



CERTIFICATION STAMPS

Purpose

This instruction defines policy, proper use, and application of Meat Grading and Certification (MGC) Branch stamps when certifying products.

Policy

MGC Branch stamps are only applied to products certified by an authorized MGC Branch employee. Imprints will be legible, applied horizontally, and placed so as to not obliterate required markings.

Application	Shield Stamp (Rubber)	Accepted as Specified (Rubber)	Accepted as Specified (Metal)	USDA Pre-Ident (Bronze)
Final certification of boxed product for USDA purchase.	Over sealing strap or tape.			
Sealing boxes after temperature examinations for USDA purchase at time of shipping.		Over the sealing strap or tape.		
General final acceptance at time of production.		Over the quality grade, contract number, or P.O. number.		
Final certification out of a freezer.		Over the quality grade, contract number, or P.O. number.		
USDA purchase transfer in storage.		Over contract number.		
Freezer stockpile production.	Over date and sealing strap.			
Initial certification of product with additional requirements before final certification.	Over date and sealing strap.			

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Application	Shield Stamp (Rubber)	Accepted as Specified (Rubber)	Accepted as Specified (Metal)	USDA Pre-Ident (Bronze)
Final certification of carcasses, quarters, or cuts.			One on each side, quarter, or piece.	
Initial certification of carcasses, quarters, or cuts.				One on each side, quarter, or piece.
Control of carcasses to be further processed.				On each side.
Control of boxed product for further processing.	Over date and sealing strap.			
All Department of Defense acceptance.		Over the sealing strap.		
Certification for true name, grade, weight, and/or condition.	Over the sealing tape and the statement on the labeled end panel.			

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