



POULTRY GRADE YIELD CERTIFICATION

Purpose

This instruction defines procedures for determining grade yield for a specified lot.

Procedures

Graders may issue certificates certifying to the grade yield of poultry for individual lots.

I. Grade Yield

A. Conditions for Grade Yield Certification

1. Management must provide the supervisor with a written request for individual lot gradings. A written plan describing the system used by the plant for maintaining the identity of the classes and qualities of poultry graded by individual lots must also be submitted and approved by the supervisor.
2. Graders must establish a complete understanding with management regarding their responsibilities and QAD limitations. Approval for individual lot gradings may be given only when the plant furnishes adequate grading facilities and authorized graders. Each lot shall be assigned an individual lot number and shall either be separated by a physical break in production or otherwise identified for segregation purposes. Product may be graded after evisceration and prior to or after chilling.
3. The company will prepare a Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) Form 6510-7 to show the number of head in the lot and the producer's name or furnish the code used on the FSIS Form 6510-7 which has been assigned to the producer.
4. The total number of head condemned and dead upon arrival will be obtained from Form 6000-16 or FSIS Form 9061-2 prepared by the inspector.
5. The grader must checkgrade sufficient amounts of product to assure correct grading is being accomplished and record the results on the PY-232L1 worksheet. Since the sample results are used to determine grading accuracy only, graders shall not use the tightened start-up tolerance or the carryover between samples built in to the PY-232L1 worksheet. See **Exhibit 1**. If product is segregated prior to official checkgrading, the A grade and undergrades shall be sampled and the tolerances applied separately. See **Exhibit 2**. The initial sample for each lot will be identified as sample number 1. Sample results will be applied to each lot separately and must meet the following criteria: (1) no individual sample may contain more than five defects and/or (2) no lot may contain more than 10% defects. Graders must check a minimum of one sample per lot. The time each sample is selected and the interval between samples should vary from day to day. However, the time between consecutive samples may not exceed 1 1/2 hours. When graders determine that samples, either individually or on an average, do not meet the grade criteria, the



applicable lot is not eligible for certification. An alternative grade yield certification based on the grader's results may be issued. (See C. below.)

B. Certificate Preparation for Individual Lots (See Exhibit 3)

1. Insert the Julian date and/or company lot number and the total number of birds reported by management. The actual head count should be indicated under the B, C, and no grade columns. The words "Balance - A Quality" shall be inserted unless an actual count has been made. Inclusion of the marked weight of the lot shall only be done when requested by management. Certification of the weights by individual grade or by total net weight is permitted only when the product is adequately identified and the weight reading is personally done by the grader.
2. Delete the words "Official U.S. Grade" and show the number of birds condemned and dead upon arrival in the last column of the certificate preceded by an asterisk (*). Also, show the number of partial condemned carcasses preceded by two asterisks (**). Include only saddle or breast portion type product under this designation. This type of product shall not be shown under the no grade classification.
3. The following statements shall be shown under the "Remarks" section of the LP-210P.
 - a. "The product represented on this certificate was graded after evisceration and prior to chilling (or after chilling, if applicable) on an individual bird basis."
 - b. "Undergrades due mostly to _____ and _____."
 - c. "**Birds condemned and dead upon arrival taken from FSIS Form 6600-16 or 9061-2."
 - d. "***This figure represents the number of head of product with partial carcass condemnation."
4. A completed copy of the LP-210P, the grader's LP-232 or worksheet, and FSIS Form 6000-16, 9061-2, or 6510-7 shall be filed together.

C. Alternative Grade Yield Certification

Plants seeking an alternative method for obtaining grade yield may request a partial certification. As an option, graders can checkgrade product prior to segregation by authorized graders and report the results on a LP-210P Grading Certificate. The "No. Packages Examined" on the LP-210P will list the actual number of carcasses examined and the results will represent the actual grade yield for the number of carcasses examined. Also include the following statement in the "Remarks" section of the certificate: "The above listed grade yield certification applies only to the number of carcasses examined."



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