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CHALLENGES IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SELF-CONTROL PLAN IN SMALL AND MEDIUM SIZE SLAUGHTERHOUSE

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Abstract: The self-control programs (PAC) are currently the main tool of the agroindustry in the control of the manufacturing processes, aiming to guarantee the quality and safety of the food produced. Since 2005, with the publication of circulars n° 175 and 176 in Brazil, the evaluation of the implementation and execution, by the inspected industry, of the so-called PACs, whose modern legislation aimed at food sanitary control, treat these programs as requirements essential for guaranteeing the safety of products. And before that, through a literature review and guiding legislation, this work aimed to present the main challenges faced by small and medium-sized meatpacking companies in the implementation of PACs. It is concluded that, for the effective implementation of these programs, the actions must be promoted for the awareness and effective participation of the agribusiness leaders regarding their importance.

Keywords: Self-control programs; Agribusiness; Hygiene; Inspection; Food Safety.

INTRODUCTION

To ensure that meat and its derivatives reach the consumer without presenting dangers to public health, strict control is required throughout the production chain until it reaches the consumer.

As a result, the Department of Inspection of Products of Animal Origin – DIPOA – opted for a sanitary inspection model based on what is currently called process control. In summary, this procedure is based on the continuous and systematic inspection of all factors that may interfere with the hygienic-sanitary quality of products exposed to the population's consumption (BRASIL, 2005a). Since 2005, with the publication of Circulars No. 175 (BRASIL, 2005a) and 176 (BRASIL, 2005b), the evaluation of the implementation and execution, by the inspected industry, of the so-called self-control programs (PAC), whose Modern legislation aimed at the sanitary control of food treats these programs as basic requirements to guarantee the safety of products. Later, in 2017, these circulars were revoked, and the Ministry of Agriculture's DIPOA/SDA No. inspection and inspection, for official verification of self-controls implemented by establishments of products of animal origin registered (SIF) or related (ER) with the DIPOA/SDA, as well as the procedures.

According to Bueno et al. (2007), the meat market in Brazil and in the world is increasingly competitive and complex, and in this scenario, the small Brazilian producer is still responsible for much of the supply to the domestic market (TENÓRIO, 2011), whose industries are responsible for for this production are mainly small and medium-sized companies, usually inspected by municipal and state inspection services, representing more than half of the country's meatpacking industries (BRAZIL, 2021).

In this context, this work aims to address the quality control tools applied to the refrigeration industries, presenting the main challenges faced by small and medium-sized companies, mainly in the implementation and implementation of self-control programs.

METHODOLOGY

A bibliographic review was carried out based on research in academic articles, researched in conference proceedings, academic google and scielo, where the following terms were searched: "Quality management"; "PAC"; "self-control programs"; "Hygienic-sanitary quality"; "Inspection Elements"; "Meat quality", "Hygiene", "Food safety". A review of the Brazilian legislation guiding and regulating the implementation and implementation

of self-control programs was also carried out, since 2005, when the verification of the programs was instituted.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The application and integration of quality tools is a matter of commitment and awareness of all links involved in the production chain up to food distribution. In Brazil, bodies such as the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply (MAPA) and the Ministry of Health (MS), through specific legislation, stimulated the search for safety in food manufacturing, requiring industries to standardize their processes with the implementation of self-control programs (PAC) (ARAUJO; RECKZIGEL; KLINDLEIN, 2010).

The official verification of the implementation and maintenance of PACs is based on the inspection of the process and on the review of records generated in all sectors of the industry by the inspection service (PEREIRA et al. 2014). For this, it is essential that inspectors know the programs written by the companies and carry out on-site verifications, as outlined in Figure 1, and documentary, through the verification of documents and records that support the PACs. All these checks generate a lot of paper, but it is the most efficient way, so far, to guarantee that the products reach the consumer's table with quality.

According to Araujo et al. (2010), the PACs are essential for controlling the product elaboration process, since through monitoring and verification of all points likely to cause contamination in the raw material or finished product, it is possible to prevent and correct deviations that will inevitably end up leading to contamination of the final product. In the absence of the application of these programs, it becomes unfeasible to control the process and correct important failures.

Small Brazilian companies have a series of organizational deficiencies, which originate from the characteristics with which they were conceived. In general, they are managed by the owner, who most often ends up committing the first sin against the principle of participatory management, which leads to a tendency towards conservatism and individualism (PANIGAS; RUAS, 1998).

