clear plastic or metal blend cup to submerge the rice sample:
 - (3) Blending the slurry for approximately twenty seconds to create a thorough mix:
 - (4) Inserting a pH probe into the liquid portion of the slurry to ensure a pH of below 4.34.2 or less is achieved; and
 - (5) Recording of measurements.
- (D) Standard sanitary operation procedures that:

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(1) Require Ensure the use of single-use gloves as specified in paragraph (N) of rule 3717-1-03.2 of the Administrative Code to prevent contacting the food with bare hands;

- (2) Identify a designated work area that includes a dedicated sink and preparation table, and the method by which:
 - (a) Access to the processing equipment is restricted to responsible trained personnel familiar with the potential hazards of the operation; and
 - (b) Food-contact surfaces are cleaned as specified in rule 3717-1-04.5 of the Administrative Code and sanitized as specified in rule 3717-1-04.6 of the Administrative Code; or
 - (c) If it is necessary to share workspace and facilities, a schedule of operations, personnel traffic, product traffic, and cleaning that is planned to prevent cross contamination of ready-to-eat sushi products.
- (E) A description of the training program that ensures that the individual responsible for the acidified rice operation understands the:
 - (1) Application of HACCP principles to the processing of acidified rice;
 - (2) Maintenance of pH records and the verification of procedures specified in this rule;
 - (3) Maintenance of equipment and facilities; and
 - (4) Procedures specified under this rule.

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