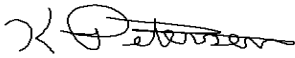


July 19, 2013

TO: Specialty Crops Inspection Division Personnel
Federal-State Program Managers

FROM: Kenneth S. Petersen, Head 
Audit Programs Section
Specialty Crops Inspection Division

SUBJECT: New USDA Good Agricultural Practices & Good Handling Practices
(GAP&GHP) Program Certificate

Effective July 31, 2013, the certificate issued for the USDA Good Agricultural Practices & Good Handling Practices Audit Verification Program will look a little different. A new USDA policy on the use of the official USDA logo necessitated this change.

Attached you will find a copy of the new GAP&GHP certificate, which includes the approved USDA logo. Beginning July 31, 2013, all audit certificates must be in this format. Please share this memo, which also is posted on our website at www.ams.usda.gov/gapghp, with all audit applicants covered by your office so they are aware of the change as well. To provide assurance of the validity of a USDA GAP&GHP certificate, a list of all program participants who have successfully met the USDA acceptance criteria is also on the USDA website shown above.

If you have any questions about the change to the certificate, please contact the Audit Programs Section at 202-720-5021.

Attachment



United States Department of Agriculture

This is to verify that
Smith and Sons Farms
Somewhere, USA
has successfully met USDA's acceptance criteria of the voluntary
USDA Good Agricultural Practices & Good Handling Practices Audit
Apples, Cherries, Pears
Farm Review, Field Harvesting and Field Packing Activities

Lorenzo A. Tibbitt

Director, Specialty Crops Inspection Division

January 1, 2013