According to Castro (2008), small companies constitute a universe of approximately 4.5 million units in Brazil, however, the number of small and medium-sized companies that implement quality systems is still very small, given the importance and quantity of these companies. in the country. In most small companies, there is still a lack of information regarding the objective and advantages of implementing such systems, in addition to the fact that many of them are developed for larger organizations with high technological content, making their application difficult. According to Souza et al. (2013), the programs require structural and mainly behavioral changes, and the commitment of the direction with the necessary resources for its implementation is of fundamental importance.

In view of this, the first problem arises, because with the predominance of the lack of information on the advantages and importance of the implementation of PACs and quality systems, it decentralizes the commitment of the direction of small companies, making their application even more difficult.

Another difficulty pointed out, according to Panigas; Ruas (1998) and Souza et al. (2013), is that many of the food handlers lack knowledge regarding the hygienic-sanitary care that must be followed in the preparation of the product due to the low level of education. As a result, there are inadequate
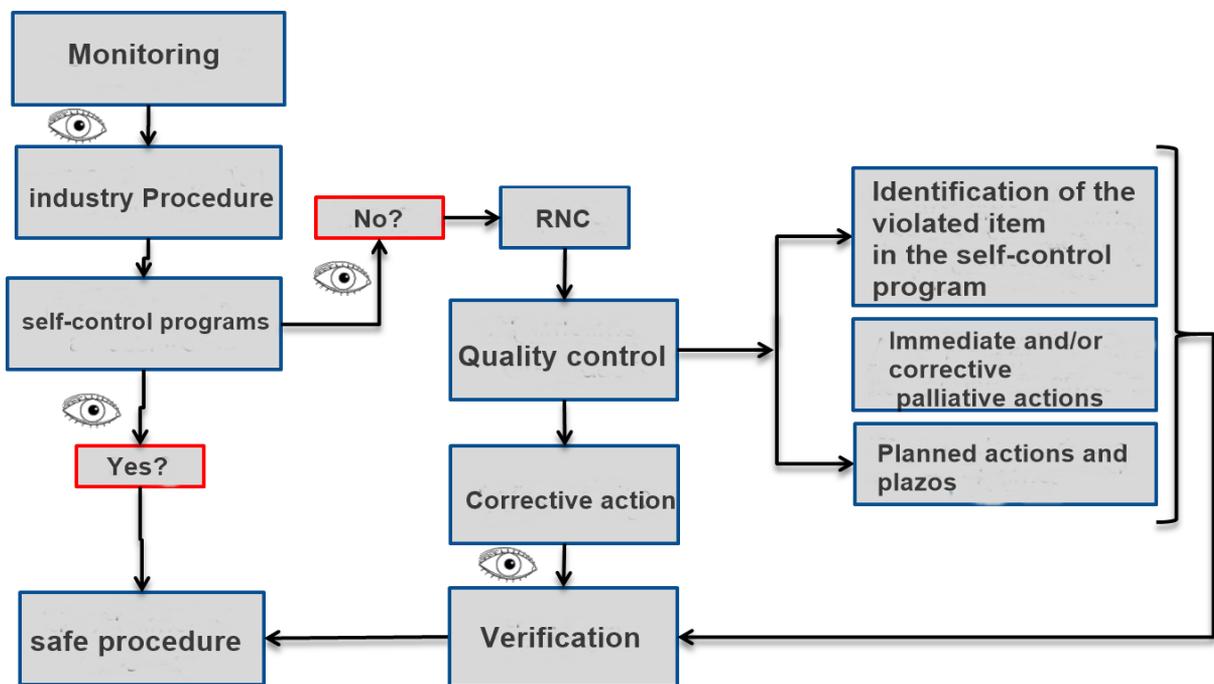
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Figure 1 - Schematic of on-site (on-site) verification of self-control programs.

hygiene practices and processing carried out by people without training, which can lead to food contamination.

This situation leads to the third challenge, since there are generally no training courses available or accessible to small companies, or qualified labor is expensive for some establishments to invest in updating their employees, thus creating a third problem.

It is important for the company to create a continuous process of challenges in search of improvement (PEREIRA et al., 2014), based on real and objective data that help to see the difficulties and prevent them from making the mistake of delegating important issues in the implementation of programs of quality (PANIGAS; RUAS, 1998)

CONCLUSIONS

For the effective implementation of PACs, small companies face difficulties that

limit their perspectives: lack of information regarding the objective and advantages of implementing such systems, as well as difficulties in their application; employees with low professional qualifications or formal education; unavailability of training courses or training accessible to small companies, expensive qualified labor for training their employees; and lack of commitment from industry owners. Therefore, in the present scenario, there is a need to create policies that make companies aware of the importance of PACs and actions that enable the training of owners and labor for their implementation, thus aiming to guarantee food safety for consumers. .

AUTHORIZATIONS/ RECOGNITION

The authors are responsible for the entire content of the work.

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