



GRADING EXEMPTIONS

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 This Instruction sets forth Quality Assessment Division (QAD) procedures for requesting exemptions to the regulations governing the grading of meat.

2.0 Grading Exemptions

- 2.1 The Deputy Administrator of the Livestock, Poultry and Seed (LPS) Program grants exemptions. These exemptions are nontransferable between applicants or among an applicant's facilities. The length of exemptions may range from a "one-time-only" to an "indefinite" request.
- 2.2 Reasons for Requesting an Exemption may include:
- 2.2.1 The QAD cannot provide grading services in a timely manner.
- 2.2.2 Religious requirements for slaughter and/or meat preparation conflict with Meat Grading regulations.
- 2.2.3 Grading occurs at a location other than slaughter or initial chill facility.
- 2.2.4 Grading of imported meat. (QAD 504 Procedure Import Grading).
- 2.2.5 Grading carcasses for export only; this requires ribbing other than what is prescribed in the official grade standards. (Example: 6th and 7th rib in lieu of the 12th and 13th rib.) (QAD 505 Procedure Grading Beef Carcasses for Export).
- 2.3 The Exemption List (Exhibit A) is updated as exemptions are granted. The QAD will conduct reviews of all approved exemptions by May 15 of each year to determine which exemptions will remain in effect. Supervisory Meat Graders (SMG) shall monitor approved grading exemptions and notify the QAD Director of any changes in a plant's status that affect the conditions under which the exemption was granted.

3.0 Exemption Request Procedures

- 3.1 When applying for a grading exemption, applicants are encouraged to work closely with the SMG responsible for their plant. Applicants must provide the following information when requesting a grading exemption.
- 3.1.1 The name and address of establishment.
- 3.1.2 The establishment number.



- 3.1.3 The species and/or class of product.
- 3.1.4 The location of product (if other than establishments of slaughter or initial chill).
- 3.1.5 The form that the product is to be graded in, if other than carcass.
- 3.1.6 The date and time the applicant needs grading services.
- 3.1.7 The length of time, the applicant requests the exemption apply to his/her establishment.
- 3.1.8 The reason(s) that prevent the product to be graded under the regulations.
- 3.1.9 Any additional information, which would be of benefit in determining exemption request.
- 3.2 Applicants are encouraged to submit exemption requests by electronic mail to larry.meadows@ams.usda.gov.

Additionally, applicants may submit exemption requests by mail or facsimile.

Send regular mail to:

USDA, AMS, LS, QAD
Attn: Larry R. Meadows
13952 Denver West Parkway
Suite 350
Lakewood, CO 80401

Send facsimile to: 720-497-0571.

Larry R. Meadows, Director
Quality Assessment Division
Livestock and Seed Program

EXEMPTION LIST

As of February 14, 2013

PLEASE NOTE! The Exemption List is a Quick Reference Guide ONLY.**DO NOT use as the specific authority for providing Grading Services under an approved Exemption!**

<u>VENDOR</u>	<u>EST. NO.</u>	<u>EXEMPTION/COMMENTS</u>	<u>GRANTED</u>
ALL PLANTS		● Grade imported Canadian beef carcasses, sides and/or matched quarters.	9/24/1980
Agri Star Meat and Poultry, LLC 220 West Street Postville, IA 52162 563-864-7811	04652A	● Grade beef hindquarters from Agri Star Meat and Poultry (Est. 4653A), Postville, Iowa. (Religious)	4/12/2010
Aurora Packing Co. 1255 Grant Street North Aurora, IL 60542 630-897-0551	788	● Grade beef hindquarters. (Religious)	5/21/1991
Bro*Pack, Inc. within Manning Beef, Inc. 9531 East Beverly Road Pico Rivera, CA 90660 562-692-0402	934	● Grade beef hindquarters. (Religious)	2/28/2007
Brown Packing Co., Inc. One Dutch Valley Drive South Holland, IL 60473 708-849-7990	167	● Grade veal and calf hindsaddles. (Religious)	10/10/1980
		● Grade imported Canadian veal and calf carcasses.	4/21/2000
		● Grade lamb hindsaddles. (Religious)	3/14/2002
Carteret Abattoir, Inc. 2 Roosevelt Avenue Carteret, NJ 07008 732-541-6256	639	● Grade beef hindquarters.(Religious)	10/1/1980
		● Grade quartered beef carcasses.	10/1/1991
Catelli Brothers Whsle Meats 50 Ferry Avenue Collingswood, NJ 08103 856-869-9293	1809	● Grade veal and calf carcasses from Shrewsbury, NJ (Est. 1809A) facility.	6/24/2002
		● Grade imported Canadian veal carcasses.	10/22/2007
		● Grade veal hindsaddles from Shrewsbury, NJ (Est. 1809A) facility. (Religious)	9/26/1987
Cornbelt Beef Corp. 2380 20th Street Detroit, MI 48216 313-237-0087	10173	● Grade veal/calf hindsaddles. (Religious)	3/4/1987
		● Grade beef hindquarters and lamb hindsaddles. (Religious)	9/6/1991
		● Grade beef carcasses from Weltin Meat Packing, Minden City, MI (Est. 10016).	2/10/2006

