

§ 592.170 Order of service.

Service shall be performed, insofar as practicable, in the order in which applications therefor are made except that precedence may be given to any application for an appeal.

§ 592.180 Suspension of plant approval.

(a) Any plant approval pursuant to the regulations in this part may be suspended for:

(1) Failure to maintain plant and equipment in a satisfactory state of repairs;

(2) The use of operating procedures that are not in accordance with the regulations in this part; or

(3) Alterations of buildings, facilities, or equipment that cannot be approved in accordance with the regulations in this part.

(b) During such period of suspension, inspection service shall not be rendered. However, the other provisions of the regulations in this part pertaining to providing service will remain in effect unless service is terminated in accordance with the terms thereof. If the plant facilities or methods of operation are not brought into compliance within a reasonable period of time to be specified by the Administrator, the application and service shall be terminated. Upon termination of service in an official plant pursuant to the regulations in this part, the plant approval shall also become terminated, and all labels, seals, tags, or packaging material bearing official identification shall, under the supervision of a person designated by the Administrator, either be destroyed, or if to be used at another location, modified in a manner acceptable to the Agency.

DENIAL OF SERVICE

§ 592.200 Debarment.

(a) The following acts or practices or the causing thereof may be deemed sufficient cause for the debarment by the Administrator of any person, including any agents, officers, subsidiaries, or affiliates of such person, from any or all benefits of the Act for a specified period.

(1) Misrepresentation, or deceptive or fraudulent act or practice. Any willful misrepresentation or any deceptive or

fraudulent act or practice found to be made or committed by any person in connection with:

(i) The making or filing of an application for any service or appeal;

(ii) The making of the product accessible for sampling or inspection;

(iii) The making, issuing, or using, or attempting to issue or use, any certificate, symbol, stamp, label, seal, or identification authorized pursuant to the regulations in this part;

(iv) The use of the terms "United States," "U.S.," "U.S. Inspected," "Government Inspected," or terms of similar import in the labeling or advertising of any product;

(v) The use of any official stamp, symbol, label, seal, or identification in the labeling or advertising of any product.

(2) *Use of facsimile forms.* Using or attempting to use a form that simulates in whole or in part any certificate, symbol, stamp, label, seal, or identification authorized to be issued or used under the regulations in this part.

(3) Willful violation of the regulations. Any willful violation of the regulations in this part or of the Act.

(4) Interfering with inspection program personnel or program employee of the Agency. Any interference with or obstruction or any attempted interference or obstruction of or assault upon any inspection program personnel or program employee of the Agency in the performance of their duties. The giving or offering, directly or indirectly, of any money, loan, gift, or anything of value to a program employee of the Agency, or the making or offering of any contribution to or in any way supplementing the salary, compensation or expenses of a program employee of the Agency, or the offering or entering into a private contract or agreement with a program employee of the Agency for any services to be rendered while employed by the Agency.

(5) *Miscellaneous.* The existence of any of the conditions set forth in § 592.150 constituting the basis for the rejection of an application for inspection service.

§ 592.220 Other applicable regulations.

Compliance with the regulations in this part shall not excuse failure to

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comply with any other Federal or any State or municipal applicable laws or regulations.

§ 592.240 Report of violations.

Each inspection program employee shall report, in the manner prescribed by the Administrator, all violations and noncompliance under the Act and this part of which such inspection program employee has knowledge.

§ 592.260 Reuse of containers bearing official identification prohibited.

The reuse, by any person, of containers bearing official identification is prohibited unless such identification is applicable in all respects to product being packed therein. In such instances, the container and label may be used provided the packaging is accomplished under the supervision of inspection program personnel or program employee, and the container is in clean, sound condition and lined with a suitable inner liner.

IDENTIFYING AND MARKING PRODUCTS

§ 592.300 Approval of official identification.

Labeling procedures, required information on labels, and method of label approval, shall be in accordance with and conform to the applicable provisions of part 590 of this chapter.

§ 592.310 Form of official identification symbol and inspection mark.

(a) The shield set forth in Figure 1, containing the letters "USDA," shall be the official identification symbol for the purposes of this part and when used, imitated, or simulated in any manner in connection with a product shall be deemed to constitute a representation that the product has been officially inspected for the purpose of § 592.5.



FIGURE 1.

(b) The inspection marks that are permitted to be used on products shall be contained within the outline of a shield and with the wording and design set forth in Figure 2 of this section, except the plant number may be followed by the letter "G" in lieu of the word "plant." Alternatively, it may be omitted from the official shield if applied on the container's principal display panel or other prominent location and preceded by the word "Plant" or followed by the letter "G."



FIGURE 2.

§ 592.320 Products that may bear the inspection mark.

Products that are permitted to bear the inspection mark shall be processed in an official plant from edible shell eggs or other edible egg products eligible to bear the inspection mark and may contain other edible ingredients. The official mark, when used, shall be printed or lithographed and applied as a part of the principal display panel of