



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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USE OF FISH IN SCHOOL HOT LUNCH PROGRAMS TO BE DEMONSTRATED

A series of fish cookery demonstrations, designed to increase fish consumption in school lunch programs and show better methods of fish preparation, will be held this fall in Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Mississippi by home economists and fishery marketing experts of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Department of the Interior has announced.

Working in cooperation with state boards of education and the state supervisors of the school hot lunch programs, the Fish and Wildlife Service home economists and marketing experts will demonstrate different methods of preparing fish and will talk on local fish marketing conditions and problems of supply. About 20 demonstrations are planned in Mississippi, beginning in early October, and eight in Rhode Island, also in October. The group plans 10 or 12 demonstrations in Connecticut during November.

In the demonstrations, the home economists make use of local species of fish — when available. The fishery marketing experts, having previously surveyed the area, describe the fish which are available, discuss prices, markets, and other problems of distribution, and act as expeditors between producers, local markets, and the schools which purchase the fish.

School lunch demonstrations in California, where work has been done for two years, will continue this fall — centering in the Los Angeles area. The group will hold several demonstrations in the San Francisco area after the first of the year.

Following demonstrations in Virginia schools last year, the use of fish in a sample survey of 126 schools indicated an increase of more than 100 percent. Similar results were noted in Georgia, Massachusetts, North Carolina and California. Occasional demonstrations also were held last year in Maryland, Florida, Tennessee, Mississippi and Washington.

The Service's new film on the use of fish in the school lunch program, Food for Thought, will be shown in conjunction with this year's demonstrations. The 16 mm sound and color movie will be available for general distribution to the public after July 1. Requests for bookings should be addressed to the Branch of Commercial Fisheries, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington 25, D. C.

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