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Elkhorn Valley Packing Co. 101 Central Harper, KS 67058 620-896-2300	19549	Grade beef carcasses from Wellington, KS (Est. 19549A).	1/11/2006
Ellensburg Lamb Co., Inc. 7390 Rio Dixon Rd Dixon, CA 95620 707-678-3091	2800	Grade imported Australian and/or New Zealand lamb carcasses.	8/28/1997
		Grade veal/calf carcasses from Dairyman's Meat Company, Inc. (Est. 301), Merced, CA.	8/11/2003
Frontier Meats 3801 N. Grove Street Fort Worth, TX 76106 817-624-1136	7041	Grade beef hindquarters. (Religious)	5/31/2007
	7041B	Grade veal and calf hindsaddles. (Religious)	6/28/2007
		Grade lamb hindsaddles. (Religious)	6/28/2007
		Grade beef carcasses ribbed between the 10 th and 11 th ribs for export.	5/13/2009
G&C Packing Company 240 South 21st Street Colorado Springs, CO 80934 719-634-1587	931	Grade beef hindquarters. (Religious)	4/9/2007
Huse's Country Meats, Inc. 3697 State Highway 171 Malone, TX 7u660 254-533-2497	M13445	Grade beef hindquarters after removal of forequarters (Religious)	1/16/2013
J.W. Treuth & Sons, Inc. 328-334 Oella Avenue Baltimore, MD 21228 410-465-4650	2612	Grade beef hindquarters. (Religious)	10/28/1980
James F. O'Neill Packing Company, Inc. 3120 G Street Omaha, NE 68107 402-733-1200	889a	Grade beef carcasses ribbed between the 6 th and 7 th ribs for export.	9/20/2007
Nebraska Prime Group, LLC 1009 West M Street Hastings, NE 402-461-3412	27472	Grade beef carcasses with chucks removed. (Religious)	9/21/2010
		Grade beef hindquarters. (Religious)	10/12/2010
Ohio Farms Packing Company, Ltd. 2416 E. West Salem Road Creston, OH 44217 330-435-6400	34569	Grade veal hindquarters. (Religious)	10/7/2009

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Rosen of Colorado 920 North 7th Avenue Greeley, CO 80631 800-555-2551	19652	Grade imported New Zealand lamb carcasses.	9/27/2005
Star Packing Co., Inc. 3813 Cote Brillante Avenue St. Louis, MO 63113 314-652-0262	2934	Grade veal/lamb hindsaddles. (Religious)	12/29/1980
		Grade beef hindquarters. (Religious)	10/1/1982
Strauss Veal 9775 South 60th Street Franklin, WI 53132 414-421-5250	2444	Grade imported Canadian veal/calf carcasses.	11/29/1999
		Grade veal/calf carcasses from Dairyman's Meat Company, Inc., Merced, CA (Est. 301).	9/25/2003
		Grade veal and calf carcasses from Gold Medal Packing, Inc., Oriskany, NY (Est. 17965).	1/10/2006
Triple J Family Farms, LLC 53050 US Highway 212 PO Box 250 Buffalo Lake, MN 55314 320-833-2001	17466M	Grade beef hindquarters after removal of forequarters (Religious)	8/29/2012
Wolverine Packing Co. 1340 Winder Street Detroit, MI 48207 313-568-1900	2574	Grade lamb and veal/calf hindsaddles. (Religious)	2/9/1981
XL Four Star Beef 3435 Gomez Avenue Omaha, NE 68107 402-594-3274	532	Grade imported Canadian (from Est. Nos. 597 and 401) beef hindquarters and forequarters (as matched carcasses)	5/11/2007