

United States Department of Agriculture
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
Agricultural Marketing Service
Livestock and Seed Program
Meat Grading & Certification Branch

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LOT DEFINITION

Purpose

This instruction defines the term "lot" for the purpose of production and examination of products certified by the Meat Grading and Certification (MGC) Branch.

Definition

1. Lot.

Unless otherwise specified, a lot consists of:

- a. That quantity of finished product designated by the contractor as the unit for determining compliance with specification requirements.
- b. That portion of a contractor's designated production lot which MGC Branch personnel designate as a unit for determining compliance if, in their opinion, that portion is or may be out of compliance with one or more specification requirements.

2. Lot Size.

Lot size is not permitted to exceed:

- a. The amount specified as a lot by the purchaser, plus the amount used in making box fills when withdrawing laboratory samples.
- b. The amount of product produced in a single work shift up to the maximum weight specified by the purchaser.

For purposes of determining compliance with specification requirements, production lots destined for delivery on different contracts may be combined provided it is produced in a single workshift and, when combined, do not exceed the maximum single lot size declared by the purchaser.

3. Numbering.

All production lots are identified by number in sequential order beginning with number zero one, (01). Further, shipping containers in each production lot are numbered in sequence beginning with number zero one, (01). For USDA purchase programs, lot numbering will continue through the purchase season.

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