



1400 Independence Avenue, SW.
Room 2747-S, STOP 0230
Washington, DC 20250-0225

Notice to the Dairy Industry

June 12, 2012

Dairy Equipment, Meat and Poultry Equipment Review Programs

The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) has announced a realignment of the Meat and Poultry Equipment Review Program. It has been aligned with the Dairy Equipment Review Program. This will streamline the review process for equipment that may be applicable to both programs and the applicant may realize a cost saving. This may allow for one inspection to qualify a piece of equipment to be accepted under both programs. Previously accepted equipment under the Dairy Equipment Review Program may be eligible for Meat and Poultry acceptance. There are still some distinctions between the requirements for the two programs that may not allow meat and poultry equipment reviews to be suited for dairy acceptance.

[Rocklyn Bates](#) is the Equipment and Facility Review Specialist for both of these voluntary, user-fee supported equipment review and certification programs to the food processing industry. You can contact Mr. Bates at rocklyn.bates@ams.usda.gov, or by telephone at 202.720.1671 (office) or 630.204.0326 (cell) with any additional questions.

Equipment reviews are based on an examination of engineering drawings and an actual final review of the processing equipment, often with the participation of design engineers. AMS provides these voluntary services upon request to equipment manufacturers who wish to have their equipment certified or would like to display the AMS official identification mark on their equipment (meat & poultry equipment only). Fees related to travel and other expenses are charged for these reviews.

You can view more information on these programs online at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/EquipmentReview>.