

§ 54.3

agricultural products under said section. For the purposes of said subsection and the provisions in this part, the terms listed below shall have the respective meanings specified:

(a) *Official certificate* means any form of certification, either written or printed, used under the regulations to certify with respect to the inspection, class, grade, quality, size, quantity, or condition of products (including the compliance of products with applicable specifications).

(b) *Official memorandum* means any initial record of findings made by an authorized person in the process of grading, determining compliance, inspecting, or sampling pursuant to the regulations, any processing or plant-operation report made by an authorized person in connection with grading, determining compliance, inspecting, or sampling under the regulations, and any report made by an authorized person of services performed pursuant to the regulations.

(c) *Official mark or other official identification* means any form of mark or other identification, including those prescribed in § 54.17; used under the regulations in marking any products, or the immediate or shipping containers thereof, to show inspection class, grade quality, size quantity, or condition of the products (including the compliance of products with applicable specifications), or to maintain the identity of products for which service is provided under the regulations.

(d) *Official device* means any roller, stamp, brand or other device used under the regulations to mark any products or the immediate or shipping containers, thereof, with any official mark or other official identification.

ADMINISTRATION

§ 54.3 Authority.

The Chief is charged with the administration, under the general supervision and direction of the Director, of the regulations and the Act insofar as they relate to products.

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SERVICE

§ 54.4 Kind of service.

(1) Grading service under the regulations shall consist of the determination and certification and other identification, upon request by the applicant, of the class, grade, or other quality of products under applicable standards. Class, grade, and other quality may be determined under said standards for meat of cattle, sheep, or swine in carcass form only, except upon approval by the Director upon his determination of good cause and provided that the meat can be identified in conformance with the standards.

(2) Certification service under the regulations shall consist of the determination of the conformity of products to specifications approved by the Director or Chief and the certification and other identification of such livestock or products in accordance with specifications, upon request by the applicant. Determination as to product compliance with specifications for ingredient content or method of preparation may be based upon information received from the inspection system having jurisdiction over the products involved.

(3) The Carcass Data Service, under the regulations, shall consist of the evaluation of carcass characteristics, in accordance with applicable official United States Standards of carcasses of animals identified with the official eartag as shown in § 54.17, the recording of such data, and transmittal of the data to, or as directed by, the applicant for the service.

(4) The Contract Verification Service, under the regulations, provides wholesale buyers of noncertified commodity products a method of determining whether procurement(s) met contractually specified requirements.

(5) The Quality Systems Certification Program, under the regulations, provides meatpackers, processors, producers, or other businesses in the livestock and meat trade the ability to have special processes or documented quality management systems verified.

[63 FR 72102, Dec. 31, 1998]